

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Shaykh Muḥammad Sa'īd Ramaḍān al-Būṭī رحمته الله was born in 1929 CE near the village of Jilka, Būṭān (Turkish Kurdistan). In 1933 CE he migrated to Damascus (Syria) together with his father, Mullā Ramaḍān رحمته الله. In Damascus the Shaykh followed in his father's footsteps as he became one of the city's leading scholars of theology, philosophy, law and jurisprudence.



He completed his secondary studies at the Institute of Islamic Guidance, after which he joined the Faculty of Religion at al-Azhar University, receiving his degree in 1955 CE. The following year, Shaykh al-Būṭī joined the Faculty of Arabic at al-Azhar. He was appointed as Dean in the Faculty of Religion at Damascus University in 1960, and deputed to al-Azhar University for his doctorate in *uṣūl al-fiqh*. In 1965 he was appointed as an instructor in the College of Law at Damascus University. Later, he was appointed as its Dean, then as the Chief of the Department of Tenets and Religions, and finally as the Head of the Beliefs and Religions Department at the Faculty of Islamic Law.

Shaykh al-Būṭī has been an active participant in many conferences and symposia. He was a member of the Royal Society of Islamic Civilization Research in Amman, as well as the High Council of the Oxford Academy. He lectured regularly in the mosques of Damascus and other Syrian cities. Thousands attended his lectures, in addition to the millions that watched his weekly lectures on television. He wrote in several newspapers and journals, and offered religious guidance, advice and rulings to the population. Shaykh al-Būṭī has written over forty books on numerous topics within his expertise.

He was murdered on the 21st of March 2013 CE, along with numerous others, when a bomb exploded at the Imān mosque in Damascus during his weekly lecture.