PRECISION IN THE FOUNDATIONS OF LEGAL RULINGS

الإحكام في أصول الأحكام

Precision in the Foundations of Legal Rulings

Ibn Ḥazm · The Electric Collective for Rigorous Islamic Science

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Foreword

The nature of this work

In the name of Allah, the Exalted. This Arabic–English edition is a translation draft for study, comparison and collaborative correction. A translation cannot convey every possibility of its Arabic original, especially in legal reasoning and statements attributed to Allah or the Prophet ﷺ. Read the English alongside the Arabic and interrogate its wording and evidence. This draft is a stepping stone towards a carefully reviewed translation; it is not a claim that every passage has been checked by a qualified scholar.

This edition contains the complete supplied working source in parallel Arabic and English. It remains an unreviewed translation draft. Completeness is checked against this witness, not every manuscript or printed edition.

Translating and making a work accessible does not imply agreement with every conclusion in it. The author's judgments, polemics and claims about other positions are presented as the author's own. Editorial remarks, quoted objections and later scholars' notes must be distinguished from that voice.

Translation method and source preservation

The new translation is produced directly from Arabic by **GPT 6.1 sol (Codex)**. No Bedrock translation service is used. Translation proceeds in bounded, resumable batches with surrounding context; these are workflow divisions, not new divisions of the author's argument. Each source unit must receive a complete translation, with genuinely ambiguous or corrupt readings flagged rather than silently resolved. Source hashes and source identifiers record which Arabic was translated. Translator's notes are labelled footnotes, distinct from the author's prose. Automated completeness checks do not establish scholarly accuracy.

The work-specific source, editorial boundaries, existing sample provenance and textual qualifications are documented below. The original Arabic source and earlier translation records are retained. New full-run passages use the direct GPT 6.1 sol method described here; earlier Codex and GPT 6.1 Terra sample passages are not relabelled.

The English appears beside the Arabic in synchronized columns. Source identifiers such as L12 refer to this edition's nonempty working-source records; they are not original manuscript line numbers. Source-page references, where available, identify the downloaded witness. UTF-8 text companions support copying without depending on a PDF viewer's ordering of the two columns.

The frequency-ranked reader's glossary is recalculated against the complete translated corpus, targeting at least 80 percent of Arabic word occurrences. It includes transliterations, observed forms, contextual definitions and labelled Lisān al-ʿArab dictionary-source footnotes. Homographs are grouped for navigation, not automatically disambiguated. Qur'an and hadith links are editorial research footnotes: wording parallels are not authenticity judgments or claims that every quotation has been identified. Source identifiers appear in the margins. Research layers do not modify the Arabic source.

Guidelines for contributors

Readers with Arabic, English, legal or typesetting expertise are invited to help improve the draft. Send corrections to @abdulqahar9 on Telegram, identifying the work, source identifier, proposed correction and supporting context. A recorded correction is not evidence that the entire book has been reviewed. Any reviewer initials apply only to the passages explicitly identified; no reviewer endorsement is inferred from earlier projects.

Render the Arabic name of God as "Allah", the Prophet's name as "Muhammed", and preserve salutations as ﷺ. Prefer precise English technical terms before transliterations, and preserve distinctions between different Arabic words where an accurate English distinction is possible. Readable, complete English takes precedence over a mechanical word-for-word rendering.

Copying and sharing

Copying and sharing this translation draft is encouraged. Retain its source credits, editorial qualifications, model attribution and any applicable source licence when redistributing an edition. May Allah correct our affairs and make this work beneficial.

Source, scope and translation history

This edition translates the complete eight-volume working transcription derived from OpenITI: `0456IbnHazm.IhkamFiUsulAhkam.Shamela0010432-ara1`. Its metadata identifies Ahmad Muhammad Shakir as editor and Dar al-Afaq al-Jadidah, Beirut, as publisher. The downloaded mARkdown file is preserved unchanged; the separate working source removes machine markup and joins wrapped lines without correcting Arabic words. Source: OpenITI transcription and metadata. The corpus, derived text and this translation are shared under CC BY-NC-SA 4.0. The work is by Ibn Hazm, rather than al-Amidi. Chapter Three lacks a separate heading at its start in the working transcription; its boundary at L24 is editorial. Chapter titles in the new directory are concise editorial descriptions; the source headings remain in the text.

The earlier published sample and its provenance are archived separately. Those seed passages were translated by Codex and GPT 6.1 Terra; their record-level credits are retained. The remaining full-book translation was produced directly by GPT 6.1 sol. No claim of scholarly review is made. Original headings, authorial polemics and later editorial material are retained as supplied. Generated chapter titles are navigation aids rather than additions to the source.

Punctuation and paragraph boundaries

The working Arabic transcription largely lacks punctuation. Its wording is preserved unchanged in the source files. For this reading edition, punctuation and continuation boundaries are recovered where matching passages can be identified uniquely in the punctuated Wikisource transcription, compared on 13 November 2026. This is a modern comparison transcription, not an independent manuscript witness or proof of the author's own punctuation. The current Shamela text was also checked; the sampled passage shares the working source's lack of punctuation.

Alignment requires matching letter contexts on both sides of each recovered mark or boundary. Differences in wording are not imported, and conflicting punctuation is withheld. The separate formatting layer permits punctuation insertions only; source words and translation records are not rewritten. Witness URLs, retrieval information, raw comparison pages, checksums and unavailable pages are documented in the working files. Where comparison is unavailable, completed English sentences supply conservative paragraph boundaries. Thus not every paragraph break or punctuation mark has been independently recovered. Completed English sentences can also provide shorter reading paragraphs within longer passages; this layout is editorial. Source identifiers in the margins retain the original record mapping even when several wrapped records form one paragraph.

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Use the detailed issue contents and the glossary alongside the named books.

Reader’s glossary — companion to Precision in the Foundations of Legal Rulings معجم القراءة 2026