

Lum‘ah and Its Sharḥ: A Fiqh Resource

This is the beginning of an ongoing project targeted in particular towards seminary students studying a standard text of Islamic law known as *al-Rawḍah al-Bahiyyah*, written by Zayn al-Dīn b. ‘Alī b. Ahmad al-‘Āmilī (better known as al-Shahīd al-Thānī). *Al-Rawḍah* is a commentary on the book *al-Lum‘ah al-Dimishqiyyah* by Shams al-Dīn Muhammad b. Makkī al-‘Āmilī, famously known as al-Shahīd al-Awwal. Often referred to simply as *Sharḥ al-Lum‘ah*, the book is studied in seminaries at the level of *suṭūh* (intermediary studies). This *fiqh* work has been studied for many generations and has been a standard part of the *hawzah*’s curriculum. The goal of studying *Sharḥ al-Lum‘ah* is for the student to become familiar with the various books (*kutub*) and chapters (*abwāb*) of *fiqh* and to familiarize themselves with legal language and precedents of past jurists (*fuqahā*). In addition, the student will further develop his abilities in the Arabic language. This text is famously known for its extreme conciseness and precise wording.

The Present Commentary

The goal of this project is to better situate the study of *Sharḥ Lum‘ah* in the context of legal reasoning and contemporary rulings. The analyses of Shahīd Thānī often mentions the disagreements between jurists, especially those from the era of al-Muhaqqiq al-Hilli onward. We hope to bring that discussion forward to the present, at a level appropriate for an intermediate-level *hawzah* student. Where there is a difference of opinion among jurists, we aim to mention the difference and give a brief understanding of the sources (*madārik*) of some of the views. Furthermore, we hope to familiarize the student with the Imami intellectual heritage, including:

- the *nuṣūṣ shar‘iyyah* (legally relevant texts), especially the *ahādīth*
- the names of famous *fuqahā*’ and their seminal works
- brief introductions to relevant discussions not specific to *fiqh*, such as

'ilm al-hadīth.

The intended audience of this project are students of the seminary or formal Islamic studies; thus the language and writing style may be specialized.

Click here to access the *Lum'ah* resource.

Lum'ah resource