

**Fantastic in the Light of Historical Heritage: The Book of  
Alaistibsar Fi Eajayib Al'amsar of the sixth century AH  
corresponding to the twelfth century AD**

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**Abstract:**

The Islamic historical heritage has been concerned with the observation of the unusual phenomena in human life in all its forms and types which led to the emergence of a number of works whose titles are related to fantastic. One of the oldest books that reached us is The Book of Fantastic by Abu al-Fayyad, known as the Egyptian "Thee Noon" (245 H). Ahmed bin Abed Rabbo (328 H) wrote a book entitled The Nature of Women and their Related Tales of Fantastic and Secrets, also Masoudi (346 H) wrote the book Fantastic of the World, which was summarized by Ibn Saif Shah (596 H). The book The Fantastic of the Countries by Abu Dulaf Al-Yenboubi (385 H), The Translator of Some Fantastic of Morocco by Abu Hamed Muhammad Al-Mazni Al-Garnati (565 H) and other books are all concerned with wonders. Foresight in the Fantastic of the Amsar ( 6 Hijri / 12 AD) was chosen as the practical aspect of the study where the historical approach based on the extrapolation of historical texts, criticism and analysis of the book was applied to expose the wondrous manifestations of historical heritage.

Research Problem: The problem of this study is based primarily on the following research questions listed as follows:

What is meant by "Fantastic" and how does it relate to the term of "unfamiliar" and other similar terms? What is the rank of the term Fantastic in the Islamic intellectual heritage? What is the cognitive classification of the book Alaistibsar Fi Eajayib Al'amsar within the Islamic intellectual heritage? How was the author's approach to writing about Fantastic? What are the manifestations of the Fantastic in the book?

The study will be divided into three basic chapters. The first chapter deals with the definition of the concept of Fantastic in language and meaning and the status of the Fantastic in the Islamic intellectual heritage. The second chapter deals with the study of definition in the light of the book Alaistibsar Fi Eajayib Al'amsar: Description of Mecca, Medina, Egypt and Morocco, its author and the author's approach to mention the Fantastic in the book. The last chapter deals with the study of the manifestations of the Fantastic in the historical heritage in the light of the book of Alaistibsar Fi Eajayib Al'amsar: Description of Mecca, Medina, Egypt and Morocco. This chapter is the practical part of the study which will trace the phenomenon of Fantastic in the book and analyze it to reach the manifestations of the Fantastic in the historical heritage.

**Keywords:**

Wondrous, Fantastic, Foresight, Historical, heritage, Islamic