

Language and Literature in Research and Education An Islamic Perspective

Edited by

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Chapter 9

Islamization of Linguistics, and Teaching and Learning of English: Suggestions for Future Research

Mohamed Ismail Ahamad Shah, Khairiah Othman & Normala Othman

Past to Current Research: The Islamization Process in Linguistics, and Teaching and Learning of English

We would like to take as the starting point the publication of the book by Isma'il Raji Al-Faruqi (1986) entitled, "Toward Islamic English." Ismail Faruqi argues that many English words are unable to convey the nuances of meanings of Arabic words that Muslims intend to convey, because such Arabic words cannot be translated directly into English. He held that many of the meanings of such Arabic words and phrases are derived from Divine Revelation, and as such their meanings cannot be separated from their original Arabic forms. This is a serious consideration that must be acknowledged in the Islamization of English. The retention of words and phrases in Arabic, which carry a distinctive Islamic meaning, must be preserved and such Arabic words serve as the foundation of Islamic English.

After the publication of this book another important article appeared entitled, "Towards a model for systematic Islamization: a general linguistics blueprint," (Mohd Akram Sa'Adeddin, 1996). In this article, Sa'Adeddin explores, what he calls, "linguistic Islamification," which,