

Research Journal of Islamic Philosophy and
Theology of Shahid Beheshti University
No.42/ Spring 2015

Analysis of Ashari's and Sadraei's Interpretation of the Reality of Divine Word

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Abstract

One of God's attributes that has been referred to in the Holy Quran is speech. To provide argumentative answers to the questions raised about the reality of God's word, Muslim scholars have provided insights among which those of Molla Sadra and Fakre Razi depict their originators' depth of thought. The present paper is aimed at a comparative study of their insights. Fakhre Razi considers the real word as the meanings emanated from the true nature of the speaker. With an emphasis on their independence from human nature, he introduces the Quranic verses as evidence for God's speech. But Molla Sadra, based on this interpretation that speech is the expression of what is derived from the

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nature of the speaker, suggests that the divine word includes all kinds of creatures and God's acts and on this basis God is the Speaker. To clarify the stations of the divine word, he introduces the world of order as the highest order speech, the world of the body as the middle order speech, and the world of religion as the lowest order speech. Regardless of the agreement between Fakhre Razi and Molla Sadra on the literal word and the existence of other states for the word, there are some differences between the two with regard to the qualities and the characteristics of these states.

In addition to the comprehensiveness of Molla sadra's idea, the present study concludes that the true senses of some of the Quranic verses are more consistent with Sadraei's ideas.

Key Terms: *divine word, Fakhre razi, Molla Sadra, reality of word, sensual word, literal word.*