

CIVILIZATION SEQUENCE 202
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I. Introduction

- A Biographical sketch
- Political conditions
- Intellectual atmosphere

II. Knowledge

- The need to reconstruct knowledge
- The limitation of the efficiency of theoretical-reason
- Sense deception and doubts concerning primary ideas

III. Methods for the attainment of knowledge

- 1) **Theology**
The role of theology is not to lead to absolute certainty
But to defend religion against heresies
- 2) **Batinites**
The Principle of authority is unsatisfactory
- 3) **Philosophy**
 - Division of philosophers into
 - a) materialists
 - b) deists and
 - c) theists
 - Incoherence of the philosophers
 - Cause and effect
- 4) **Sufism**
 - Beginning of Sufism is in adherence to canonical duties
 - Will is the starting point of contemplation
 - The soul of man is his distinguishing characteristic
 - Sufism is a way of life and not an exercise of reason
 - Errors occur out of passion
 - God is found by reentering into ourselves
 - Fear of God is the first step to the long road of the assurance of the grace of meeting God

III. Conclusion

- 1) - A new synthesis is achieved between Sufism and Kalam
- 2) - A powerful blow is dealt to pure scholasticism.