

## **The Queen of Sheba in the Old Testament and in the Quran**

**Abstract:** The story of the Queen of Sheba originally appears in the Bible in the book of Kings, and is repeated almost *verbatim* in the book of Chronicles. We see a much extended version of it in the Quran, and later, it was embellished by not only Jewish and Muslim writers, but also the Ethiopians and western Christians, as well as earning its place in folklore. This work attempts to analyze the accounts in the Bible and the Quran and show their similarities and differences, as well as offer such an interpretation of the story that could be interesting for a contemporary reader of the Holy Scriptures. I will also look into the problem of the Queen's historicity and endeavour to show possible ways in which questions about her could be answered. To this end, I will be using both traditional Biblical and Quranic commentaries and works of more unorthodox academics.

**Key words:** Old Testament, the Books of Kings, Quran, Solomon, Women in OT, Wisdom