



Comparative Reading on Suffering in Islam and Buddhism

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Abstract: The issue of human suffering has been discussed in different religions and schools. By comparing Buddhism and Islam, this research concluded that liberation from suffering is the main goal of Buddhism. The answer given by the Buddha to the four questions of the definition of suffering, its origin, what it is, and the way to end it, forms the basis of the Buddha's enlightenment, and this is what the Buddha wants to share with all his fellow human beings. In the Islamic religion, the problem of human suffering has been discussed, and according to the verses and traditions, of Islamic theologians, the cause of human suffering and the purpose of human suffering are to create a basis for human evolution and in the direction of testing him. Common aspects of Buddhism and Islam are the acceptance of suffering and calamity in human life in this world, the origin of suffering, the possibility of redemption from suffering, the belief in a savior to redeem suffering, and the belief in meditation in both religions. The difference is also in etymology, anthropology, the way of looking at the birth of man, and the support of man in dealing with suffering and hardships.

Keywords: Islam, Buddha, suffering, evil, Nirvana.

Submitted: 2022/4/5

Accepted: 2022/6/9

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