

I N T R O D U C T I O N

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of my thesis is to study the nature of religious belief and language. The study includes both the classical and modern period. The classical thinkers were mainly absorbed in the conceptual analysis of belief and knowledge. But the modern philosopher's of religion are mainly concerned about the linguistic aspect of it. In my thesis I have tried to understand and explain the views of plato, Aristotle, St Thomas Aquinas from traditional philosophers group and Wittgenstein, Russell, Moore from modern philosophers group. In my research I have shown the nature of religious belief, which is positive in its character is discussed by traditional philosophers, and have pointed out that although Wittgenstein says. title systematically about religion and the status of religious belief typically involves using of picture or a way of looking at the world and at life, in such a manner that it is constantly before the mind and so that influence the way in which we live.

My thesis has five chapters. The first chapter deals with the nature of religious belief, both the traditional and modern. The second chapter examines the scope of religious knowledge. It also contains the views of the classical and modern thinkers. The third chapter of my thesis deals with the religious belief and religious knowledge from the contemporary philosopher's point of view. I have discussed mainly Wittgenstein's position here.

The linguistic aspect of religious belief and functions are discussed in fourth chapter of my thesis. I have discussed the view of Russell, Moore, and also of Wittgenstein. The last chapter in the conclusion of my thesis which gives a survey of the contents of other four chapters, and expresses my own views on it.
