

## Dr. Safvet Halilović (A Short Biography)



**Safvet (Mustafa) Halilović** (born in 1968, Zenica, Bosnia-Herzegovina) is a professor of *Tafsîr* and *Qur'anic Anthropology* at the Islamic Pedagogical Faculty, University of Zenica, and a member of the Board of Trustees of International Union of Muslim Scholars. Professor Halilović studied at the prominent Islamic university, Al-Azhar in Cairo, where he graduated in 1992, obtained his Master's degree in 1997, and defended his doctoral thesis at the Department of Tafsîr and Qur'anic Sciences in 2001. As a Visiting Professor, he lectured postgraduate courses at the Faculty of Islamic Theology in Sarajevo and the International University of Novi Pazar.

Professor Halilović has published over 150 original scholarly works in *Tafsîr* (interpretation of the Qur'ân), *Sîrah* (life of Prophet Muhammad), *Qur'anic Anthropology*, history of Islam, Islamic missionary work and education. He is contributing to a number of Islamic academic journals. He has also participated in numerous scientific symposiums in Bosnia-Herzegovina and abroad.

### Works published:

\* *At-Tafsîr bi al-Ma'thûr, Ahammiyyatuhû wa Dawâbituhû, Dirâsa Tatbîqiyya fî Sûrah an-Nisâ'* (*Traditional Interpretation of the Qur'ân - Its Significance and Postulates – A Critical Study of Sûrah An-Nisâ'*), Master's thesis in Arabic published by Dâr an-Nashr li al-Jamiâ'at (University publications), Cairo, 1999.

\* *Al-Imâm Abû Bakr ar-Râzî al-Jassâs wa Manhajuhû fî at-Tafsîr (Methodology of Interpretation of the Qur'an Based on the Example of an Outstanding Hanafi Scholar Abû Bakr ar-Râzî Al-Jassâs)*, doctoral thesis in Arabic, defended at the University of Al-Azhar in Cairo on March 25<sup>th</sup> 2001 with greatest honours (*martabah ash-sharaf al- ûlâ*) and recommendations that it should be published due to its scholarly contributions and values. In 2001, the doctoral thesis was published by a renowned Cairo publishing house, Dâr as-Salâm. In 2004, it was translated into Bosnian by Dr Mehmed Kico, a professor of Arabic Language and Literature at the Faculty of

Islamic Theology in Sarajevo. The translation was published under the following title: *Metodologija tumačenja Kur'ana u hanefijskome mezhebu - Studija na primjeru El-Džessasovog tefsira Ahkam el-Kur'an (Propisi Kur'ana) /Methodology of Interpreting the Qur'ân in the Hanafî Madhab – A Study based on Al-Jassâs' Tafsîr Ahkâm al-Qur'ân (Rules of the Qur'ân )*, published by the Faculty of Islamic Theology in Sarajevo and El-Kalem.

\* *Hifz- Učenje Kur'ana napamet* (2003, 2005) (*Hifz – Memorizing the Qur'ân*) The book was translated into English in Toronto (Canada) and the translation was published twice.

\* *Islam i Zapad u perspektivi Asadovog mišljenja (Islam and the West in the Perspective of Asad's Thought)*. This book was translated into English, German, and Arabic, and all the three translations were published in Cairo. The foreword in English and German was written by a renowned German writer, Murad Wilifried Hofmann.

\* *Osnovi tefsira, opsežna studija o temeljnim postavkama razumijevanja i tumačenja Kur'ana (Fundamentals of Tafsîr, An In-Depth Study of the Fundamental Principles of Understanding and Interpreting the Qur'ân)*, Islamic Pedagogical Faculty, Zenica, 2005.

\* *Islamsko vjerovanje u svjetlu El-Džessasovog tefsira Ahkâm al-Qur'ân (Islam in the Light of Al-Jassas' Tafsîr Ahkâm al-Qur'ân (Rules of the Qur'ân)*, 2005.

\* *Uloga Kur'ana u životu muslimana (The Role of the Qur'ân in Life of Muslims)*, 2006.

\* *Sira – Životopis posljednjeg Allahovog Poslanika (Sîrah- Life of Prophet Muhammad)*, first edition: 2007, second supplemented edition: 2010, third supplemented edition: 2011.

\* *Kur'anska antropologija – Čovjek u svjetlu Kur'ana (Qur'ânic Anthropology – The Human Being in the Light of the Qur'ân)*, 2009. This is a pioneer work since, for the first time in these regions, the author does an in-depth research into this field of great importance. The second supplemented edition was published in 2011: *Šta Kur'an kaže o čovjeku, Uvod u kur'ansku antropologiju (What the Qur'ân Says about the Human Being– Introduction to Qur'ânic Anthropology)*.

\* *Supruga vjerovjesnika Muhammeda i razlozi njegovog višeženstva*, 2009 (English translation: *Wives of Prophet Muhammad and Reasons for His Multiple Marriages*, German translation: *Die Ehefrauen des Propheten Muhammad und die Gründe für Siene Mehrene*); translations published in Vienna (Austria), 2009.

\* *Šta živi mogu učiniti za umrle (What the Living Can Do for the Deceased)*, first edition: 2009, second edition: 2010.

\* *Šta moramo znati o grijesima (What We Have to Know about Sins)*, 2011.

Together with Dr Mehmed Kico, professor Halilović has translated two significant works from Arabic into Bosnian: *Ličnost posljednjeg Allahovog Poslanika (Prophet Muhammad by Muhammad Rawwas Qalhaji)* and *Islamska povelja Svjetske unije islamskih učenjaka (International Union of Muslim Scholars Charter)*. *The Charter*, as a part of the *Resolution on the Interpretation of Islam in Bosnia-Herzegovina*, was published by the Riyasat of the Islamic Community in Bosnia-Herzegovina. As a separate publication (*The Islamic Charter*), it was published in 2010.

Safvet Halilović is the editor and reviewer of numerous books and publications and with a group of intellectuals, professor Halilović has started *Novi Horizonti (The New Horizons)*, an academic journal that has been published for the past twelve years.

Since 2008, professor Halilović has been a Visiting Professor of *Sîrah* at the Faculty of Islamic Studies in Novi Pazar (Sanjak, Serbia).

During the Assembly of the International Union of Muslim Scholars in Istanbul (July 2006), professor Halilović was elected a member of the Board of Trustees, the body governing the

International Union of the Ulama whose members are Muslim scholars from around the world. In 2010, the General Assembly re-elected professor Halilović a member of the Board of Trustees.

**(For a more detailed biography, see: [www.ipf.unze.ba/profesori](http://www.ipf.unze.ba/profesori) - the official web-site of the Islamic Pedagogical Faculty, University of Zenica, or: <http://www.iumsonline.com/ar/default.asp?MenuID=3&contentID=3169>, the official web-site of the International Union of Muslim Scholars)**