

Vasil'tsov Konstantin Sergeevich

candidate of historical sciences, lecturer

St Petersburg University

Saint Petersburg

UNDERSTANDING THE HISTORY OF CLASSICAL ISLAMIC PHILOSOPHY STUDIES IN THE WEST

Abstract: *the article presents a brief overview of the study of classical Islamic philosophy in chronological order. According to the author, in Western countries, the scientific research of Islamic philosophy began within the framework of the Christian scholastic tradition, yet later the analysis of Arabic texts as well as the structure of Islamic theoretical thought was initiated. Some scholars applied a methodological approach to the study of Islamic philosophy. Orientalist philologists also played an important role in the study of the religious and philosophical doctrine of Islam. Both of these schools adopted a methodological approach based on the traditions of Christian and Jewish philosophy and theology, which in some aspects had similarities with Islamic thought.*

Keywords: *classical Islamic philosophy, al-falsfah, methodological approach, European scholastics, Islamic theoretical thought.*

Васильцов Константин Сергеевич

канд. ист. наук, преподаватель

ФГБОУ ВО «Санкт-Петербургский государственный университет»

г. Санкт-Петербург

ИСТОРИЯ ИССЛЕДОВАНИЙ КЛАССИЧЕСКОЙ ИСЛАМСКОЙ ФИЛОСОФИИ НА ЗАПАДЕ

Аннотация: *в статье представлен краткий обзор исследований классической исламской философии в хронологическом порядке. Как утверждает автор, в западных странах научное исследование исламской философии началось в рамках христианской схоластической традиции, но затем начало заниматься изучением и арабских текстов, а также структуры исламской теоретической мысли. Некоторые ученые использовали методологический подход к изучению исламской философии. Востоковеды-филологи также играли важную роль в изучении религиозно-*

философской доктрины ислама. Обе эти школы применяли методологический подход, основанный на традициях христианской и иудейской философии и теологии, которые в некоторых аспектах имели сходство с исламской мыслью.

Ключевые слова: классическая исламская философия, ал-фальсафа, методологический подход, европейская схоластика, исламская теоретическая мысль.

The scholarly study of Islamic philosophy in the West originated within the framework of the Christian scholastic tradition and, in general, continued the study of the philosophical thought of Islam through the prism of Thomism and Neoplatonism. Some European scholars, such as Etienne Gilson and Maurice De Wulf, relied on Latin translations of Muslim Arabic treatises and were interested primarily in the role that Muslim philosophy played in the history of European scholastics. Still other scholars – Louis Massignon, A.M. Goishon and Louis Gardet – were well acquainted with the corpus of original Arabic texts, and the structure of Islamic theoretical thought as well. The Jewish school developing in the 19th century was directly or indirectly connected with medieval Jewish scholasticism. Its most prominent representatives were Moritz Steinschneider and Shalomo Munk. In the twentieth century, their work was continued by such outstanding Islamic scholars as Ignaz Goldziher, A.J. Wensink, Saul Horovitz, Harry Wolfson, Erwin Rosenthal, Simon van der Bergh, Shlomo Pines, Paul Kraus, Richard Walzer. Both of these schools were distinguished by a largely similar methodological approach, based on traditional Christian and Jewish philosophy and theology, which in turn had certain similarities with Muslim theoretical thought. Fundamentally different from them was the new direction in the study of the philosophical heritage of Islam that arose at the very end of the 19th century, based not on Christian or Jewish scholasticism, but on modern European philosophy. Representatives of this school considered the content of *al-falsfah* through the lens of various philosophical movements that existed in contemporary European science. Starting from Ernst Renan and Léon Gauthier, as well as Henri Corbin, who widely used the phenomenological approach, some scholars in Europe got studying Muslim philosophy by methods of modern Western philosophy. In addition to philosophical reflection on the heritage of classical Islamic thought, a significant role in the study of the religious and philosophical doctrine of Islam was played by orientalist-philologists, who examined the corpus of Muslim philosophical works primarily from the point of view of textual criticism.