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Abdolkarim Soroush (1945-), Iranian reform theologian, in 2007 referred to the Koran as 'The Word of Mohammad'. This expression is in fact based on his theory of 'The Expansion of the Prophetic Experience', according to which Soroush regards revelation as prophet's contextual and historical interpretation of his prophetic experience (*tajrobe-ye nabavi*). Similarly, *Mohammad Mojtahed Shabestari* (1936-), another contemporary Iranian theologian, regards the Koran as a 'Prophetic Reading of the World' (*tafsir-e nabavi az jahan*). From this vantage point, the Koran does not appear as an *ahistorical* verbal revelation but as a historical *text* to be decoded and demythologized, all from within a religious perspective that does not necessitate a de-legitimization of Islam as a religion.

This article will introduce these theories briefly and then discuss the implications of them to Islamic thought and culture.

Key words: Koran, revelation, contemporary Islamic-Shia theology, Abdolkarim Soroush, Mohammad Mojtahed Shabestari.