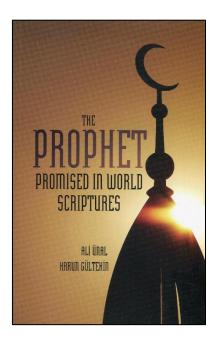
Book: 'The Prophet Promised in World Scriptures' By Ali Unal and Harun Gultekin

Comments by Zahid Aziz



I recently came across a book, *The Promised Prophet in World Scriptures*, by two Turkish authors, published in 2013. Its cover is shown above.

Its subject is the same as that of the book *Muhammad in World Scriptures* by Maulana Abdul Haq Vidyarthi. But what is remarkable is that **this new book fully acknowledges the Maulana's book and mentions his name in about 16 different places.**

It says in the Introduction:

"With a meticulous study Maulana Abdul Haq Vidyarthi (1888–1977), who was an Indian scholar of Hebrew, Sanskrit, and other ancient languages, and a writer and researcher on Islam and comparative religion, in his book *Muhammad in World Scriptures*, brought to light prophecies from all major world Scriptures relating to the coming of Prophet Muhammad" (p. xxiii).

Here is the image of these lines of text from this book:

In this book we have tried to introduce Prophet Muhammad, upon him be peace and blessings, with some aspects of his character and Prophethood. However, much of the study has been assigned to his being promised in the previous Scriptures. With a meticulous study Maulana Abdul-Haq Vidyarthi (1888–1977), who was an Indian scholar of Hebrew, Sanskrit, and other ancient languages, and a writer and researcher on Islam and comparative religion, in his book *Muhammad in World Scriptures*, brought to light prophecies from all major world Scriptures relating to the coming of Prophet Muhammad, upon him be peace and

In one footnote (p. xxii) the book gives this reference to Muhammad in World Scriptures:

Maulana Abdul-Haq Vidyarthi, *Muhammad in World Scriptures*, vol. 1, Ahmadiyya Anjuman Isha'at Islam Lahore Inc. U.S.A., Columbus, Ohio, U.S.A., 1999, pp. 5, 100, 106–7.

At one place (p. 442) it is stated:

The translation of verses 5–6 which contain a prophecy of Prophet Muhammad in the *Puranas*, Pratisarga Parva, III: 3, 3 is presented below from the work of Abdul-Haq Vidyarthi, an expert in Sanskrit, who quotes

There are many other mentions of Maulana Vidyarthi. Shown below is the image from the index of the book under the entry for the Maulana's name. It lists the pages where he is mentioned:

Vidyarthi, Abdul-Haq, xxiii, 76, 232, 418, 442, 449, 457, 464, 468–470, 477, 478, 484, 488, 489

In one place, the book mentions an objection by some Hindus to a translation of a mantra of the Vedas by the Maulana. It then discusses the objection and draws its conclusion:

"Some Hindus scholars also object to the translation of the mantra by Abdul Haq Vidyarthi. ... [After discussion] ... So, Vidyarthi's translation, who knows both the Islamic and Hindu traditions and is an expert in Sanskrit, seems to be more correct. Secondly, the Hindu scholars who object to Vidyarthi's translation ... are also mistaken." (p. 489–490)

Please note that this book has **not** merely copied or borrowed from the Maulana's work. These authors have also added their own discussion and analysis of the subject.

This book was published in 2013 by Tughra Books of New Jersey, USA, and printed in Turkey. It is available on many bookseller websites such as <u>Amazon</u> and <u>AbeBooks</u>.