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Supernatural matters: Facts and myths

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Miracles of the Prophets

Fourth question from Fatwa no. 6397

Q 4: A book entitled "Tanabu'at ar-rasul" i.e. (Prophecies of the Prophet), was issued in Thailand a year ago. The book is a translation of a book issued in English entitled 'Israel and the Prophecies of the Holy Qur'an' by `Aly Akbar. The author discussed all the Hadiths of the afflictions, battles, and portents that will precede the Hour, and misinterpreted them. Indeed, his views are dangerous to Muslim youth. For example, Al-Dajjal (the Antichrist) according to his view refers to the mysteries or the Western civilization. Likewise, Gog and Magog refer to the super powerful states while `Isa (Jesus, peace be upon him) died and will not come back. By the same token, Al-Dabbah (the Beast), metaphorically designates vulgar people or modern inventions, etc. The publishers of the Thai version argue that these topics are not essential to the Muslim faith; there is no difference between those who believe them and those who deny them and they do not affect the Muslim faith. Is this true? How do we answer these people?

A: It is enjoined upon Muslims to believe in everything stated by Allah and

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His Messenger (peace be upon him) with regard to the portents of the Hour and the like. Verily, Allah (Glorified and Exalted be He) describes righteous people in the beginning of Surah (Qur'anic chapter) Al-Baqarah as having firm Iman (faith) in the unseen praising them and witnessing their guidance and success.

These matters find further support in the reports authentically narrated from the Prophet (peace be upon him) in this regard. Moreover, some of them have weighty support in the Glorious Qur'an, so we should believe in them. It is prohibited to deny anything or misinterpret the texts by rejecting their apparent significance. Whoever denies or misinterprets them has deviated away from the straight path.

May Allah grant us success. May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and Companions.

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