

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

INTRODUCTION

All praise is due to Allāh; and blessings and peace be upon His messenger and servant, Muḥammad, and upon his family and companions and whoever follows his guidance until the Day of Resurrection.

There is clearly a need for a presentation of the meanings of the Holy Qur'ān in English which is precise enough to be useful as a reference for Muslims and students of Arabic yet also suitable for *da'wah* purposes to non-Muslims. The Arabic Qur'ān has always spoken for itself – to those who discover it for the first time as well as to those who study it in depth. The general meanings in a translation should thus be correct, as far as human ability permits, and clear, in a readable and uncomplicated expression.

Al-Muntadā al-Islāmi has selected this edition by Ṣaḥeeḥ International (first published by Abul-Qasim Publishing House, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia) as the one most suitable for distribution. Widely acknowledged for improvement over previous translations, its language closely adheres to that of the original text while remaining lucid and intelligible.

Without going into excessive detail, a word is due about the methodology of this abbreviated edition. Three main objectives served as guidelines for the work:

1. To present correct meanings, as far as possible, in accordance with the *'aqeedah* of *Ahl as-Sunnah wal-Jamā'ah*
2. To simplify and clarify the language for the benefit of all readers
3. To let the Qur'ān speak for itself, adding footnotes only where deemed necessary for explanation of points not readily understood or when more than one meaning is acceptable

Each verse was reviewed in Arabic with reference to several works of *tafseer* and grammar. Where differences arose, explanations were generally taken from an authentic *ḥadīth* or, in the absence of