





FCR YAYIN LTD.
General Publication Number: 1662
Certificate Number: 46550
ISNI: 0000000446571968
ROR ID: ror.org/00zznvq98

Imprint: Fecr
Publication Number: 999

Book Title: Destiny and Responsibility in the Quran
ISBN: 978-625-5576-54-5
DOI: doi.org/10.70458/fcr.9786255576545

Author: Ismail KURT | orcid.org/0000-0002-9873-9369
Institution: Balıkesir University
ROR ID: ror.org/02tv7db43

Book Type: Monograph
Language: English
Dimensions: 135 x 210 mm
Edition: 2
Pages: 70 pages (x+60)

E-Publication Date: 18 August 2025 (Print: FCR Yayın Ltd., 2021)
Place of Publication: Ankara, Türkiye
Layout and Cover Design: FCR

Subject Categories

BIC: HRH - Islamic studies
BISAC: RELO37060 - Religion / Islam / Theology
THEMA: QRAM3 - Islamic theology
LC Classification: BP166.2 - Predestination and free will - Islamic theology
DEWEY: 297.261 - Predestination and free will - Islam
WoS Category: Religious Studies
WoS Citation Topics Meso: Islamic Theology
WoS Citation Topics Micro: Qadar and Human Responsibility in the Qur'an
Scopus Subject Areas: 1212 - Religious Studies

Catition: Kurt, Ismail. *Destiny and Responsibility in the Quran*. Ankara: FCR Yayın Ltd., 2025.

© All rights reserved | FCR YAYIN LTD.



Hacı Bayram Mah. Boyacılar Sk. No: 14/1 06050
Altındağ-Ankara/TÜRKİYE • Tel: +90 (312) 310 08 60
www.fcr.com.tr • fcr@fcr.com.tr

Destiny and Responsibility in the Quran

Ismail KURT

Ankara 2025

About the Author

Ismail KURT

Ismail Kurt, born 1984, Balıkesir/ Türkiye; 2007 BA from Dokuz Eylül University, Izmir, Türkiye; 2011 MA from Dokuz Eylül University, Izmir, Türkiye; 2013 MA Islamic Studies of the School of Oriental and African Studies (University of London), London, UK; 2019 PhD from Dokuz Eylül University, Izmir, Türkiye; Between 2014-2019 Research Associate in the Department of Tafsir at the Faculty of Divinity, Şırnak University and Dokuz Eylül University; since 2019-2023 Assistant Professor Doctor in the Department of Tafsir at the Faculty of Divinity, Şırnak University, Türkiye; Since 2023 Assistant Professor Doctor in the Department of Tafsir at the Faculty of Divinity, Balıkesir University, Türkiye.

About the Book

Destiny and Responsibility in the Quran

This book explores the intertwined concepts of destiny (qadar) and responsibility (mas'uliyah) in the Qur'an, examining their theological, philosophical, and ethical implications within Islamic thought. Through a close textual analysis of relevant Qur'anic passages, the study investigates how divine decree and human agency are articulated and reconciled in the Islamic worldview. Drawing on classical exegetical traditions, it presents the perspectives of prominent scholars from different theological schools, such as the Ash'ari, Maturidi, and Mu'tazili, highlighting both convergences and divergences in interpretation. The work also engages with modern scholarly debates, addressing how contemporary Muslim thinkers reinterpret these concepts in light of current philosophical discussions on free will, determinism, and moral accountability. Special emphasis is placed on the Qur'an's rhetorical strategies and linguistic features that convey the delicate balance between divine sovereignty and human responsibility. The book argues that the Qur'anic view avoids deterministic fatalism while affirming God's omniscience and omnipotence, thus providing a nuanced ethical framework for moral decision-making. By integrating classical scholarship with modern analytical approaches, the study contributes to broader discourses in theology, philosophy of religion, and Islamic ethics. It concludes that a proper understanding of destiny and responsibility in the Qur'an not only deepens theological

knowledge but also offers practical guidance for Muslims navigating moral and spiritual challenges in contemporary life.

Keywords: Destiny (Qadar) in the Qur'an; Human Responsibility in Islam; Islamic Theology and Free Will; Divine Decree and Moral Accountability; Qur'anic Ethical Framework

CONTENTS

PREFACE	ix
INTRODUCTION	1
CHAPTER 1	
DESTINY (QADAR) IN THE QURAN	
1.1. Theological and Lexical Meanings of Qadar	7
1.1.1. Theological Meanings of Qadar	7
1.1.2. Lexical Meanings of Qadar	10
1.1.2.1. Measure and Amount Determined by God	11
1.1.2.2. Design and Determination of God	13
1.1.2.3. Plotting or Planning of Man	17
1.1.3. Evaluation on Qadar	18
1.2. The Written Sources of Qadar	20
1.2.1. The Mother of Books and the Preserved Tablet	20
1.2.2. The Clear Book	21
1.2.3. The Comprehensive Book and Well-Guarded Book	21
1.2.4. The Book of God	22
1.2.5. The Book or Book and the Scripture	22
1.2.6. Decree or Writing of God	23
1.2.7. Evaluation on the Written Sources of Qadar	24

CHAPTER 2

RESPONSIBILITY OF MAN IN THE QURAN

2.1. Man's Free Will and God's Determination of His Acts	29
2.1.1. If God Had So Willed	30
2.1.2. Unless God so Willed	31
2.1.3. Strong Emphasizing on the Omnipotence of God	31
2.1.4. The True Path and Heresy	32
2.1.5. Evaluation of Man's Free Will and God's Determination	34
2.2. Responsibility of Man towards God and Beyond	35
2.2.1. Responsible Acts of Human Being towards God	36
2.2.1.1. Faith or Infidelity towards God	36
2.2.2. Responsible Acts of Human Being beyond God	38
2.2.2.1. Good and Praised Acts of Man	39
2.2.2.2. Bad and Condemned Acts of Man	41

CHAPTER 3

EVALUATION

3.1. Why Man Differs from Other Created Things	45
3.2. Divine Justice and its Relation with Man's Responsibility	47

CONCLUSION	55
-------------------	----

BIBLIOGRAPHY	59
---------------------	----

PREFACE

In this book, destiny (qadar) from the Quranic perspective is examined by way of a comparison with the opinions of Theological Creeds. Then, man's responsibility in terms of the relationship between God and man is discussed. Lastly, the reasons for man's responsibility and God's justice are analysed according to the Quranic philosophy. The study aims to present an accurate understanding of destiny from the Quranic perspective; how the meaning of destiny has changed; and to also present man's responsibilities in the context of destiny according to the Quranic worldview. In both analysis of destiny and responsibility in the Quran, the context of the verse and general Quranic context are considered as part of this research.

This book is based on my MA Dissertation "Destiny and Responsibility in the Quran" which was completed under the supervision of Dr M.A.S. Abdel Haleem at the University of London (SOAS) in 2013. I would like to thank Dr Abdel Haleem, for his support and insightful guidance through the course of my thesis. I would like to extend my gratitude to the Ministry of National Education of the Republic of

Turkey for the scholarship that funded both my Pre-Master Course and MA Degree, enabling me to pursue my studies.