

**THE AMAZING PROPHECIES
OF MUHAMMAD IN
THE BIBLE**

Twenty seven proofs of Muhammad's
prophethood in the Bible

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***NO DOUBT THIS LIFE IS AN EXAMINATION
WHICH NEEDS YOUR FULL CONSIDERATION
AS TO WHAT YOU WILL TAKE TO
YOUR FINAL DESTINATION
ONLY TRUE BELIEF AND GOOD DEEDS ARE
YOUR WAY TO SALVATION***

(Muhammad Sherif)

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Honorific phrases in this book

(the Exalted)	Used after the mention of God/Allah to express: Glorified and Exalted is He
(blessings and peace be upon him)	Blessings and peace be upon him; used after mention of the Prophet Muhammad
(peace be upon him)	Peace be upon him; used after mention of any prophet or after mention of Angel Gabriel
(May Allah be pleased with her)	used after mention of a female Companion of the Prophet Muhammad

About the word 'Lord'

The word *lord* in English has several related meanings. The original meaning is 'master' or 'ruler' and in this sense it is often used to refer to human beings: 'the lord of the mansion' or '*Lord So-and-So*' (in the United Kingdom, for example). The word *Lord* with a capital L is used in the lexicon of Islam to refer to the One and Only God - Allah. In Islam, there is no ambiguity about the meaning of this word. While it is true that one may occasionally use the word *lord* (whether capitalized or not) to refer to a human being, in Islamic discourse the reference of this term is always clear from the context. Whereas for Christians, Hindus and other polytheists, the word *Lord* with a capital L may refer to Allah, to Jesus or to some imagined deity, for Muslims, there can be no plurality of meaning. Allah alone is the Lord, and the Lord is Allah - not Jesus, not Rama, not any other being.

The Editor

About the word 'Allah'

Although the English word 'God' has often been used interchangeably in this book with the word Allah, there is a difference. 'Allah' is the word in Arabic that is translated as 'God'. However, 'Allah' has a much more precise meaning than 'God'. 'Allah' is not merely an Arabic term for the word 'god'. Instead, the root word of the word 'Allah' is *ilâh*, which means 'a god'. There are countless numbers of made-up 'gods', but only One True God whose name is Allah. The word 'Allah' literally means 'the worshipped'. Allah is, thus, the proper name for the **only Being that is worthy of worship**, the True Creator of the universe. By saying 'Allah', Muslims are, in essence, negating every other entity which people wrongfully worship. The name 'Allah' is how God Almighty has referred to Himself in the Qur'an¹, and how Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) also referred to Him. Therefore, in this work, the term 'Allah' will often be used in reference to this One and Only God, who is worthy of worship.

¹ The Qur'an is the sacred book or scripture revealed to Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him).

Introduction

Every individual is born into a religious environment that is not in accordance with his/her choice; a child is raised to follow the religion or ideology of his/her family, society or culture. Even as a new-born, he/she is assigned either the religion of his/her family or the ideology of the state; in some countries, the child's assigned religion is even recorded on his/her birth certificate. By the time individuals reach their teens, they have usually accepted the beliefs of their parents or their particular society, feeling that they have little choice in the matter.

However, individuals often encounter, or are exposed, to various beliefs and ideologies throughout the course of their lives, leading many to question long-held beliefs, traditions or philosophical ideas. They begin to question the validity of their own beliefs. Seekers of truth often reach a point of confusion, especially upon realising that the believers of every religion, sect, ideology and philosophy claim to profess the one and only truth.

Amongst these beliefs is the one which Christians hold against Muhammad (*salla Allâhu 'alayhi wa sallam* - blessings and peace be upon him), the Prophet of Islam, that he is not a true Messenger of God - Allah (*subhânahu wa Ta'âlâ* - Glorified and Exalted is He).

Simply and logically, this book sheds light on biblical proofs that Muhammad is a true Prophet of Allah, who was prophesied about by his directly-preceding Prophet Jesus (*'alayhi as-salâm* - peace be upon him).

Before we proceed with the book, here is a reminder to bear the following four things in mind in one's quest for the truth:

Firstly, Allah has given us the ability and the intellect to discover the answer to this crucial question, which is also a life-changing decision: **What is the True Religion?**

Secondly, Allah, the Most Compassionate, has not left us to go astray without any guidance. Indeed, He sent us prophets with scriptures to show us the right path.

Thirdly, always remember the underlying reason for this search: the ever-lasting life to come depends upon finding the true religion in this life. This should be your ultimate motivation, and a driving force to keep you searching until you are completely satisfied.²

2. The Bible, in its present form, confirms that seeking the truth is the main cause for salvation. In John 8:32, it has been stated: "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Muslims believe that the existing form of the Bible contains elements of the original true message, although it has been altered significantly.

Fourthly, one can only determine the true path and make a rational and correct decision if one willingly puts aside, all the emotions and prejudices, which often blind one to reality.

With this short preface, I leave you to peruse the book.

Kind regards

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The Amazing Prophecies of Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) in the Bible:³

"Twenty-seven Proofs from the Bible on Muhammad's Prophethood

The Biblical prophecies about the advent of Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) prove the truth of Islam for people who believe in the Bible. Before addressing these prophecies, the following points should be considered by the readers:

Islamic teachings gave a criterion on the basis of which portions or passages from the Bible could be either accepted or rejected. This criterion has been described in the following verse of the Qur'an:

{And We have revealed to you, [O Muhammad], the book in truth, confirming that which preceded it of the scripture and as a criterion over it...} (*Qur'an 5: 48*)

This verse emphasizes two main aspects of the Qur'an:

³ This chapter was compiled from *Muhammad in the Bible* by Dr. Jamal Badawi and *What the Bible says about Muhammad* by Dr. Ahmed Deedat.

- a) The Qur'an confirms only those teachings or passages of the previous scriptures which have remained intact.
- b) The Qur'an is the final, complete, authoritative and authentic revelation from Allah. It is the final arbiter and the only criterion to correct any inaccuracy or misinterpretation which might have occurred in the transmission of scriptures throughout the ages. It helps to discover, expose, and disclose human additions or interpolations of previous revelations prior to its revelation (the Qur'an). Indeed, one of the names of the Qur'an is *al-Furqân* (the criterion which distinguishes between right and wrong, truth and falsehood).

It follows, therefore, that a Muslim has no reason to reject the essence of any passage in the Bible if such a passage is confirmed by the Qur'an. For example, we read in the New Testament, a reiteration of one of the Ten Commandments:

“And Jesus answered him. The first of all commandments is hear, O Israel; the Lord our God is one Lord.” (Mark 12:29)

A Muslim who reads this passage in the Qur'an can find no objection to its essence. After all, the Qur'an confirms:

{Say: He is Allah, [who is] One.} (*Qur'an 112: 1*)

If, however, a Muslim reads in the Bible (or other previous scriptures for that matter) accusations of major moral sins levied against great prophets or doctrines which are totally

negated in the Qur'an, he or she can accept only the Qur'anic version as the original unadulterated truth, revealed by Allah.

Likewise, if the Bible (or other scriptures) contain apparent prophecies about the advent of Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him), and if the Qur'an confirms that fact, then there is nothing unusual or objectionable in referring to such prophecies.

Describing true believers, the Qur'an has stated:

{Those who follow the Messenger, the unlettered⁴ prophet, whom they find written in what they have of the Torah and the

⁴ Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) was illiterate; he could neither read nor write. No human had ever taught him a word. The wisdom behind his unlettered status is to repel false accusations that the Qur'an was written or authored by Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him). It shall be noted that there were no Arabic-language Bibles in existence in the 6th century of the Christian era, when Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) lived and preached. Indeed, Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) was educated through the Qur'an, revealed to him by His Creator, containing things that no other human being could have known. Additionally, the Messenger of Allah (blessings and

Gospel, who enjoins upon them what is right and forbids them what is wrong and makes lawful for them the good things and prohibits for them the evil and relieves them of their burden and the shackles which were upon them. So they who have believed in him, honoured him, supported him and followed the light which was sent down with him - it is those who will be the successful.} (*Qur'an 7: 157*)

The original Bible given to Prophets Moses and Jesus (peace be upon them) contained a complete and clear profile of the advent of Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him). Even in its present form(s), the Bible still contains several such prophecies, as will be shown in the forthcoming chapters. Quoting Prophet Jesus (peace be upon him), the Qur'an has stated:

{And [mention] when Jesus, the son of Mary, said: O children of Israel, indeed I am the messenger of Allah to you confirming what came before me of the Torah and bringing good tidings of a messenger to come after me, whose name is Ahmad. But when he came to them with clear evidences, they said: This is obvious magic.} (*Qur'an 61: 6*)

peace be upon him) was the best of humanity in every aspect of his character, including his intellectual skills.

The main attributes of Prophet Muhammad's profile in the Bible

The main elements in Prophet Muhammad's profile, as depicted in the Bible, are the following seven:

1. His name
2. His characteristics
3. The location from which he was to emerge
4. The message to be revealed through him
5. Fulfilment of prophecies which he foretold
6. The time when he was to appear
7. The unique proof
8. Consistency of Muhammad's teachings with Jesus' teachings

1. His name

Proof 1: Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) is mentioned by name in ten locations in the Christian Gospel

Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) is mentioned by name in ten locations in the Gospel of Barnabas, in chapters 39, 41, 44, 54, 55, 97, 112, 136, 165, and 220.⁵

Consider the following explicit quote from chapter 165:

The disciples answered: O Master, who shall that man be of whom you speak, who shall come into the world? Jesus answered with joy of heart: He is Muhammad; Messenger of God, and when he comes into the world, even as the rain makes the earth to bear fruit when for a long time it has not rained, even so shall he be occasion of good works among men, through the abundant mercy which he shall bring. For he is a white cloud full of the mercy of God, which mercy God shall sprinkle upon the faithful like rain.

It is a fact that the Trinitarian church has done its utmost to obliterate all existing copies of the Gospel of Barnabas and to either hide it from the masses or to label it a forgery.

2. His characteristics

In Deuteronomy 18, Moses (peace be upon him) stated that God told him:

I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers;⁶ I will put my words in his mouth, and

⁵ The Gospel of Barnabas is not included in either the Protestant or Catholic Bible. (Editor)

he will tell them everything I command him. If anyone does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name, I myself will call him to account. (Deuteronomy 18:18-19)

From these verses, we can conclude that the prophet mentioned in this prophecy must have the following three characteristics:

Firstly, he will be like Moses (peace be upon him).

Secondly, he will descend from the brothers of the Israelites, the Ishmaelites.

Thirdly, God will put His words into the mouth of this prophet, and he will declare what God commands him.

Let us examine these three characteristics in depth:

Proof 2: A prophet like Moses (peace be upon him)

There were hardly any two prophets who were as similar as Prophets Moses (peace be upon him) and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him). Both were given a

⁶ When these words were spoken, they were addressed to the Israelites. The most notable ‘brethren’ of Israelites (descendants of Abraham through his second son Isaac) are the Ishmaelites (descendants of Abraham through his first son Ishmael).

comprehensive law and code of life. Both encountered their enemies and were victorious in miraculous ways. Both were accepted as prophets and statesmen. Both migrated, following conspiracies to assassinate them. Analogies between Moses (peace be upon him) and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) overlook not only the above similarities, but other crucial ones as well. These include the natural birth, the family life, and even death; both Moses (peace be upon him) and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) died the natural death.

Some people believe that this prophecy refers to Prophet Jesus (peace be upon him). However, this cannot be true. The following ten points of comparison between Prophets Moses (peace be upon him), Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) and Jesus (peace be upon him) demonstrate that Prophet Jesus (peace be upon him) does not fit this particular prophecy. It would clarify the identity of “that Prophet” who has come after Moses (peace be upon him). This comparison is self-evident. Following are the details:

1. Birth

The birth of Jesus (peace be upon him) was miraculous. According to Christian and Muslim beliefs, he was

miraculously born of the Virgin Mary.⁷ However, both Moses (peace be upon him) and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) were born in the usual manner; the physical association of man and woman. Therefore, Jesus is not like Moses; however, Muhammad is like Moses.

2. Parents

⁷ In the Gospel of St. Matthew 1:18, "...before they came together, [Joseph the Carpenter and Mary] she was found with child by the Holy Ghost."

St. Luke tells us that when the good news of the birth of a holy son was announced to her, Mary reasoned:

...how this shall be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, the Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the highest shall overshadow thee...
(Luke 1:35)

The Holy Qur'an confirms the miraculous birth of Jesus in noble and sublime terms. See chapter 14: "Eleven Facts about Jesus (peace be upon him) and his Mother (Mary) in the Islamic Teachings."

It should be noted that it is not necessary for Allah to plant a seed in any human or animal. He merely wills it and it comes into being. This is the correct view of the conception and birth of Jesus.

Moses had a father and a mother; so did Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him). Jesus, however, had only a mother and no human father. Therefore, Jesus is not like Moses, but Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) is.

3. Marital status

Both Moses (peace be upon him) and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) got married and had children. There is no record of a marriage and offspring in the case of Jesus (peace be upon him). Therefore, Jesus is not like Moses, but Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) is.

4. Death

Both Moses (peace be upon him) and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) died due to natural causes and were buried. The end of the mission of Jesus (peace be upon him) on the earth was unusual; being raised up to the heavens according to Islamic belief and crucifixion according to Christian belief.⁸ According to Christians, Jesus died for the sins of the world, but Moses did not have to die for the sins of the world. He and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) died due to natural causes. Therefore, Jesus is not like Moses, but Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) is.

5. Prophethood

⁸ This subject will be discussed in chapter 16.

Jesus was regarded by later Christians as the Son of God and not as a prophet of God (Allah), as Moses and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) were. Therefore, Jesus is not like Moses, but Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) is.

6. Acceptance/rejection of prophethood by people (moral success)

Unlike Jesus, Moses and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) were accepted as prophets by their people in their very lifetime. No doubt, the Jews gave endless trouble to Moses and they wandered in the wilderness. He left Egypt when he learned of a plot to kill him; he went to Medyan, where he was welcomed and reassured by Jethro. However, ultimately, the Jews, as a nation, acknowledged that Moses was a Messenger of Allah sent to them. The Arabs, too, made Muhammad's life terribly difficult during the first ten years of his mission. He suffered very badly at their hands and left his home town Makkah, upon learning about a plot to kill him. He went to Yathrib, which was later called Madinah, after 13 years of preaching in Makkah. However, before his demise, the Arab nation as a whole accepted him as the Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace be upon him).

On the other hand, Jesus (peace be upon him) was not accepted by the people to whom he was sent. According to the Bible, “He [Jesus] came unto his own, but his own people received him not.” (John 1:11) Even today, after two thousand years, his own people - the Jews, as a whole - still reject him. Thus, from this aspect, Jesus is not like Moses, but Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) is.

7. Confrontation of the enemy

Moses encountered his enemies (the Pharaoh’s army) who sought to destroy him and his followers before they could escape to the Red Sea. Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) also encountered his enemies (the pagan Arabs), who sought to destroy him and his followers in several battles. No such encounter was reported in the case of Jesus. On the contrary, Jesus was reported to have commanded his disciple, Simon Peter, to put his sword back into its sheath when he attempted to defend Jesus at the time of his arrest. From this aspect as well, Jesus is not like Moses, but Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) is.

8. Victory

Moses’ encounter with his enemies ended with a military and moral victory. His enemies drowned, and Moses and his followers were saved.

Muhammad’s encounters with his enemies also ended with his final military and moral victory over them. He and his

followers re-entered Makkah, the city and centre of plotting against him. Impressed with his truthfulness and magnanimity, the great majority of his former enemies chose to become Muslims and his ardent supporters. Jesus' victory against his enemies was only a moral victory, which did not involve an immediate military victory over them at the same time. Therefore, Jesus is not like Moses, but Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) is.

9. Acceptance

During his lifetime, after his people's initial resistance and scepticism, Moses was accepted by his people as a Prophet, not withstanding certain lapses (such as the worship of the golden calf).⁹ Also, after initial resistance, Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) was enthusiastically accepted as a Prophet and a leader, also during his lifetime. Until the end however, and with the exception of a few followers, Jesus (peace be upon him) was rejected by his people (the Israelites). The Christian Gospel clearly confirms this: when Jesus (peace be upon him)

⁹ An Israelite was found picking up firewood on Sabbath Day, and Moses had him stoned to death. (Numbers 15:36) There are other crimes, also mentioned in the Bible, for which capital punishment was inflicted on the Jews at the behest of Moses.

was dragged before the Roman Governor, Pontius Pilate, and charged with sedition, he made a convincing point in his defence to refute the false charge.

He said: My kingdom is not of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight that I should not be delivered to the Jews, but now is my kingdom not from hence. (John 18:36)

This convinced Pilate (a pagan) that although Jesus (peace be upon him) might not be in full possession of his mental faculty, he was not a danger to his rule. Jesus claimed a spiritual kingdom only; he only claimed to be a Prophet. Therefore, Jesus is not like Moses, but Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) is.

10. Preservation of teachings

The teachings revealed to Moses were available in a written form in his lifetime. The Qur'an revealed to Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) was also written down in its entirety during his lifetime and under his supervision. The teachings of Jesus, however, were not written during his lifetime. Even the earliest Gospel was written down many years after him. Therefore, Jesus is not like Moses, but Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) is.

With these ten points of comparison between Moses (peace be upon him), Jesus (peace be upon him) and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him), any rational person will

conclude that Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) is the prophet referred to in Deuteronomy 18:18-19, “like unto me (Moses).”

Proof 3: That he will descend from the brothers of the Israelites, the Ishmaelites

The two prophets, Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) and Moses (peace be upon him), were both descended from the brothers of the Israelites. To elaborate, Abraham (peace be upon him) had two wives: Sârah and Hagar. Hagar bore Abraham his first son, Ishmael (peace be upon him),¹⁰ and then Sârah bore him Isaac (peace be upon him).¹¹ Ishmael became the grandfather of the Arab nation, and Isaac became the grandfather of the Jewish nation. The prophet who was prophesized about was not to come from among the Jews themselves, but from among their brothers, the Ishmaelites.¹²

¹⁰ See (Genesis 16:15).

¹¹ See (Genesis 21:2-3).

¹² According to the *Hebrew Dictionary of the Bible*, ‘brethren’ is the “personification of a group of tribes who were regarded as near kinsmen of the Israelites.” The Bible refers to the Israelites as the brethren of the Ishmaelites (for instance, see Gen.16:12 and Gen.25:18).

Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him), a descendant of Ishmael, is indeed this prophet.

Also, Isaiah 42:1-13 speaks of the servant of God, His ‘chosen one’ and ‘messenger’ who will bring a law. “He will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his law the islands will put their hope.” (Isaiah 42:4)

Verse 11 connects the ‘chosen one’ with the descendants of Kedar. Who was Kedar? According to Genesis 25:13, Kedar was the second son of Ishmael, the ancestor of Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him).¹³

¹³ The full text in the chapter of Isaiah 42:1-8 reads:

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him and he will bring justice to the nations. He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets. A bruised reed he will not break, and a smouldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice; He will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his law the islands will put their hope. This is what God the LORD says - he who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and all that comes out of it, who gives breath to its people, and life to those who walk on it: I, the LORD, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles, to open eyes that are blind, to free captives

The same verse prophecies about the ‘chosen one’, whose mission of prophethood would be for all the nations; this fits only Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) whose mission was for all nations, unlike the Hebrew prophets whose missions were limited to Israel:

...he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not fail or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law... Let the desert and its cities lift up their voice, the villages Kedar inhabits.

Proof 4: God (Allah) will put His words in the mouth of this prophet, and he will declare what God commands him.

Allah, the Almighty, sent the angel Gabriel (peace be upon him) to teach Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) the exact words he should repeat to the people. The words are, therefore, not his own; they did not come from his own thoughts. Instead, they were put into his mouth by the angel. To clarify, a teacher is teaching a language to a student; if he asks

from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness. I am the LORD; that is my name! I will not give my glory to another or my praise to idols.

him to read or repeat after him, is he not putting these unheard words of a foreign tongue into his student's mouth?

In an identical manner, the words of the Holy Qur'an were revealed.

History tells us that Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) was forty years of age. He was in a cave some three miles north of the city of Makkah. It was the 27th night of the Islamic month of Ramadan. In the cave, the arch-angel Gabriel (peace be upon him) commands him in his mother tongue: *iqrâ'* which means read, proclaim, or recite!

Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) is terrified and, in his bewilderment, he replies that he is unlettered. The angel commands him a second time with the same result. For the third time, the angel utters the same command. Now, Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) grasps that what is required from him is to repeat and to recite, and he repeats the words as they are put into his mouth:

{Recite in the name of your Lord who created - created man from a clinging substance. Recite, and your Lord is the most Generous - Who taught by the pen - taught man that which he knew not.} (*Qur'an 96: 1-5*)

As soon as the awesome angel departed, Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) rushed back home, shaking in fear and sweating all over. He asked his beloved wife, Khadeejah (*radiya Allâhu 'anhâ* - may Allah be pleased with

her) to cover him up. He lay down, and she remained by him, calming him down and comforting him. When he had regained his composure, he explained to her what he had seen and heard. She assured him that Allah would not allow any terrible thing to happen to him. During the next twenty-three years of his life after being given the prophethood, words were 'put into his mouth' in the same way, and he uttered them. These words (verses) made an indelible impression on his heart and mind, and as the volumes of the sacred scripture (the Noble Qur'an) grew, they were recorded on palm leaves, on skins and on the shoulder-blades of animals as well as in the hearts of his devoted disciples.

The words (revelation) were actually put into his mouth exactly as foretold in the prophecy under discussion, "and I will put my words in his mouth." (Deut. 18:18) In a similar quote from John 16:13, Jesus (peace be upon him) says, "When the Spirit of Truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his authority, but whatever he hears he will speak." Also, Jesus (peace be upon him) foretold that the "Paraclete" to come after him was one who, "shall not speak of himself, but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak."

As a scholar of comparative religion has said:

Neither the content of the revelation, nor its form, were of Muhammad's devising. Both were given by the angel, and Muhammad's task was only to repeat what he heard.¹⁴

Proof 5: Unlettered Prophet

Muhammad's experience in the cave of Hirâ (later known as Jabal an-Noor - the Mountain of Light), and his response to that first revelation is the exact fulfilment of another Biblical prophecy. In the Book of Isaiah, chapter 29, verse 12,¹⁵ we read, “and the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying: read this, I pray thee: and he saith: I am not learned.”

It is a well-known fact that Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) was unlettered;¹⁶ he could not read or write. He was described in the Qur'an as the unlettered Prophet. (*Qur'an 7: 157-158*)¹⁷ Allah has also said:

{Nor does he speak from [his own] inclination. It is not but a revelation revealed, taught to him by one intense in strength.}
(*Qur'an 53: 3-5*)

Proof 6: A new song

¹⁴ Parrinder, *World Religions*, 472.

¹⁵ KJV.

¹⁶ The wisdom behind this has been discussed in an earlier footnote.

¹⁷ The verse has already been mentioned at the beginning of this chapter.

Another indication (other than the prophecy in Deuteronomy) is that Isaiah ties the messenger connected with Kedar with ‘a new song’ (meaning a scripture in a new language) to be sung to the Lord (Isaiah 42:10-11). More explicitly, the Book of Isaiah mentions, "For with stammering lips, and another tongue, will he speak to this people..." (Isaiah 28:11) This latter verse correctly describes the "stammering lips" of Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) reflecting the state of tension and concentration, as well as of unfamiliarity, that he went through at the time of revelation.

Proof 7: Revealed in sections

A related fact is that the Qur’an was revealed in sections over a span of twenty-three years. It is interesting to compare this with Isaiah 28 which speaks of the same thing, “For it is: Do and do, do and do, rule on rule, rule on rule; a little here, a little there.” (Isaiah 28:10)

Proof 8: Name of God

Deuteronomy 18:19 reads, “And it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto My words which he shall speak in My name, I will require it of him.” This prophecy in Deuteronomy has mentioned that this prophet will speak the words of God starting with the **name of God**. If we look at the

Qur'an, we will find that all its chapters, except chapter 9, are preceded or begin with the phrase: "In the Name of God (Allah), the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful."

The very first passage of the Qur'an revealed to Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) reads:

{Recite in the name of your Lord who created.} (*Qur'an 96: 1*)

Furthermore, Islam also teaches people to start almost every action in their daily life with the words: "In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful," which is in accordance with the teachings of Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him).

As mentioned earlier, the name 'Allah' is how He refers to Himself in the Qur'an, and how Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) always referred to him. To say, "in the Name of Allah" is a far clearer fulfilment of the prophecy: "He shall speak in My name," than other common expressions such as "In the name of God" or "In the name of the Father."¹⁸

¹⁸ Comment on 'the Father': This is an example of the serious distortions in the Bible. Allah has said about Himself:

{He neither begets nor is born, nor is there to Him any equivalent.}
(*Qur'an 112: 3-4*)

Other Biblical characteristics of Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him)

An equally interesting and most revealing profile of Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) can be found in the 42nd chapter of the Book of Isaiah. Let us examine some of these characteristics:

Proof 9: The ‘one in whom God’s soul delights’ is called the ‘servant of God’ (V.1), His ‘elect’ (V.1) and His Messenger (V.19)

Translated into Arabic these titles read: *‘Abduhu wa rasooluhu, al-mustafâ*. All the prophets were indeed slaves, messengers and elects of Allah. Yet, no prophet in history has been called universally by these specific titles as Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) has been. The testimony of faith by which the person enters into the fold of Islam reads, “I bear witness that there is none worthy of worship other than Allah, and I bear witness that Muhammad is His slave and messenger.”

Virtually, the same formula is repeated five times a day during the call to prayers, five times a day immediately before the beginning of prayers, nine times a day during the minimum mandatory prayers and several more times if the Muslim

performs additional recommended prayers. The most common title of Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) since his mission until today is Rasool Allâh (the Messenger of Allah). The Qur'an has given him this title. During his lifetime, he was addressed as such by his followers. The voluminous collections of Hadith have been narrated typically in these forms: "I heard the Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace be upon him) say..." or "The Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace be upon him) said..." He has been described in the Qur'an as 'Allah's slave' and Allah's Messenger'.

Proof 10: He shall not fail nor be discouraged till he has set judgement in the earth (V.4), he shall prevail against his enemies (V.13) and shall bring judgement to the Gentiles (V.1)

While comparing the lives and missions of Jesus (peace be upon him) and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him), it is clear that this verse talks about Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him). To elaborate, in the case of Jesus, he expressed, on more than one occasion, how disappointed he was with the Israelites' rejection of him. Also, Jesus was not present long enough to prevail over his enemies (beyond the moral victory, which is common to all prophets).

On the other hand, we find no trace of Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) being discouraged even in the most critical moments of his mission. In one year, his

beloved and supporting wife, Khadeejah (may Allah be pleased with her) died, following 25 years of successful marriage; his uncle, Abu Tâlib, who was instrumental in protecting him from the fury of the pagan Arabs (in Makkah) also died. These two tragedies were combined with the fact that his followers constituted only a small persecuted and tortured group. Under such trying circumstances, Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) went to the city of Taif to invite people to Islam and seek their support in his struggle against paganism. He was rejected, mocked at and stoned until his knees and feet bled. In spite of all this, he was never “discouraged” (to use Isaiah’s term, V.4). His constant utterance was:

<<O Allah! Forgive my people for they do not know what they are doing.>> (Bukhari)

When the angel of mountains offered him the chance to retaliate by destroying their city, he refused in the hope that some of descendants of these wicked people would worship Allah, and indeed, some of them did!

After this bitter struggle, Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) “prevailed against his enemies”, established a strong community of believers who indeed “brought judgement to the Gentiles”, especially in the Persian and Byzantine Empires. Many such Gentiles were guided to Islam while others

suffered defeats. As such, he was truly “a light of the Gentiles” and for the whole world as well.

Proof 11: “He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street” (V.2)

Not only was this a distinct characteristic and mark of decency of Muhammad’s, it was indeed the embodiment of the revelation given to him. In the words of the Qur’an:

{And be moderate in your pace and lower your voice; indeed, the most disagreeable of sounds is the voice of donkeys.}
(*Qur’an 31: 19*)

{Allah does not like the public mention of evil except by one who has been wronged...} (*Qur’an 4: 148*)

Proof 12: “The Isles shall wait for his law”

The only prophet, who came after this prophecy (Isaiah’s time) with a complete and comprehensive code of law, was Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him). The law revealed to him spread to all corners of the earth, even to the remote islands and the farthest deserts.

Proof 13: “God’s glory will not be given to another” (V.8)

The greatest glory a person receives from God (Allah) is to be entrusted as His messenger to humankind and receive His glorious revelation. Not only did this apply to Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him), but it uniquely applied to him as the last and final messenger and prophet of

Allah. Truly, Allah's glory (revelation of scriptures) was not given and will not be given to any other prophet after Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him), as he is the 'seal' of all prophets. After a letter or a message has been written, folded and sealed, nothing further can be added to it. It has been more than 1400 years since Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) was sent and the Qur'an was revealed to him. Yet, we hear of no genuine prophet of the magnitude and influence on humanity to be compared with such figures as Abraham (peace be upon him), Moses (peace be upon him), Jesus (peace be upon him) and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him); nor do we hear about another post-Qur'anic glory or holy book that has influenced humankind to such a degree.

Proof 14: A descendant of Ishmael (peace be upon him)

The person to come was connected with the Arabs, and specifically with the descendants of Ishmael (peace be upon him), who settled in Makkah and its environs. Verse 11 to the 42nd chapter of Isaiah leaves absolutely no doubt about the identity of that prophet.

“Let the wilderness of and the cities thereof lift up their voice, the villages that Kedar does inhabit, let the inhabitants of

the rock sing, let them shout from the top of the mountains.”
(Isaiah 42:11)

According to the Book of Genesis, Kedar was the second son of Ishmael (Gen.25:13). The best prophet, who came from Ishmael’s descendants, is Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him). His enemies (of his own clan), who were misled by their leaders or mighty men (as described in Isaiah 21:17), ultimately embraced Islam and were embraced by it. Indeed, they had reason to “lift up their voice”, to “sing” praise of God, and “shout from the top of the mountains”. Consider now this daily call to prayer, heard around the world from every mosque: *Allâhu Akbar!* (Allah is the Greatest!)

This “shouting” is chanted annually by multitudes of Muslims from all over the world from Mount ‘*Arafah* and other places as part of the annual rites of Hajj (pilgrimage): “Here I am [at Your command] O Allah. Here I am. Here I am. There is no partner with you [in our worship]. Here I am at Your command. Verily, yours is the praise, the blessings and sovereignty. There is no partner besides you [in our worship].”

Proof 15: He will be sent “to open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, (and) them that sit in darkness out of the prison house” (V.7)

Many of those who were opposed to the truth and fought Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) bitterly ended up as the most devout believers. Their blindness to the truth was

cured. Those who lived in the darkness of an unholy life came to the light of truth completed through the mission of Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him).

No wonder the Qur'an describes itself as 'light manifest'. Describing the Qur'an, Allah has addressed Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him):

{...[This is] a book which We have revealed to you, [O Muhammad], that you might bring humankind out of darkneses into the light by permission of their Lord - to the path of the Exalted in Might, the Praiseworthy.} (*Qur'an 14: 1*)

Proof 16: “Sing unto the Lord a new song and his praise from the ends of the earth...” (V.10)

A new song may be a reference to a new scripture in a language other than the language of the Israelite scriptures. This interpretation seems consistent with a more explicit mention of someone who will be speaking to people (including the Israelites) in “another tongue”. (Isaiah 28:11)

This explanation seems to fit closely with the verse (Isaiah 24:16) which speaks of the praise of God “from the ends of the earth”. Only in the case of Islam do we find this prophecy realized in amazing accuracy. In all ends of the earth, five times every day, the praise of Allah and of His last messenger,

Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him), is chanted from the minarets of hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions, of mosques around the world. Additionally, frequent praises of Allah and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) by millions of devout Muslims are made on daily basis. It is even a part of the five daily obligatory prayers to praise Abraham and his descendants along with Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) and his descendants.

The 42nd chapter of Isaiah is indeed a fascinating one. It is not a casual or ambiguous reference to the Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace be upon him) who was to come centuries later. It is rather a comprehensive profile, which fits only one person: Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him). After all, the chapter relates this profile to Kedar, son of Ishmael, and no other descendant of Ishmael fits this description except Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him).

Proof 17: Riding the camel

Prophet Isaiah (peace be upon him) prophesied that two leaders whom he metaphorically called ‘chariots’ would come, one riding a donkey, and another riding a camel, “And he saw a chariot with a couple of horsemen, a chariot of asses, and a chariot of camels, and he hearkened diligently with much heed.” (Isaiah 21:7, KJV)

Who are the ‘couple of horsemen’?

They are Jesus (peace be upon him) and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him). Let us examine the proof:

Jesus fulfilled the riding of the donkey prophecy, "Jesus found a young donkey, and sat upon it, as it is written." (John 12:14)

The quote 'as it is written' is referring to Isaiah 21:7. It is important to know that nowhere in the New Testament do we see Jesus (peace be upon him) riding any camel. Nowhere in the New Testament do we see any fulfilment of any kind about the prophecy of riding the camel.

When we look at Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him), he rode the camel several times during his lifetime. Perhaps, the most well-known event of him riding the camel is when he migrated from Makkah to Madinah to escape the torture of the pagans. Then, when Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) rode into Madinah on his camel, the Muslims in Madinah wanted to build the first Islamic mosque and the Prophet's humble home next to it. They argued with each other about the site because each group/tribe wanted the location to be in their neighbourhood. So, to avoid hurting anyone's feelings, the Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him) gave his camel the reins so that it would walk and then settle at the location that it naturally chose. This wisdom from

Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) solved the problem.

Now, the open question to any Jewish rabbi or Christian priest or minister is as follows:

Where in the Bible do we see the prophecy about riding the camel being fulfilled?

Who in the Bible was the prophet who rode the camel to fulfil the Prophecy of Isaiah 21:7? The New Testament fulfils the riding of the donkey prophecy in John 12:14 and it claims that it fulfilled only that prophecy. There is still an unfulfilled prophecy regarding riding the camel in the New Testament.

If Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) was not the one who fulfilled the remainder of the prophecy in Isaiah 21:7, then who was that prophet?

These prophecies in the Old and New Testaments predict, in unequivocal terms, the advent of Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) and the genuineness of his prophethood.

3. The location from which he was to emerge

Proof 18: Deuteronomy 33:1-2

Deuteronomy 33:1-2 combines references to Moses (peace be upon him), Jesus (peace be upon him) and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him). It speaks about God's revelation coming from Sinai, rising from Seir (probably the

village of Sa'ir near Jerusalem) and shining forth from Paran. According to Genesis 21:21, the wilderness of Paran was the place where Ishmael (peace be upon him) settled (that is, in Arabia, specifically Makkah).

Another sign of the prophet to come from Paran (Makkah) is that he will come with "ten thousand of saints" (Deuteronomy 33:2 KJV). That was the number of faithful who accompanied Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) to Makkah in his victorious, bloodless return to his birthplace to destroy the remaining symbols of idolatry in the Kaaba. The text says, "He shined forth from mount Paran, and he came with ten thousand of saints, from his right hand (went) a fiery law for them."

According to the Islamic history, the city of Makkah (Paran) was liberated by Prophet Muhammad's ten thousand troops.

If Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him), who liberated the city of Paran with 10,000 believing men (the 'saints'), was not the one who fulfilled this Biblical prophecy and ended the worship of the 365 gods (in the form of idols), then who was that prophet? Is there another prophet who marched upon Makkah with this exact same number of men? The historical answer is: Prophet Muhammad (blessings and

peace be upon him) is the only prophet on whom this prophecy fits perfectly.

Proof 19: Habakkuk 3:3

Habakkuk 3:3 speaks of God (God's help) coming from Te'man (an oasis north of Madinah according to Hastings' *Dictionary of the Bible*), and the 'holy one' coming from Paran. That 'holy one' who under persecution migrated from Paran (Makkah) to be received enthusiastically in Madinah was none other than Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him).

Indeed, the incident of the migration of the Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him) and his persecuted followers is vividly and prophetically described in **Isaiah 21:13-17**. That section foretold the battle of Badr as well, in which the few ill-armed faithful miraculously defeated the 'mighty' men of Kedar, who sought to destroy Islam and intimidate their own folks who had turned to Islam. The text reads:

An oracle concerning Arabia: You caravans of Dedanites, who camp in the thickets of Arabia, bring water for the thirsty; you who live in Tema, bring food for the fugitives.

They flee from the sword, from the drawn sword, from the bent bow and from the heat of battle.

This is what the Lord says to me: "Within one year, as a servant bound by contract would count it, all the

pomp of Kedar will come to an end. The survivors of the bowmen, the warriors of Kedar, will be few.” The LORD, the God of Israel, has spoken. (Isaiah 21:13-17)

4. The message to be revealed through him

The Bible foretells the story of revelation.

Proof 20: Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) was illiterate.

During his entire life, he never learned to read or write. The exact circumstances of the first revelation have been mentioned: it was the habit of Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) to frequently get away from the midst of his fellow Arabs and their heathenistic ways and spend many days secluded in the cave of Hirâ in the mountains of Makkah. There, he would pray to Allah according to the practice of Abraham (peace be upon him). When he reached the age of forty (610 CE), the angel Gabriel (peace be upon him), one day, appeared before him in that cave and ordered him to recite. Muhammad (peace be upon him), in his terror, thought he was being asked to read, so he stammered that he was unlettered. The angel Gabriel (peace be upon him) again ordered him to read, but Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) again

informed him that he was unlettered. The angel Gabriel (peace be upon him) took a firm hold of him and commanded him, "Recite, in the name of your Lord who created!" Now Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) began to understand that he was not being asked to read, but to recite and to repeat. He began to repeat after him, and Gabriel (peace be upon him) revealed to him the first verses of the Qur'an, those at the beginning of the 96th chapter of the Qur'an:

{Recite in the name of your Lord who created - created man from a clinging substance. Recite, and your Lord is the most Generous - Who taught by the pen - taught man that which he knew not.} (*Qur'an 96: 1-5*)

As mentioned above, the actual word angel Gabriel (peace be upon him) used to address Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) was the Arabic word *iqra'* which means read, recite, or rehearse. It is derived from the Arabic root word '*qara*'. However, if we were to go back to the original Hebrew form of the verses of Isaiah 29:11, we would find that the actual word which is translated into English as "Read this [I pray thee]" is the Hebrew word *qara'* [kaw-raw']. Is it just an amazing coincidence that the Hebrew text used not only a word with the same meaning, **but the exact same word itself**? Isaiah 29:11-18 reads:

And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed, which [men] deliver to one

that is learned, saying: Read this, [I pray thee], and he saith, I cannot, for it [is] sealed: And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying: Read this, [I pray thee], and he saith: I am not learned. Wherefore the Lord said, For as much as this people draw near [me] with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men: Therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvellous work among this people, [even] a marvellous work and a wonder: for the wisdom of their wise [men] shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid. Woe unto them that seek deep to hide their counsel from the LORD, and their works are in the dark, and they say, Who seeth us? and who knoweth us? Surely your turning of things upside down shall be esteemed as the potter's clay: for shall the work say of him that made it, He made me not? or shall the thing framed say of him that framed it, He had no understanding? [Is] it not yet a very little while, and Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field shall be esteemed as a forest? And in that day shall the deaf hear the words

of the book, and the eyes of the blind shall see out of obscurity, and out of darkness.

Remember that when a statement in the earlier scriptures is found also in the Qur'an, then this is proof of its validity. This is because if it is confirmed by the later scripture, it is clearly a remnant of the original revelation that was not deleted or changed over time by those who rewrote the Bible.

5. Fulfilment of prophecies which he foretold

Proof 21: One may ask the following question: What criterion should be used to distinguish between a genuine prophet and false prophets, who may also presume to speak in the name of Allah?

The answer to this question is clearly given in the concluding verses of chapter 18 of the Book of Deuteronomy:

And if thou say in thine heart, how shall we know the word which the Lord hath not spoken? When a prophet speaketh in the name of the Lord, if the thing follow not nor come to pass, that is the thing which the Lord hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it pre-sumptuously; thou shall not be afraid of him.
(Deuteronomy 18:21-22)

In John 14:16, Jesus (peace be upon him) is reported to have said, describing his successor, “He will declare to you the things that are to come.”¹⁹

It is a fact that not a single prophecy made by the Qur’an or Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) has proved to be inaccurate in the least. Every prophecy made about the near future during his time did come to pass. Examples of these are:

The prophecy²⁰ that Muslims would conquer the two ‘superpowers’ of their time; the Persian and Byzantine empires: This prophecy was made when Muslims were few and weak, when to prophesize their mere physical survival would have sounded too hopeful!

Another prophecy was that Surâqah, a man who was about to kill Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him), would become a Muslim. Not only was it prophesied that he would become Muslim, but that he would help the Muslim army conquer the Persian Empire, and have access to the Emperor’s crown, which would be placed on his head! Not only

¹⁹. New International Version (NIV) and the King James Version (KJV).

²⁰ In the chapter titled “The Romans” (*Qur’an 30: 2-5*).

did this prophecy appear to be a virtual impossibility when it was made, but it was as if the Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him) was looking distinctly at the scene which took place years after his death. The fact that Surâqah did become a Muslim, lived long enough to participate in the conquest of Persia, the Muslims came out victorious, Surâqah had access to the Emperor's crown and actually wore it, can hardly be regarded as a coincidence or a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Surely, it is no mere coincidence that all the prophecies that were described by the Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him) actually happened, down to the last detail. Nor can such accuracy in each and every prophecy emanate from any other individual than a true and genuine prophet using the criterion stipulated in Deuteronomy (18:21-22)

Proof 22: Test of prophethood

Jesus (peace be upon him) himself provided a sort of "test", if you will, for the one claiming prophethood:

...by the fruits ye shall know them. Do men gather grapes from the thorns, or figs from the thistles? Every good tree will bear good fruit and every evil tree will bear evil fruit...by their fruits ye shall know them. (Matthew 7:16-20)

Anyone who applies this test to the teachings of Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) will find in the Last Testament of Allah - the Noble Qur'an - the teachings

which will bring to the world much-needed peace and happiness. (See chapter 12: “The Moral System in Islam.”)

“The ultimate criterion of a true prophet is the moral character of his teaching.”²¹

George Bernard Shaw said of Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him):

I believe that if a man like him were to assume the dictatorship of the modern world, he would succeed in solving its problems, and that would bring it the much needed peace and happiness.²²

6. The time when he was to appear

Proof 23: God's promise to make Ishmael (peace be upon him) a great nation

It is well-known that from the descendants of Ishmael (peace be upon him) came the last great prophet of monotheism, Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him), whose followers constitute a great nation, nearly one-fifth of the total world population in all corners of the earth.

²¹. Dummelow, *Commentary on the Holy Bible*.

²² Shaw, *The Genuine Islam*, vol. 1, no. 8.

“I will make the son of the maidservant into a nation also, because he is your offspring.” (Genesis 21:13)

Genesis 21:18 says about Ishmael (peace be upon him), “I will make him into a great nation.”

In Matthew 21:19-21, Jesus (peace be upon him) spoke of the fruitless fig tree (a biblical symbol of the prophets' heritage) to be cleared after being given a last chance of three years (the duration of Jesus' ministry) to give fruit. In a later verse in the same chapter, Jesus (peace be upon him) said, “Therefore, say I unto you, The Kingdom of God shall be taken away from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruit thereof.” (Matthew 21:43) That nation is Ishmael's descendants (the rejected stone in Matthew 21:42) which was victorious against all superpowers of its time, as prophesied by Jesus (peace be upon him), “And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken, but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder.” (Matthew 21:44)

Moreover, in the Old Testament, Genesis 12:1-3, it can be found that God Almighty promised to create "Great Nations" from Ishmael (peace be upon him), Abraham's first son and the forefather of the Muslims:

The LORD had said to Abraham: Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name

great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you. (Genesis 12:1-3)

The quote “go to the land I will show you” is referring to the city of Paran (Makkah). The quote “I will make you into a great nation” is quite interesting; it describes perfectly the followers of Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him), namely Muslims.

As you probably know, Muslims worship Allah Almighty by prostrating to Him. Every time they pray and prostrate, they end their prayer by sitting on their knees and say the following exact quote [translated], “...and bless Prophet Muhammad and the family of Prophet Muhammad, as You have blessed Prophet Abraham and the family of Prophet Abraham...”

As can be clearly seen, Muslims bless Prophet Abraham (peace be upon him) every single day of their lives when praying to Allah Almighty. They also say "peace be upon him" or "peace and blessings be upon him" when they refer to his name or any other prophet's name.

Yes, the Muslims are the "great nation" that Allah Almighty has talked about; they are blessed by Him because

they worship none but Him, and they bless Abraham (peace be upon him) everyday (not less than nine times) in their prayers.

Proof 24: According to the Gospel of John, the Jews were waiting for the fulfilment of three distinct prophecies.

The first was the coming of Christ. The second was the coming of Elijah. The third was **the coming of the prophet**. This is obvious from the three questions that were posed to John the Baptist:

Now this was John's testimony, when the Jews of Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was. He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely: I am not the Christ. They asked him: Then who are you? Are you Elijah? He said: I am not. Are you the Prophet? He answered: No. (John 1:19-21)

If one looks in a Bible with cross-references,²³ he will find in the marginal notes where the words “the Prophet” occur in John 1:21 that these words refer to the prophecy of Deuteronomy 18:15 and 18:18. It can be concluded from this that Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) is the prophet mentioned there, because he is the only prophet who came after Prophet Jesus (peace be upon him), and because he is the one who is ‘like unto him’. Furthermore, it is obvious that the Jews and John knew that the ‘Prophet’ and the Christ were

²³ Nowadays, we can do this easily online. (Editor)

two different persons, as each was referred to by a separate question.

Proof 25: John 16:7

In John 16:7, Jesus (peace be upon him) is reported to have said: “Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Counsellor will not come to you; **but if I go, I will send him to you.**”

The term ‘Counsellor’ cannot refer to the Holy Spirit here, because - according to the Gospels - the Holy Spirit was already present in the world prior to Jesus' birth as well as during his ministry. Luke 3:22 has mentioned that the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus (peace be upon him) in the shape of a dove. However, this verse (John 16:7) implies that the “Counsellor” is yet to come.

.7 The unique proof

Proof 26: One of the proofs that Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) was the mentioned prophet in the Bible is that the message he came with has reached across the East and the West, and his community now extends all over the world, something which did not occur with any previous community. Had Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) not been the mentioned prophet, the prophets who came

before him, especially Moses (peace be upon him) and Jesus (peace be upon him), would have done two things: first, they would have mentioned who they refer to exactly, and second, they would have warned their peoples vehemently about Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him), and we would have seen this in their scriptures. This is because all the prophets warned about false prophets and cautioned their peoples about following them and being guided by them. An example on that is that the previous prophets mentioned the Antichrist by name, for example, and even Noah (peace be upon him), who was the first messenger, warned his people about him. However, none of the prophets warned about Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him). In fact, quite the contrary: Jesus gave good tidings of Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him), praised him and ordered people to follow him, and forbade them to oppose or disobey him.

8. Consistency of Muhammad's teachings with Jesus' teachings

Proof 27: One important proof that Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) is the mentioned prophet in the foretold Biblical references is the absolute consistency between the original (undistorted) teaching with which Jesus and other prophets were sent and those with which Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) came. These are: the call to monotheism, glorifying Allah in His supreme attributes, unity of Allah in His essence, forbidding people from ascribing any

of Allah's attributes to him, and many others.²⁴ This is not a surprise, because every prophet revived the basic beliefs that had been distorted over time after the departure of the preceding prophet. Islam, being the final message, revived the basic beliefs and practices of all the preceding messages, including the message of Jesus (peace be upon him). It clarified it and removed the misconceptions which had become attached to the pure creed with which Jesus was sent so that people would find it clear and straightforward to follow.

As the well-known scholar and commentator on the Qur'an, 'Abdur-Rahmân ibn Nâsir as-Sa'di wrote:

If Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) was not a true prophet, then his message would have contradicted the common message of Jesus and other prophets before him. Instead, it revived it and reinstated it.

It should now be clear that the Biblical prophecies speak of none other than Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him). Many thanks to Allah Who made the path clear for us. It is interesting to note that in year 571 CE, Jesus' prophecy was fulfilled. Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) was

²⁴ See chapter 17: *'Islam's Revival of the Basic Teachings of Jesus'*.

born into a community of Ishmaelite Arabs who had become polytheists and idolaters; when he reached maturity and was given revelation, Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) started preaching his message of the worship of Allah alone.

In the year 632 CE, he left this world; however, his bright message will remain with people till the end of this world.

Being a true follower of Jesus (peace be upon him) must be more than a lip service, wherein one says that he or she follows or loves Jesus (peace be upon him) and that is it, in order to attain paradise and be saved from hellfire. True followers of Christ should accept his prophecy of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) and follow his teachings of 'Islam', or complete and devoted submission to the One and Only God-Allah.

Note: Not only did Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) vouch for Jesus' and Moses's prophethood, he also testified the prophethood of all the true prophets who had been sent before him. He neither denied any of them nor did he fabricate anything about them. This was unlike what the reigning kings usually do against the kings who have reigned before them. Had Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) been a liar or a fabricator of his message (Islam), he would have not spoken of their truthfulness or praised them the way he actually did. He would have lied about them, which was the

practice of the enemies of God's messengers throughout history!

Indeed, God Almighty has mentioned this very fact about Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) in the Qur'an:

{Rather, the Prophet has come with the truth and confirmed the [previous] messengers.} (*Qur'an 37: 37*)

This is it

In this book, you have been shown the right path, and Allah has given you the ability to distinguish right from wrong; He has also given you the freedom of choice as to whether or not to accept the message of Islam. If you accept His call, you will be warmly welcomed into paradise. If you reject it, you will end up with the biggest loss ever imagined: the loss of paradise and the guarantee of abiding in hellfire for all eternity. Take a moment to comprehend what **eternity** really means. It is a very frightening realization.

To those who have been faithful Christians, you are warmly welcome to embrace Islam because:

- ❖ Jesus asked his followers to follow Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) whenever he appeared;
- ❖ When Jesus comes back before the end of this world, he will follow Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) and abide by his teachings.²⁵

Yes, since Jesus called his true followers to follow it while he was on the earth, and will follow Islam when he comes back, all faithful Christian should follow Islam as well.

²⁵ See for more discussion: "Who Deserves to be Worshipped?", Chapter: '11 facts about Jesus'. See Appendix.

To those who have been believing Jews, remember that Abraham and Moses surrendered themselves completely to their Lord, whether they called Him Elohenu, God, or Allah. All pride in ethnicity or ancestry is vain: what will matter in the end is your individual relationship with your Creator. This means total submission - Islam.

To those of other faiths or who, until now, did not feel that they had any faith at all, consider this message **now**, without any reluctance or hesitation, before it is too late; **before death overtakes you.** It can be soon. Who knows?

A Whisper

Some people are not able to find the truth because of their blind commitment to their beliefs. Their tenacious adherence is usually not based on an intellectual understanding of the teachings, but on powerful cultural and emotional influences. Because they were brought up in a particular family or society, they firmly cling to the beliefs of that group, believing that they are upholding the truth.

There are others who are convinced about the religion of Islam and are mentally ready to embrace it. However, when they come to the point when they remember the drastic change in their lives which might not please their families and communities, they tend to go back and change their minds about the decision.

Here is a whisper in their ears:

Irrespective of the amount of money, prestige, position, and power an unbeliever might have possessed in this life, he or she will never have enough to buy his or her entrance into paradise. In the hereafter, the poorest from among the inhabitants of earth, who had testified to the truth of Islam, will be far happier and more dignified than the richest person who did not accept the message of Islam.

Rejecting Allah's message is the biggest sin that one can commit. For this reason, while the soul of an unbeliever is still in his or her body, the wise individual should quickly utilize the occasion: he or she is still alive to accept Allah's message before it is too late. The time for repentance is limited. Once death arrives, it is no longer possible to obtain forgiveness.²⁶ Allah has mentioned in the Qur'an:

{[For such is the state of the disbelievers], until, when death comes to one of them, he says: My Lord, send me back that I might do righteousness in that which I left behind. No! It is only a word he is saying...}²⁷ (*Qur'an 23: 99-100*)

Religion is, without question, the most important aspect of a person's life as it impacts whether or not a person is rightly guided; it follows, therefore, that choosing the true faith is the most important personal decision one must make; this decision needs to be based on clarity and total conviction. When it

²⁶ Compiled from Caraballo, *My Great Love for Jesus Led Me to Islam*.

²⁷ The unbelievers will ask for a 'second chance' when they see the angels ready to punish them, but it will be too late; they were given the time, the intellect and the guidance, but they neglected it for years till time ran out.

comes to matters of religion and creed, nothing must be left to chance. This is because the one who is truly guided - as opposed to the one who is not - will surely find eternal happiness in the hereafter!

Being presented with the previous proofs, whoever has a sane intellect can analyze and reason; a crossroad has been reached, in which Allah (Glorified is He) calls all people to follow the clear, straight road and avoid all the foggy, zigzag ones. The right path has now become distinct from the wrong path, as Allah has mentioned in the Qur'an:

{...The right course has become clear from the wrong. So whoever disbelieves in tâghoot and believes in Allah has grasped the most trustworthy handhold with no break in it. And Allah is Hearing and Knowing.} (*Qur'an 2: 256*)

He has also specified:

{There shall be no compulsion in [acceptance of] the religion. The right course has become clear from the wrong. So whoever disbelieves in tâghoot and believes in Allah has grasped the most trustworthy handhold with no break in it. And Allah is Hearing and Knowing.} (*Qur'an 2: 256*)

It is my duty and responsibility, as a member of this great planet, and as the one who has submitted my free will to the law and commandments of the Supreme Being, to urge all human beings to stay away from the worship of false deities, to stop putting their faith in statues, sphinxes, figures, amulets,

talismans, horseshoes, and any other objects that have been manufactured by humans or created by God. After repentance, a person should submit completely to the will of Allah, the Only God of the universe.

How to become a Muslim

Every religion has its own requirements for conversion: If someone wants to become Jewish, he or she needs to be able to pledge all of the following:

- 1) To enter the 'eternal covenant' between God and the people of Israel and to become a Jew of his or her own free will;
- 2) To accept Judaism to the exclusion of all other religious faiths and practices, which means to deny the prophethood of Jesus and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) and to deny the revelations that God sent to humankind through them;
- 3) To pledge undivided loyalty to Judaism and to the Jewish people under all circumstances;
- 4) To commit to learning the Torah and Jewish knowledge; and
- 5) To raise his or her children as Jews.

To be a Christian one must:

- 1) Believe that God (Allah) has a partner, a mother, and a son;
- 2) Believe that every new-born baby is born sinful;
- 3) Believe that God became a man and descended to the earth to die for the sins of the people;
- 4) Deny the prophethood of Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) publicly; and
- 5) Deny that the Qur'an is revelation from Allah.

However, to become a Muslim is simple:

- 1) Bear witness that no one deserves worship except Allah (disown all false gods);
- 2) Bear witness that Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) is His messenger;
- 3) Believe in all the six articles of faith; and
- 4) Worship Allah as taught by Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him).

Hence, becoming a Muslim is a simple and easy process. If anyone has a real desire to be a Muslim and has full belief that Islam is the true religion of God, all he needs to do is to pronounce the *shahâdah*, the testimony of faith. Pronunciation of this testimony with a sincere heart enters the person into the folds of Islam. It is the main gate to Islam.

Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) said:

<<Whoever testifies that there is none worthy of being worshipped but Allah, Who has no partner, and that Muhammad is His slave and Prophet, and that Jesus is the slave of Allah, His Prophet, and His word²⁸ which He bestowed in Mary and a spirit created from Him; and that paradise (heaven) is true, and that the hellfire is true, Allah will eventually admit him into paradise, according to his deeds.>> (Bukhari)

The first part of the testimony consists of the most important word of truth that Allah has ever revealed to His noble prophets, “There is nothing divine or worthy of being worshipped except for Allah.” He has stated in the Holy Qur’an:

{And We sent not before you any messenger except that We revealed to him that: There is no deity except Me, so worship Me.} (*Qur’an 21: 25*)

Bearing this testimony implies that all forms of worship, whether it is praying, fasting, invoking, seeking refuge in, and offering an animal as sacrifice, must be directed to Allah and to

²⁸ It means that Jesus was created when Allah said the 'word': Be; when He said it, he was created in the womb of his mother, Mary.

Him alone. Directing any form of worship to other than Allah (whether it is an angel, a messenger, Jesus, Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him), a saint, an idol, the sun, the moon, or a tree) is considered to be a contradiction to the fundamental message of not only Islam, but of all the prophets; it is an unforgivable sin in the hereafter unless one repents before death.

The second part of the testimony means that Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) is the slave²⁹ and the chosen messenger of Allah. This implies that a true Muslim obeys and follows the commands of the Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him) as mentioned in the collections of his Hadith. One must believe in what he has said, practice his teachings and avoid what he has forbidden as the Hadith were, in fact, revelations and inspirations conveyed to him by Allah.

As mentioned earlier, Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) was sent in order to practically implement the Qur'an in his saying, deeds, legislation as well as all the other facets of life. 'Â'ishah (may Allah be pleased with her), the wife of the Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him), when asked about his character, replied:

²⁹ The meaning of 'slavery to Allah' was explained earlier in chapter 11: "The Meaning of Worship in Islam."

<<His character was that of the Qur'an.>> (Muslim and Abu Dâwood)

Hence, to truly adhere to the second part of the shahâdah is to follow his example in all walks of life. Allah has mentioned:

{Say, [O Muhammad]: If you should love Allah, then follow me, [so] Allah will love you and forgive you your sins. And Allah is Forgiving and Merciful.} (*Qur'an 3: 31*)

A true Muslim must try to mold his or her life and character and emulate the Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him), as he was a living example for humans to follow. Allah has said to His Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him):

{And indeed, you are of a great moral character.} (*Qur'an 68: 4*)

Allah has also said to all people:

{There has certainly been for you in the Messenger of Allah an excellent pattern for anyone whose hope is in Allah and the last day and [who] remembers Allah often.} (*Qur'an 33: 21*)

Upon entering the folds of Islam, all of one's previous sins are forgiven; one starts a new life of piety and righteousness since he or she, in essence, has repented from the ways and

beliefs of their previous life. The Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him) said to a person, who had placed the condition upon the Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him) in accepting Islam that Allah would forgive his sins:

<<Do you not know that accepting Islam destroys all sins which come before it?>> (Muslim)

As soon as a person accepts Islam, he or she will be free of all the sins committed before his or her acceptance. The person's record will be wiped clean, and it will be as if he or she was born that very day. One should try as much as possible to keep his or her records clean and strive to do as many good deeds as possible; the more he or she does the more he or she will be elevated in paradise.

It shall be emphasized again that accepting Islam does not mean to turn one's back on the messages of previous prophets (peace be upon them all). Indeed, it is a fulfilment of those messages. Therefore, if you are a Jew or a Christian, accepting Islam and following Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) is a fulfilment of the messages which Moses and Jesus (peace be upon them) brought, as has been clearly described and proved in the previous chapter: "Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) in the Bible."

However, rejecting Islam means to turn one's back not only on Prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) but also to his preceding prophets (Moses and Jesus). This is

actually a clear violation of their messages, which diminishes one's hope of paradise in the hereafter.

It is now up to you to decide your own future home. Wish you all the best!

May the light of truth shine in our minds and in our hearts. May it lead us to peace and certitude in this life and eternal bliss in the hereafter.

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Appendix

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You may also visit the following websites for updated information and a wealth of reading material:

Online information about Islam:

www.islamfortoday.com

www.islam-guide.com

www.islamonline.net

www.islam-qa.com

www.islamtomorrow.com

www.missionislam.com

www.themodernreligion.com

www.witness-pioneer.org

www.youngmuslims.ca

Online bookstores:

www.al-hidaayah.co.uk

www.dar-us-salam.com

www.iiphonline.com

www.soundvision.com

Glossary of Islamic Terms*

<i>Arafah</i> (or 'Arafât)	عرفات، عرفة	the plain outside of Makkah where pilgrims gather at the climax of the Hajj; Mount 'Arafah' falls inside that plain. It is the mountain where prophet Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) stood beside it when he made his Hajj.
<i>Da'wah</i>	دعوة	disseminating the teachings of Islam and calling people to accept and embrace Islam
<i>Hadith</i> (<i>hadeeth</i>)	حديث	the collected statements and actions of Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him) that with the Qur'an form the basis of Islamic law

* The Arabic words are transliterated according to the conventions of the Transliteration Chart found in this book. If a word has become part of the English language (i.e., is found in a dictionary of Standard English), that spelling is used in this book and appears first in this Glossary, with the transliterated form in brackets after it.

<i>Hajj</i>	حج	the major pilgrimage to the Sacred Mosque, site of the 'Kaaba' at Makkah, to be undertaken by every able Muslim once in his or her lifetime
<i>Kaaba (Ka 'bah)</i>	الكعبة	the House of Allah in Makkah, originally built by Prophets Ibrâheem and Ismâ'eel
<i>Ramadan</i>	رمضان	the ninth month in the Islamic calendar; the month of obligatory fasting
<i>tâghoot</i>	طاغوت	idols; everything evil that is worshipped besides Allah