

# References

## Best Tafaseer

- 1. Tafseer At-Tabari, Muhammad Ibn Jareer At-Tabari**
  - (d. 310h, 923 CE, born in Tabaristan, Iran)
  - Based on explanations by the Prophet (SAAS) and the sahaba (RA)
  - Comprehensive, elaborate, 30 volumes
  - A bit lengthy and does not warn about few weak ahadith
- 2. Tafseer Ibn Kathir, Imad Al-Din Ibn Kathir Al-Dimashqi al-Shafi'i (d. 774h, 1373 CE)**
  - Explained the Quran using the Quran
  - A leading classic masterpiece
  - Occasionally terse where language is difficult requiring more elaboration
  - Abridgements:
    - Naseeb Ar-Rifae
    - Muhammad Ali As-Sabuni
- 3. Tafseer Al-Qurtubi, Muhammad Ibn Ahmad Qurtubi (d. 673h, 1273 CE)**
  - Full of wisdom and stories, intriguing
- 4. Tafseer Al-Kashaf, Mahmud Ibn Omar Az-Zamakhshari (d. 538h, 1143 CE)**
  - Superb language
  - Affected by Mutazila thinking
  - Engaging text
  - Interesting life story, amputated leg
- 5. At-Tafseer Al-Kabeer / Mafatih al-Ghayb, Fakhrudin Ar-Razi (d. 606h)**
  - Covers chemistry, science, history
  - Does not warn about certain weak ahadith
  - He died before completing, and one of his students finished it
- 6. Fat-hul Qadeer, Muhammad Ash-Shawkani (d. 1250h, 1834CE)**
  - Advanced language and grammatical analysis
  - Does not warn about certain weak ahadith
- 7. Adwaa ul-Bayan, Muhammad Al-Ameen Ash-Shanqeetee (d. 1393h, 1972 CE)**
  - Fiqh oriented
- 8. Fi Dhilal Al-Quran, Sayyid Qutb, (d. 1966 CE)**
  - Beautiful language and thoughts
  - Non-traditional tafseer
  - Contemporary and addresses today's issues

## Other Notable Tafaseer

- 1. Safwat At-Tafaseer, Muhammad Ali As-Sabuni**
  - Recent, concise summary of the top tafaseer
  - From: Tabari, Ibn Kathir, Qurtubi, Zamakhshari, Razi, Suyuti, Shanqeetee, Qutb, etc.
- 2. Tafseer Al-Jalalain, Jalaluddin Mahalli and Jalaluddin Al-Suyuti**
  - Simple and short
- 3. Tafseer As-Saadi**

## Best Hadith Narrations

### 1. Sahih Al-Bukhari, Muhammad Ibn Ismail Al-Bukhari

- (d. 256h, 870 CE, born in Khurasan)
- Concrete, authentic, brilliant collation
- Each hadith may appear multiple times in different sections
- A bit difficult to search
- Abridgement:
  - At-Tajrid As-Sarih, Az-Zabidi, outstanding summary
- Commentary/Explanation:
  - Fath Al-Bari, Ibn Hajar Al-Asqalani (d. 852h), outstanding
  - Hadyu al-Sari, Al-Qastalani
  - Umdat Al-Qarii, Al-Ayni

### 2. Sahih Mulsim, Muslim Ibn Al-Hajaj (d. 261h)

- Concrete, concise, no repetition, each hadith listed once
- 3 unconfirmed hadith included
- Abridgement:
  - Al-Mundhiri
- Commentary/Explanation:
  - Al-Nawawi
  - Al-Ubbi

### 3. Musnad Ahmad, Ahmad ibn Hanbal (d. 241h, 855 CE)

- Superb source from a superb scholar

### 4. Sunan An-Nasai, Ahmad Ibn Shu'ayb An-Nasai (d. 303h)

- Accurate and detailed

### 5. Sunan At-Tirmidhi, Muhammad Ibn Eesa At-Tirmidhi (d. 275h or 279h)

- (d. 279h, 892 CE, born in Uzbekistan)
- Classifies strength level of each hadith
- Mentions the hadith sources

### 6. Sunan Abu Dawud, Abu-Dawud Sulaiman Ibn Al-Aash'ath Al-Azdi as-Sijistani (d. 275h)

- Classifies level of each hadith
- Mentions the hadith sources

### 7. Sunan Ibn Majah, Muhammad Ibn Majah (d. 273h or 275h)

- One of the top six

## Notable Hadith Related Resources

### 1. Muwatta' Malik, Malik Ibn Anas (d. 179h, 796 CE)

- Leading scholar

### 2. As-Sunan Al-Kubra / Sunan Al-Bayhaqi, Abu Bakr Ahmad Al-Bayhaqi (d. 458h)

### 3. Jami` Al-Usul, Ali Ibn Muhammad Ibn Al-Athir (d. 630h)

### 4. Majma' Az-Zawaid, Al-Haithami

## Fiqh

### 1. Fatawa Ibn Taymia, Taqi Ad-Din Ibn Taymia Al-Harrani (d. 728h)

- Brilliant scholar

### 2. Zad al-Mustaqni', Muhammad Ash-Shinqiti

3. **Al-Mughni, Ibn Qudamah Al-Maqdisi**
4. **Al-Mamju', An-Nawawi**
5. **Al-Muhalla, Ali Ibn Hazm**
6. **Zad Al-Maad, Ibn Qaiyim al-Jawziah (d. 751h)**
7. **Ar-Risala, Al-Shafii'**
8. **Fiqh As-Sunnah, As-Seyed Sabiq**
  - o Modern, complete, concise

## **Aqida**

1. **At-Tawheed, Muhammad Ibn Abdul Wahab**
2. **Ma'aarij al-Qubul, Hafiz al-Hakami**
3. **Ibn Taymia**
4. **Ibn Kathir**

## **History**

1. **Al Bidaya Wal Nihaya, Ibn Kathir**
2. **Ibn Jarir**
3. **Al Kamil, Ibn Athir**
4. **Al Yaqubi**
5. **Ibn Khaldoon**

## **Seera**

1. **Sirat Ibn Hisham**
2. **Dawdhat Al-Unf, Al-Shuhaili**
3. **Dalail An-Nubuwa, Al-Bayhaqi**
4. **Ibn Kathir**

## **Preaching**

1. **Riyadh As-Salheen, Al-Masjidi**
2. **Al Targheeb Wal Tarheeb, al-Montheri**
3. **Ibn Taymia**

## **English Quran Translations**

1. **The Message of the Quran, Muhammad Asad**
  - o Outstanding masterpiece
  - o Intellectual, influenced by Zamakhshari
2. **The Meaning of the Holy Quran, Abdullah Yusuf Ali**
  - o Most commonly used translation
3. **The Meaning of the Glorious Quran, Mohammed Marmaduke Pickthal**
  - o Popular translation
4. **The Quran, Mohammedali H. Shakir**
  - o Easier language

## **Introduction to Islam for Non-Muslims Interested In Islam**

- 1. Islam: A short History, Karen Armstrong**
- 2. A History of God, Karen Armstrong**
- 3. What Everyone Needs to Know About Islam, John Esposito**
- 4. What Everyone Should Know About Islam and Muslims, Suzanne Haneef**
- 5. The Essential Koran, Thomas F. Cleary**