

Understanding the Religion of Islam

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Motivation:

- Islam is the world's fastest growing religion with 1.6 billion adherents.
- There is a spotlight on Islam due to a number of terrorists attacks, most recently from ISIS in Syria, and others in Paris and US (California, Chattanooga, and Orlando)
- At the same time we know very little information on the tenets of Islam and what Muslims believe.
- As Christians, it is important for us to have an informed view of Islam in order for us to outreach to our Muslim brothers and sisters in love and to more effectively share the gospel with them.
- It will also help us contextualize the current world situation as it relates to Islam.

Knowing Muhammed and Quran is essential to understand the religion of Islam and the current world situation

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I. Muslims' View on Muhammad and Quran

I.1 Muslims' view on Muhammad¹

- The greatest [messenger](#) (Quran [48:29](#)) and [prophet](#) sent by Allah to guide humanity to the right way (Quran [7:157](#)).
- He was sent to restore [Islam](#), which they believe to be the unaltered original monotheistic faith of Adam, Moses, Jesus, and other prophets
- The Quran ranks Muhammad above previous prophets in terms of his moral excellence and the universal message he brought from God for humanity
- The deeds and sayings in the life of Muhammad are considered a model of the life-style that Muslims are obliged to follow.
- Recognizing Muhammad as God's true messenger is one of the central requirements in Islam^[13] : the Islamic proclamation of faith: "There is no god but Allah, and Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah"

I.2 Muslims' view on Quran²⁰

- Muslims regard the Quran as the most important miracle of Muhammad, a proof of his prophethood
- Muslims believe that the Quran is in no sense Muhammad's composition, even inspired. It's purely divine.
- In the Muslim view, the Quran is literally the word of God. But only in Arabic
- Translations of the Quran into English, for example, often carry titles like "The Meaning of the Glorious Quran"
- Quranic recitation permits believers to become, in a sense, "one" with God
- The physical Quran itself is sacred to Muslims, who don't mark it up or put it on the floor
- Believers should be ritually clean when touching it

I.3 The Five Pillars of Islam for Salvation

(Sahih Bukari 1:2:50)

1. To testify that none has the right to be worshipped but Allah and Muhammad is Allah's Apostle
2. To offer prayers perfectly
3. To pay the Zakat (obligatory charity)
4. To observe fast during the month of Ramadan.
5. Pilgrimage (Hajj)

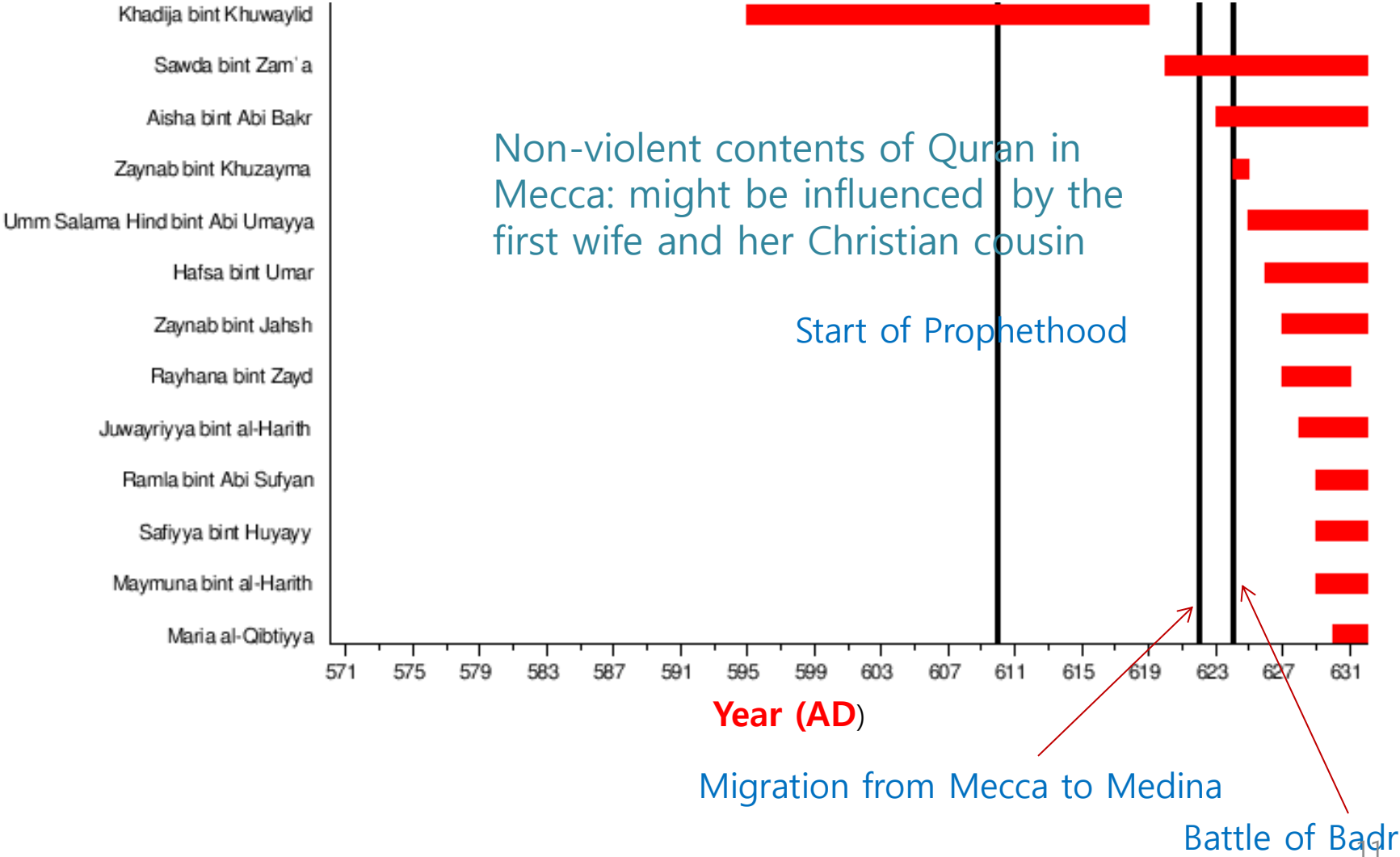
II. Historical Perspective of Muhammad^{1,2,3}

II. 1 Personal life:

- Born in AD 570 in Mecca
- Orphaned at an early age, raised by his uncle
- When grew up, he worked **as a merchant** in AD 583 – 609
- **First marriage** with [Khadija bint Khuwaylid](#) in AD 595 until AD 619
- She was a very successful and rich merchant and hired Muhammed
- After she died in AD 619 Muhammad **married to twelve women** (some source says 19 wives including 3 divorcees and 3 sex slaves)
- **Aisha** (daughter of Abu Bakr) was the youngest wife married at her age of nine
- **Zaynab** was previously the wife of his **adopted son Zayd**
- Among them, there were two **Jewish** women (Safiyah & Rayhana)
- **Rayhana's** first husband was one of the 600-900 Qurayza men whom Muhammad **beheaded** in April 627. He enslaved all the women and selected Rayhana for himself because she was the most beautiful

II. 2 Timeline of Muhammad Marriage³

Names of Wives



II. 3 Public life in Mecca:

- When Muhammad grew up, occasionally he would retreat to a **cave at Mount Hira** 3 miles from Mecca for **prayer** for several nights
- At age 40, he reported at this spot that he was visited by **angel Gabriel** and received his **first revelation** from God
- Three years later he started **preaching** these revelations publically
 - God is One
 - Complete surrender to God is the only way acceptable to God
 - Muhammad is a prophet and messenger of God similar to other prophets in Bible
- **First converts** were his wife Khadija, his adopted son Zayd, his cousin Ali, and his companion Abu Bakr, a distinguished merchant of Mecca
- He gained **many followers** who were impressed with his words that have the religious content

(continue)

- But most **Meccan rejected** his message when he attacked the idols housed in **Ka'ba** and started to **persecute** him and his followers.
- In 620 – 622, **eighty five** of men and women came to Muhammad from Medina and **became Muslims** pledging to obey and fight for him
- As the **relationships worsened** between Muhammad and the leaders of Mecca, he **sent** most of his followers to **Medina** – new Muslims there protected them
- Muhammad, Ali, and Abu Bakr remained in Mecca but **escaped to Medina** when Meccans tried to kill Muhammad – Flight to Medina on July 16, 622
- Quran has total 114 surahs (chapters) among which 83 surahs (73%) were written in Mecca

II. 4 Muhammad's first revelation⁸

- When he was nearly 40, he used to spend many hours alone in prayer
- He was concerned with the "ignorance of divine guidance", social unrest, injustice, widespread discrimination particularly against women
- While he was in prayer, the archangel [Gabriel](#) appeared before him and commanded Muhammad to recite the following verses

"Proclaim! (or read!) in the name of thy Lord and Cherisher, Who created- Created man, out of a (mere) clot of congealed blood: Proclaim! And thy Lord is Most Bountiful,- Who taught (the use of) the pen,- Taught man that which he knew not" Quran 96:1-5

- Perplexed by this new experience, Muhammad made his way to home where he was consoled by his wife Khadijah
- His wife took him to her Christian cousin [Waraqah ibn Nawfal](#)
- Waraqah was a Bible scholar studied under Jews and Christians and read an Arabic translation of the New Testament
- Upon hearing the description, Waraqah testified to Muhammad's prophethood

II.5 Public life in Medina:

- Medina has a **large Jewish** tribe among Arab tribes
- Medina lacked central authority and there was strife among the tribes
- Muhammad was encouraged to settle the disputes and established unity
- Muhammad attempted to **attract the Jews** to his leadership
- He offered Friday as a beginning of the Sabbath and the city of **Jerusalem** as the direction for prayer --- He failed for **appeasing Jews**
- He selected **Mecca as the direction of prayer** and established a month-long fasting season of **Ramadan**
- When Jews turned against him, he recited Allah's judgement against them (Quran **2:159**)
- The constitution of Medina recognized God and Muhammed as the center and reference for the people
- He served the Muslim community as prophet, political and economic leader and as commander-in-chief of his warriors

(continue)

Continue: Public life in Medina

- Muhammad received message from God as directives for the people
- He continued to receive revelations until his death. By the time of his death the entire content of the Quran had been revealed

II.6 Battles in Medina⁹:

- He began to **raid** against **Meccan caravans** traveling through the area
 - In 623 alone Muhammad attacked the caravans 7 times to relieve themselves from poverty
 - In 624 – 632 Muhammad attacked caravans and cities 93 times for mostly political purposes
- In the **battle of Badr** in 624, Muhammad's warriors defeated a Meccan caravan which ultimately set the stage of his conquest of Mecca
- He attacked last Jewish tribe. All men were **beheaded** and women and children were taken into slavery
- By 630, Muslim armies had **taken Mecca**

II.7 Death of Muhammad¹⁴:

- Muhammad attacked a Jewish community of Khaibar. He destroyed, tortured, murdered, plundered, and enslaved many people
- A Jewish woman, whose family had been wiped out by Muhammad, put poison into a lamb and fed it to Muhammad and the other Muslims.
- Muhammad ingested some of the poisoned lamb and began to feel its effects.
- He died three years later as a result of the poisoning.
(ref Kitab al-Tabaqat al-Kabir, volume 2, page 134, 136, 137)

She replied, "I thought if you are a prophet, Allah will inform you, and if you are a pretender, I shall relieve people of you.

(From Ibn Sa'd page 250)

The appointed hour (of death) of the apostle of Allah came near and he was ordered to recite repeatedly "tasbih" (lit. glorification) and ask for His forgiveness.

(From Ibn Sa'd page 239)

III. Historical Perspective of Islamic Holy Books^{4,7}

(Quran and Hadith)

III.1 Quran:

- Muslims believe that the Quran was verbally revealed by God to Muhammad through the angel Gabriel gradually for 23 years
- When Muhammad recited Quran, the people who heard it memorized or wrote on the tablets, bones, and the wide flat ends of date palm fronds.
- After the death of Muhammad (632) many of his companions who knew the Quran by heart were killed in a [battle](#) by [Musaylimah](#),
- The first caliph [Abu Bakr](#) (634) decided to collect the Quran in a written volume so that it could be preserved
- In 656, the third Caliph [Uthman ibn Affan](#) began noticing different versions of Qurans which might cause conflict between Muslims later
- He ordered the copy possessed by Abu Bakr as the standard copy of the Quran by destroying other versions with fire

III.2 Hadith:

- It is a kind of commentary of Quran
- Many important elements of traditional Islam such as five salat prayers, the abhorrence of paintings and sculptures of living things, stoning adulterers are mentioned
- The collections of the reports claiming to quote what Muhammad said on any matter
- Collected from various people 200 ~ 300 years after Muhamad's death
- Each hadith is based on two parts, a chain of narrators reporting the hadith and the text itself
- Individual hadith is classified by Muslim clerics and jurist as "authentic" "good" and "weak"
- Different branches of Islam ([Sunni](#), [Shia](#), [Ibadi](#), [Ahmadiyya](#)) refer to different collections of hadith
- Some Hadith verses are contradictory to Quran – Quran supersedes Hadith

III.3 Content of Quran⁴

0. The structure of Quran:

- Quran has total 114 Surahs (Chapters)
- The Surahs are arranged in the order of size (not chronological order)
- Each surah consists of many ayahs (verses) of different topics
- 86 Surahs were recited in Mecca and 28 Surahs in Medina

Convention of surah and ayahs in this presentation:

- For example 7:59: 7 is the number of Surah and 59 is the number of ayah
- Black: Recited in Mecca
- Red : Recited in Medina
- <n> : Chronological order of each surah

1. Monotheism:

7:59 (Noah), 16:36, 17:23, 6:151, 1:5, 72:13, 10:31, 38:5, 6:102,148, 39:38, 45:24, 31:11, 46:4, 17:102 (Moses), 27:14, 2:21-22, 43:26-27(Abraham), 2:256, 48:10, 12:38(Joseph), 52:21, 23:23-24(Noah), 26:69-74(Abraham), 6:148, 43:20, 21:25, 39:3, 10:18, 53:26, 23:117, 22:31

2. Creation⁶:

- In contrast to the Old Testament, the Quran has creation related passages scattered all over the book
- To gain a clear idea of the creation events in Quran, a large number of surah scattered over the Quran have to be brought together.
- The Quran does not lay down sequence for the creation of the earth and heavens

"Your Lord is Allah Who created the heavens and the earth in six days." (7:54)

"Allah created earth in two days and bestowed blessings on the earth" (41:9-12)

Other related verses:

21:30, 41:11, 2:29, 23:17, 67:3, 71:15-16, 78:12, 25:59, 32:4, 50:38

3. Eschatology⁵

Signs preceding the Day of Judgement in the Qur'an

- The Qur'an describes the following Signs preceding the Final Hour:
 - Splitting of the Moon (Quran 54:1)
 - Smoke (Quran 44:10)
 - Beast of the Earth (Quran 27:82)

Last Judgment in the Qur'an

- The Qur'an describes the Last Judgment, with a number of its verses.

There are specific aspects:

- The time is known only to [Allah](#). (Quran 33:63)
- Muhammad cannot bring it forward. (Quran 6:57)
- Those who have been dead will believe that a short time has passed between birth and death. (Quran 10:45)
- Nothing will remain except [Allah](#). (Quran 28:88))
- [Allah](#) will resurrect all, even if they have turned to stone or iron (17:49)
- Those that have accepted false deities will suffer in the afterlife. (11:17)

Jesus' Second coming before the last judgement

- Although Muhammad is the preeminent Prophet in Islam, **Jesus** is the only Prophet who is said **not** to have **died** but rather raised up by Allah.
- Thus, in accordance with post-Quranic hadiths, **Jesus** will conceivably **return** to Earth as a just judge before the Day of Judgment.

"It is definitely close in that time that Jesus descends amongst you as a just ruler. He will break the cross, kill the swine and abolish tax. And money will abound in such excess that no one will accept it."

— Ahmad bin Hambal, al-Musnad, vol 2, p. 240[26]: Hadith

"Indeed, those who believed (in the Quran) and those who were Jews or Christians or Sabeans [before Prophet Muhammad]- those [among them] who believed in Allah and the Last Day and did righteousness - will have their reward with their Lord, and no fear will there be concerning them, nor will they grieve." (Quran 2:62)

4. Prophets

- After Waraqah (Christian cousin of Muhammad's wife) testifying his prophethood upon his first Revelation experience, Muhammad believed Allah commissioned him as a prophet in the line of many Prophets in the Bible
- He seemed to learn the prophets in the Bible from Jews and Christians (especially his wife's cousin) and recited them as Quran
- A large number of surah about the Biblical prophets are scattered over the Quran
- Majority of Quran verses about the Prophets was recited when Muhammad was in Mecca where he sincerely sought Allah's guidance

The following pages show the Biblical prophets in the Quran

4.1. Biblical Prophets in Quran

Black: Recited in Mecca Red : Recited in Medina
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Adam 2:30-39, 7:19-27, 20:115-123

Noah: 4:163, 6:84, 26:107-119, 29:14-15, 37:75-82, 57:26, 71:1-27, 7:59-64, 10:71-73, 11:25-89, 23:23-29, 26:105-120, 10:71, 14:9, 25:37, 38:12, 40:5-31, 50:12, 53:52, 54:9-15, 66:10, 21:76-77, 37:75, 7:64, 9:70, 51:46, 69:11, 17:3

Enoch 19:56-58 "Idris" (?)

Abraham 19:41-49, 26:69-81, 6:76-78, 29:16-19, 2:124-140, 258, 21:51-72, 60:4, 29:26, 6:83-87, 14:35-41, 11:69-76, 16:121-124, 37:83-113(Abraham's sacrifice), 3:84, 15:51-59, 22:26-28,

Lot 6:86, 7:80-84, 15:67-77, 26:160-175, 29:28-37, 11:77-83
27:54-58, 37:133-138, 54:35

Ishmael 19:54, 37:100-111 (Ishmael sacrifice but his name is not mentioned)
2:133-136, 3:84, 4:163, 6:84-86, 21:85, 38:48, 19:54-55,
(2:136 = 3:84)

Isaac, Jacob 19:49-50, 12:38, 37:101-113, 38:45-48, 21:72-75, 29:27,
2:132-140, 3:84, 6:83-84, 4:163

Job 4:89, 4:163, 21:83, 38:41-44, 6:83-84

Joseph	12:4-102
Moses	19:51-53, 2:49-61, 7:103-160, 10:75-93, 17:101-104, 20:9-97, 26:10-66, 27:7-14, 28:3-46, 40:23-30, 43:46-55, 44:17-31, 79:15-25 23:45-49, 18:60-82
Aaron	19:50-53, 37:120, 4:163, 10:75, 20:29-30, 28:34, 10:87, 7:142, 5:25, 23:45, 37:118-120
Jethro	26:178
Joshua	18:60, 5:22-23(name not mentioned)
Samuel	2:246-248
David	2:246-251, 17:55, 6:84, 34:10-11, 38:17-30
Solomon	2:102, 6:84, 21:81-82, 27:15-44, 34:12-18, 38:30-40, 4:163, 21:78-79
Jonah	37:139-148, 10:98
Elijah	37:123-128
Elisha	6:85-89, 38:48
Isiah (Dhul-Kifl?):	21:85-86, 38:48

Ezekiel 21:85-86 **"Dhul-Kifl, or Zul-Kifl" (?)**

Ezra 9:30 **Uzayr (?)**

Zechariah and John 6:85, 89, 19:4-15, 21:89-90, 3:35-39

Mary 19:16-37, 3:35-47, 66:12, 21:91

Jesus	3:45-59	Virgin birth
	19:33	Jesus resurrection
	3:3	Gospel (Bible)
	2:87	miracle power by God
	4:156-158	Jesus not killed
	5:116	Jesus not God
	5:17-18	Jesus not God
	43:59	no more than a servant
	5:72-75	Jesus not God, no trinity
	4:171-172	no trinity
	61:6	Jesus predict Ahmadas (Muhammad) his next
	5:112-114	followers ask Jesus food table
	5:109-120, 23:50, 43:57-65, 6:14	
	(2, 3, 4, 5, 61, 6, 19, 43, 23)	

4.2. Muslims' understanding about the Biblical prophets in Quran

- The prophets are all **Muslims** submitted to Allah
- All the prophets in Quran are **sinless**
- **All wrong-doings** by the prophets mentioned in the Bible are **omitted** in Quran
- Muslims believe that Jesus prophesized the coming of Muhammad as the last prophet (Quran 61:6)
- Muslims believe that Muhammad was illiterate so he could not read or write
- Muhammad is the last prophet who completed God's commands that the previous prophets could not do
- Muslims believe that Muhammad is sinless and all his behaviors are endorsed by God, so Muslims should follow his behaviors

4.3 Muslims' understanding about Abraham¹⁸

- Abraham is seen as a **strict monotheist** who calls his people to the worship of Allah alone.
 - Abraham is **Muslim**
- For this belief, he bears great hardships, even disassociating himself with his family and people through migration to various lands.



- When Abraham was childless at his old age, he got a first son named **Ishmael** from Hagar, the handmaid of his wife Sarah
- When Ishmael was still nursing, God commanded Abraham to take Hagar and Ishmael to **Mecca** to test Abraham's faith
- Ten years later Abraham visited Hagar and Ishmael in Mecca. God commanded him to **sacrifice Ishmael** to test his faith but God prepared a ram instead (Quran 37:101-102)
- Several years later, Abraham met Ishmael in **Mecca and built Kaaba** as a permanent sanctuary, to which direction people would face when offering prayers, and make it a **site of pilgrimage** (Quran 22:26, 2:125)

Comment:

- Muhammad seemed to believe that God chose **Ismael** over Isaac for a **covenant descendant** of Abraham
- But the genealogy of Abraham and his descendants made by Muslims (on the next page) shows that the covenant descendant of Abraham is Isaac not Ismael with numerous prophets in the line of Isaac

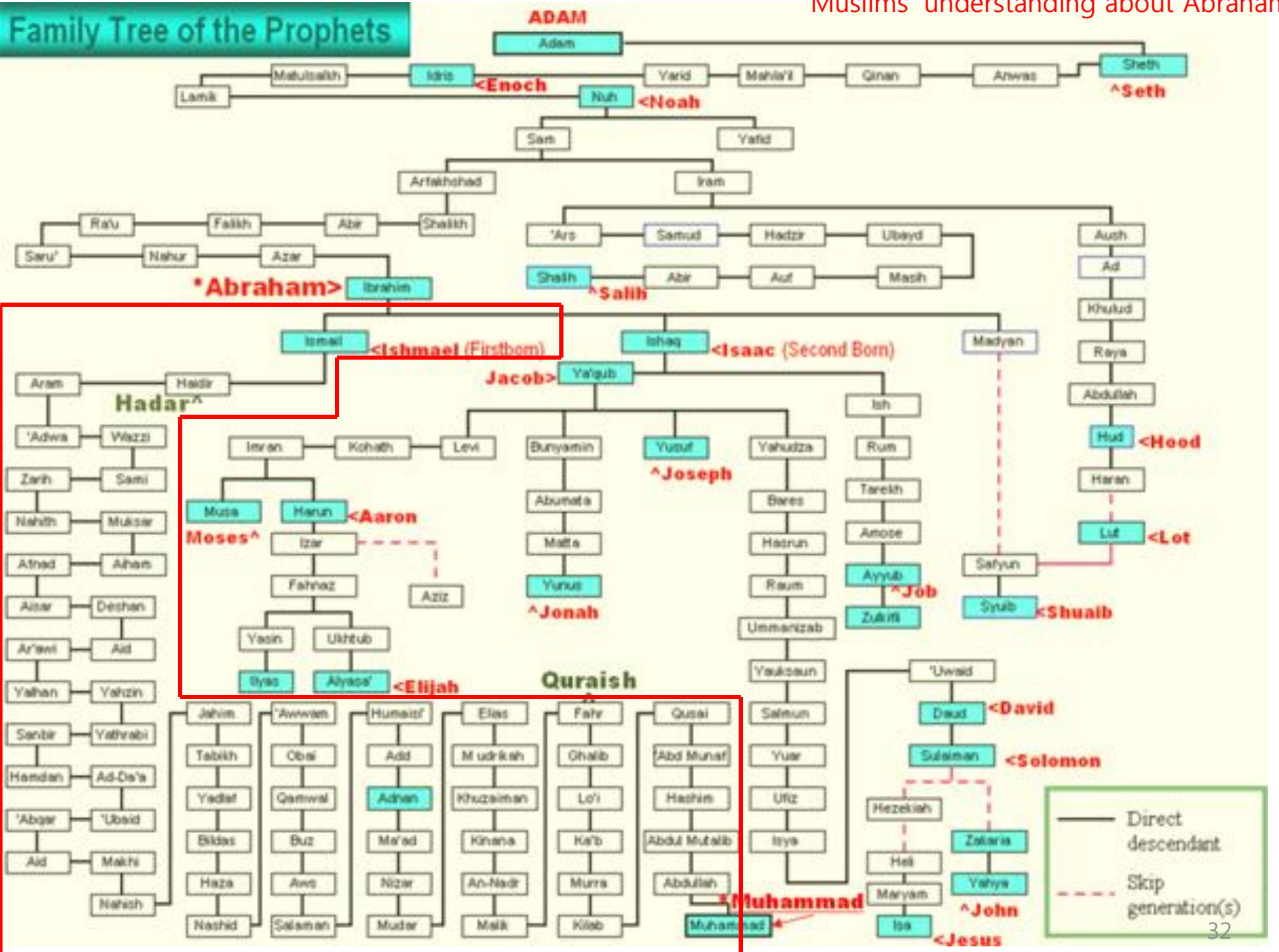
Muhammad established the foundation of Islam with the story of Abraham Ismael and Kaaba

(Next page): Genealogy of Abraham's descendants made by Muslims

- The names inside the red lines are descendants of Ismael
- No prophet name is shown in the line of Ismael until Muhammad
- Numerous prophet names are shown including Jesus in the line of Isaac
- The genealogy demonstrates that Isaac is the covenant descendant of Abraham

Family Tree of the Prophets

Muslims' understanding about Abraham



4.4 Muslims' understanding about Jesus

- Jesus was born from **virgin Mary** (Quran 3:45-59)
- Jesus is a **Word** from Allah, Messiah, and son of Mary (Quran 3:45)
- Jesus **resurrection**
Jesus said, "So Peace be on me the day I was born, the day that I die, and the day that I shall be raised up life (again)" (Quran 19:33)
- Allah strengthened Jesus with **Holy Spirit** (Quran 2:87) – Jesus' miracles
- Jesus was **not crucified** but Allah raised him up to Himself (Q 4:156-158)
- Jesus is **not God** but only a prophet (Quran 5:17-18, 5:116, 5:72-75)
- **No trinity** (Quran 5:72-75, 4:171-172)
- Jesus' **second coming** before the Day of Judgement
- Jesus prophesized Muhammad as his next prophet but Israelites rejected him

Jesus said, "O Children of Israel! I am the Messenger of Allah to you, confirming the Law before me, giving Glad Tidings of a Messenger to come after me, whose name shall be Ahmad (Muhammad)".

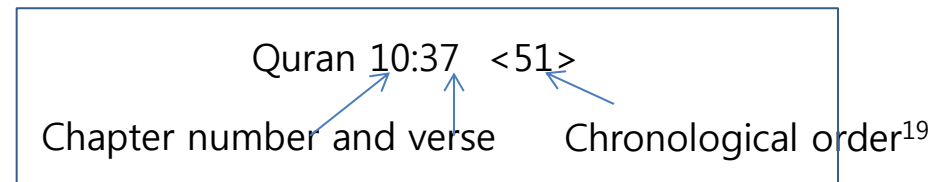
But when he came to them with Clear Signs, they said, "This is evident sorcery!" (Quran 61:6)

IV. Quranic view on Bible and Christians

IV.1 Bible mentioned in Quran

- Quran describes Bible as the revelation **from God** before it and is confirmed and fully explained by Quran.
- But Muslim scholars consider that the Bible **in original form** has been **corrupted** with centuries of copying, translating and passing down information

1. Quranic view on Bible:



This Quran is not such as can be produced by other than Allah; on the contrary it is a confirmation of (revelations) that went before it, and a fuller explanation of the Book . Quran 10:37 <51>

(Quran is a confirmation and fuller explanation of Bible)

*And dispute not with the people of the book, except with means better (than mere disputation), unless it be with those of them who inflict wrong (and injury). But say, " We(Muslims) believe in the **Revelation** which has come down to us and in that which came down to you (Jews & Christians); our Allah and your Allah is One*

Quran 29:46 <85> **(Muslims believe Quran and Bible as the revelation of same God)**

"It is He Who sent down to thee (step by step), in truth, the Book, confirming what went before it; and He sent down the Law (of Moses) and the Gospel (of Jesus) before this, as a guide to mankind, and He sent down the criterion (of judgment between right and wrong)"

Quran 3:3 <89> **(Allah sent down Quran and sent down Bible before it as a guide to mankind)**

Say "We believe in Allah, and in what has been revealed to us and what was revealed to Abraham, Ismail, Isaac, Jacob, and the Tribes, and in (the Books) given to Moses, Jesus, and the Prophets, from their Lord: We make no distinction between one and another among them"

Quran 3:84 <89>

(Muslims believe Quran and Bible as the revelations of God and there is no distinction)

"And in their footsteps We sent Jesus the son of Mary, confirming the Law that had come before him: We sent him the Gospel: therein was guidance and light, and confirmation of the Law that had come before him: a guidance and an admonition to those who fear Allah,"

Quran 5:46 <112>

(Allah sent the Bible (OT & NT) as a guidance and admonition to those who fear Allah)

Today Muslims believe that the previous scriptures (OT and NT) have been physically corrupted by the Jews and Christians based on [Qur'an 2:79](#) as evidence.

Therefore woe be unto those who write the Scripture with their hands and then say, "This is from Allah," that they may purchase a small gain therewith. Woe unto them for that their hands have written, and woe unto them for that they earn thereby. Quran 2:79 <87>

But the western scholars claim that the Quran verse does not say that the Bible at the Muhammad time was corrupted.

If the Quran 2:79 claims that Bible is corrupted, Allah contradicts himself with the above Quran and the previous Qurans

2. Muslim Scholars' view on Bible:

- There are a number of different versions of Bible in ancient Hebrew, Greek, and Latin languages while Quran has only one original version
- There have been many translations to a great number of languages
- Even amongst the English translations there are great differences
- The Catholic Bible contains 73 books in total, while the Protestant Bible contains only 66 books
- The Protestant version does not match completely with Catholic version
- Quran is a dictation of Allah talking directly to Muhammad while the Bible is a collection of writings by many different authors
- There are numerous errors in the Bible.
 - 2 Samuel 10:18; King David killed 700 chariots and 40000 horsemen
 - 1 Chronicles 19:18; King David killed 7000 chariots and 4000 foot soldiers
 - Matthew 27:5; Judah Iscariot hung himself
 - Acts 1:18; Judah jumped off a cliff head first.
- Jesus never claimed in the Bible that He is the Son of God

Comment:

- The Old Testament (OT) was being written over a period of time 1400-400 BC
- The Dead Sea scroll dated 250 BC was compared with a modern Hebrew OT in the Masoretic text - only three spelling differences
- Most of the NT was written between A.D. 47 and 70 by eye witnesses
- NT was copied more quickly than the OT for broad dissemination on time
- There were some accidental and intentional copying errors – mostly minor
- No errors are significant enough to call into question any of the doctrines of the NT (Jesus' virgin birth, performing miracles, death on the cross and resurrection)
- The New Testament can be regarded as 99.5 percent pure
- No original copy of NT existed in Muhammad time

Quran had many **different versions** but the [Caliph Uthman](#) ordered the copy possessed by Abu Bakr as the standard copy by destroying other versions with fire

IV.2 Christians mentioned in Quran:

- Most Quran recited in Mecca and early in Medina regards Christians highly
- Most Quran recited late in Medina regards Christians as enemies

The following Qurans about Christians are in chronological order¹⁹

*"And argue not with the People of the Scripture unless it be in (a way) that is better, save with such of them as do wrong; and say: We believe in that which hath been revealed unto us and revealed unto you; **our God and your God is One**, and unto Him we surrender."* Quran 29:46 <85>

(Christians and Muslims believe same God)

"Those who believe (in the Qur'an), and those who follow the Jewish (scriptures), and the Christians and the Sabians,- any who believe in God and the Last Day, and work righteousness, shall have their reward with their Lord; on them shall be no fear, nor shall they grieve."

Quran 2:62 <87>

(Christians, Jews, and Muslims all will get reward in heaven)

*"(And remember) when Allah said: O Jesus! Lo! I am gathering thee and causing you to ascend unto Me, and am cleansing you of those who disbelieve **and am setting those who follow you above those who disbelieve until the Day of Resurrection.** Then unto Me you will (all) return, and I shall judge between you as to that wherein you used to differ."* Quran 3:55 <89>

(Allah sets the Christians higher than unbelievers)

"If anyone desires a religion other than Islam (submission to God), never will it be accepted of him; and in the Hereafter He will be in the ranks of those who have lost (All spiritual good)." Quran 3:85 <89>

(Do not accept people having religion other than Islam)

"Those who believe (in the Qur'an), those who follow the Jewish (scriptures), and the Sabians, Christians, Magians, and Polytheists, God will judge between them on the Day of Judgment: for God is witness of all things." Quran 22:17 <103>

(Allah will judge between Muslims, Jewish, Christians and Polytheists)

In blasphemy indeed are those that say that God is Christ the son of Mary. Say: "Who then hath the least power against God, if His will were to destroy Christ the son of Mary, his mother, and all every - one that is on the earth? For to God belong the dominion of the heavens and the earth, and all that is between. He creates what He please. For God hath power over all things." Quran 5:17 <112>

(Christians who believe Jesus as God are blasphemous)

"Those who believe (in the Qur'an), those who follow the Jewish (scriptures), and the Sabians and the Christians,- any who believe in God and the Last Day, and work righteousness,- on them shall be no fear, nor shall they grieve." Quran 5:69 <112>

(Christians, Jews, and Muslims all will have no fear on the Last Day)

"O you who believe! take not the Jews and the Christians for your friends and protectors: They are but friends and protectors to each other. And he amongst you that turns to them (for friendship) is of them. Verily God guide not a people unjust." Quran 5:51 <112>

(Muslims should not have Jews and Christians as their friends)

*They do blaspheme who say: "God is Christ the son of Mary." But said Christ: "O Children of Israel! worship God, my Lord and your Lord." Whoever joins other gods with God (innahu man **yushrik** biAllahi),- God will forbid him the garden, and the Fire will be his abode. There will for the wrong-doers be no one to help. Quran 5:72 <112>*

(Whoever say Jesus is God will go to hell)

They do blaspheme who say: God is one of three in a Trinity: for there is no god except One God. If they desist not from their word (of blasphemy), verily a grievous penalty will befall the blasphemers among them. Quran 5:73 <112>

(Whoever believe Trinity will go to hell)

"Fight those who do not believe in Allah and the last day.. and fight People of the Book, (Christian and Jews) who do not accept the religion of truth (Islam) until they pay tribute (Jizyah tax) by hand, being inferior."

Quran(9:29) <113>

(Fight against Jews and Christians until they surrender)

IV. 3 Quranic View on Salvation¹¹

- Quranic verses show that the doctrine of salvation changes with time
- An early Quran verse, **2:62**, says Jews, Christians, and Muslims all can go to heaven

Surely those who believe, and those who are Jews, and the Christians, and the Sabians, whoever believes in Allah and the Last day and does good, they shall have their reward from their Lord, and there is no fear for them, nor shall they grieve. Quran **2:62** <87>

- A later Quranic verse says that only Muslims who believe in Allah and His messenger can go to heaven

*And whoever does not believe in Allah **and His Messenger**, then surely We have prepared **burning fire for the unbelievers**.*
Quran **48:13** <111>

- A further later verse says only Muslims who believe Allah alone (no trinity) and His messenger can go to heaven

Certainly they disbelieve who say: Surely Allah is the third (person) of the three; and there is no god but the one Allah, and if they desist not from what they say, a painful chastisement shall befall those among them who disbelieve. Quran 5:73 <112>

**V. Is Quran really words of God revealed
directly to Muhammad?**

The following Qurans may raise question about divine nature of Quran

V.1 Muhammad used Quran for silencing Muslims who complained his immoral behaviors²

"Then when Zeid had dissolved his marriage with her, with the necessary formality, We (Allah) joined her in marriage to you in order that in future there may be no difficulty to the Believers in the matter of marriage with the wives of their adopted sons when the latter have dissolved with the necessary formality with them. And Allah's command must be fulfilled." Quran 33:37

This is a "revelation" that Allah just happened to hand down at a time when Muhammad **married** to the **wife** of his **adopted son** Zaynab. The local community was upset with his marriage as the marriage was considered incest. After this Quran verse was announced, the local community was silenced and they changed law about legal status of adopted son.

"O Prophet! surely We have made lawful to you your wives whom you have given their dowries, and those whom your right hand possesses out of those whom Allah has given to you as prisoners of war, and the daughters of your paternal uncles and the daughters of your paternal aunts, and the daughters of your maternal uncles and the daughters of your maternal aunts who fled with you; and a believing woman if she gave herself to the Prophet, if the Prophet desired to marry her— specially for you, not for the (rest of) believers; We know what We have ordained for them concerning their wives and those Whom their right hands possess in order that no blame may attach to you, " Quran 33:50

This is another special command that Allah handed down to Muhammad that **allows** virtually **unlimited sex**, divinely sanctioned by Allah. One assumes that this "revelation" was meant to assuage some sort of disgruntlement in the community over Muhammad's hedonism.

"O Prophet! Why do you ban (for yourself) that which Allah has made lawful to you, seeking to please your wives?... Allah has already ordained for you, the dissolution of your oaths " Quran 66:1-5

Once, Muhammad's fifth wife, Zaynab bint Jahsh, received some **honey** from a relative which Muhammad took a particular liking to. As a result, every time Zaynab offered some of this honey to him he would **spend a longer** time in her apartment. This did not sit well with Aisha and another wife [Hafsa bint Umar](#). They **complained** to Muhammad and then he took an oath not to drink the honey. Then Allah gave him the revelation commanding him to **dissolve his oath** so he could eat anything permitted by God

— [Muhammad al-Bukhari, Sahih al-Bukhari^{\[51\]}](#)

"You may put off whom you please of them, and you may take to you whom you please, and whom you desire of those whom you had separated provisionally; no blame attaches to you; this is most proper, so that their eyes may be cool and they may not grieve, and that they should be pleased" Quran **33:51**

This is a revelation of Allah to Muhammad in the situation in which Muhammad's wives were grumbling about his preference for **sleeping** with a **slave girl** (Mary the Copt) instead of them. Accordingly, Muhammad may sleep with whichever wife (or slave) he wishes without having to hear the others complain.

V.2 Quran allows married Muslim men to have sex with married slaves¹⁵

Most certainly true believers. . . guard their private part scrupulously, except with regard to their wives and those who are legally in their possession, for in that case they shall not be blameworthy.

Quran 23:5-6 <74>, 70:29-30 <79>

Maududi (d. 1979) is a highly respected commentator on the Quran, and he interprets the clause as that Allah grants Muslim men to have **sex with slave-girls** as well as wives.

"And forbidden to you are wedded wives of other people except those who have fallen in your hands (as prisoners of war) . . ."

Quran 4:24 <92>

Maududi says in his comment on the verse that Allah made it lawful for Muslim holy warriors to **marry women prisoners** of war even when their husbands are still alive.

V.3 Quran allows Muslims to marry pre-pubescent girls¹⁶

(Muhammad consummated his marriage to **Aisha** when she was only **nine**.)

"Such of your women as have passed the age of monthly courses, for them the prescribed period, if you have any doubts, is three months, and for those who have no courses (i.e. they are still immature) their 'Iddah (prescribed period) is three months likewise: for those who carry (life within their wombs), their period is until they deliver their burdens: and for those who fear Allah, He will make their path easy." Quran 65:4 <99>

Making mention of the waiting-period for the girls who have not yet menstruated, clearly proves that it is not only permissible to give away the girl in marriage at this age but it is also **permissible** for the husband to consummate marriage with the young girl (**less than 9**).

"Now, obviously no Muslim has the right to forbid a thing which the Quran has held as permissible." [Commentary on Qur'an Chapter 65:4](#)

Sa yyid Abul Ala Maududi, Tafhim al-Qur'an

Comment²:

Thanks to Muhammad's extremely poor judgment (at best) and explicit approval of pedophilia, **sex with children** became [deeply ingrained](#) in the **Islamic tradition**.

For many centuries, Muslim armies would purge Christian and Hindu peasant villages of their menfolk and send the women and children to harems and the thriving **child sex slave markets** are deep in the Islamic world.

V.4 Quran teaches Muslims to kill non-Muslims including Jews and Christians

“**Fight** in the cause of Allah those who fight you, but do not transgress limits; for Allah does not love transgressors. And **kill** them wherever you find them, and drive them out from wherever they drove you out.” Quran 2: 190-191 <87>

“**Fight** them on until there is no more tumult and religion becomes that of Allah” Quran 2:193 <87>

“It was not you who killed them; Allah is the One who killed them. It was not you who threw when you threw; Allah is the One who threw. But He thus gives the believers a chance to earn a lot of credit. Allah is Hearer, Omniscient. Quran 8: 17 <88>

“I (Allah) will instill terror into the hearts of the unbelievers: **smite** you above their **necks** and smite all their **finger-tips** off.” Quran 8:12 <88>



"Therefore, when you meet the **Unbelievers** (in fight), strike off their **heads**; at length; then when you have made wide Slaughter among them, carefully tie up the remaining captives": thereafter (is the time for) either generosity or ransom: Until the war lays down its burdens." Quran 47:4 <95>

"The **punishment** of those who wage war against Allah and His Messenger, and strive with might and main for mischief through the land is: **execution**, or **crucifixion**, or the **cutting** off of **hands** and **feet** from opposite sides, or exile from the land: that is their disgrace in this world, and a heavy punishment is theirs in the Hereafter;" Quran 5:33 <112>

"**Fight** those who do not believe in Allah and the last day... and fight **People of the Book**, (Christian and Jews) who do not accept the religion of truth (Islam) until they pay tribute (Jizyah tax) by hand, being inferior." Quran 9:29 <113>

"Oh you who believe! **Murder** those of the **disbelievers** and let them find harshness in you." Quran 9:123 <113>

V.5 Many Quranic verses contradict to each other

Many earlier Quran verses say that Quran and Bible (OT & NT) are all the revelations of God and there is no distinction between Jews, Christians and Muslims (3:84, 10:37, 29:46, 3:3, 5:46) but many later Quran

- Denies Jesus deity (5:17-18, 5:116, 5:72-75) as well as His death and resurrection (4:156-158), the central doctrine of NT
- Command to fight against Jews and Christians until they accept Islam (9:29)
- Islamic scholars invented the doctrine of abrogation to resolve the contradictions
- The doctrine concedes that Allah was wrong with the earlier Quran or Quran was not revealed by God

V.6 Some Quran verse was a mistake and then later corrected¹⁰

- Jews in Medina tricked Muhammad with subtle twist of some OT Scripture and let him recite it as Quran:

*And remember We (Allah) took your Covenant and We raised above you (the towering height) of Mount Sinai, (saying) "Hold firmly to what We have given you, and hearken (to the Law)", They said, "We hear, and we **disobey**"... Quran 2:93 <87>*

- Sometime later Muhammad found that he had been misled and then he recited a Qur'an rebuking their deception:

*Of the Jews there are those who displace words from their (right) places, and say, "**We hear and we disobey**," and "**Hear, may you not Hear**", and "Ra'ina", with a twist of their tongues and a slander to Faith. If only they had said, "**We hear and we obey**", and "**Do hear**" and "**Do look at us**", it would have been better for them, and more proper; but Allah has cursed them for their Unbelief, and but few of them believe. Quran 4:46 <92>*

VI. Is Muhammad deserved to be called the last and greatest messenger divinely commissioned by God?¹⁰

- Muhammad was known to be trustworthy in all his actions and dependable in business dealings.
- The simplicity of his life in Mecca and Medina testifies to his personal sincerity
- Judged relatively by the standards of his day and by his overall disposition he appears worthy of much respect and a man of a generally unimpeachable character.
- He believed quite sincerely that he was called by Allah to turn his people away from pagan distractions to the worship of the one Supreme Being
- **He is described as the ideal pattern of conduct in the Qur'an (33:21)**
- **Muhammad's actions, according to Islam, *can never be wrong.***
- **Muslims are supposed to follow his conduct**

But, the following Quran and Hadith cast doubt on his character as the God's last messenger

VI.1 Muhammad not only sanctioned the **murder of his opponent** (Ka'b ibn Ashraf, a Jew in Medina) but also **permitted** to use whatever **deception** they considered necessary to achieve their purpose.

(Sahih al-Bukhari, Vol.4, p.168).

- His **opponents** were those who had composed **satirical legends** against him or had invented poetic passages to rival the text of the Qur'an.

The apostle said, "All that is incumbent upon you is that you should try". He answered, "O apostle of God, we shall have to tell lies". He answered "Say what you like, for you are free in the matter". (Ibn Ishaq, Sirat Rasulullah, p.367)

Abdullah carried out the assassination of Ka'b ibn Ashraf successfully with deception at night

- Another Jew named Abu Rafi, who was one of the chiefs of a Jewish tribe, the Banu Nadhir, was also killed in much the same way
- Al-Harith ibn Suwayd ibn Samit was another opponent murdered. After the successful killing, Muhammad was greatly pleased and said to his man "You have greatly helped Allah and his Apostle

VI.2 Muhammad allowed his men to **torture** and **behead** people

After the conquest of Khaibar, a local traitor, Kinana, told Muhammad the hiding place of his master's treasures. When the search yielded only a little of money, Muhammad allowed his man to torture Kinana to disclose the place where the rest was hidden. When the torture did not result in the disclosure of the rest of the money, Muhammad had him decapitated.

VI.3 Muhammad challenged Jewish communities in Medina to **accept** him as Allah's chosen **prophet** and threatened to **destroy** them if not

- The *Banu Qaynuqa* surrendered unconditionally after Muhammad besieged their quarter (Ibn Ishaq, *Sirat Rasulallah*, p.363)
- After defeating Banu Nadhir, Muhammad commanded all the men of 600 ~ 700 **beheaded** and women and children to be taken as slaves (Ibn Sa`d, *Kitab al-Tabaqat al-Kabir*, Vol.2, p.93)

VI.4 Muhammad had **unrestrained sex** life in Medina

Muhammad's first marriage with *Khadija* in Mecca had been a sound and happy one and had lasted twenty-five years. Her death, however, was to cause a total change in his sex life

- Muhammad was married to **thirteen women**, including eleven at one time.
- He married to a **9-year-old girl**
- He married his **adopted son's wife** after arranging a quick divorce and Allah endorsed his marriage when Muslims complained (33:37)
- He married to a **Jewish women** ([Safiyah bint Huyayy](#)) on the very day she had watched her **husband** and family **died** at the hands of his army
- He had a multitude of slave girls and concubines with whom he had sex
- Quran sanctioned his unrestrained sex life (33:50)

VI.5 Muhammad was uncertain of his Salvation¹³

- According to the following Quran and hadiths, Muhammad was uncertain whether Allah would save him

*Say: "I am no bringer of new-fangled doctrine among the messengers, **nor do I know what will be done with me or with you.** I follow but that which is revealed to me, I am but a Warner open and clear* Quran 46:9 <66>

Muhammad was speaking in respect to his eternal fate: He was not sure what Allah will do regarding his eternal life

Lo! We have given thee (O Muhammad) a signal victory, That Allah MAY forgive thee of thy sin that which is past and that which is to come, and MAY perfect His favour unto thee, and MAY guide thee on a right path Quran 48:1-2 <111>

The Quran verse doesn't say that Allah HAD forgiven Muhammad completely, but that he MAY forgive his messenger of his sins

*When comes the Help of Allah (to you, O Muhammad against your enemies) and the conquest (of Makkah), And you see that the people enter Allah's religion (Islam) in crowds, So glorify the Praises of your Lord, **and ask for His Forgiveness**. Verily, He is the One Who accepts the repentance and forgives. Quran 110:1-3 <114>*

The Quran verse is the latest. Muhammad still being commanded to ask forgiveness for his sins. That means that Allah had not completely forgiven him

- Other hadiths suggest Muhammad's concern with forgiveness, sin, and heaven.

"By Allah! I ask for Allah's forgiveness and turn to Him in repentance more than seventy times a day" (Abu Huraira narrated)

"By Allah, though I am the Apostle of Allah, yet I do not know what Allah will do to me" (Hadith Vo. 5, book 58, Um al-Ala narrated)

VII. Doctrine of Abrogation

- From the previous slides we have found that there are contradictions between the earlier and later Quranic teachings regarding Christians Bible and Salvation
- Islamic scholars had invented the **Doctrine of Abrogation** to resolve the contradictions based on the following Qurans

Quran 2:106 <87>: *"None of our revelations (verses) do we abrogate or cause to be forgotten, but we substitute something better or similar. Knowest thou not that Allah hath power over all things?"*

Quran 13:39 <96>: *"Allah doth blot out or confirm what he pleaseth. With Him is the Mother of the Book.";*

Quran 16:101 <70>: *"When we substitute one revelation for another, - and Allah knows best what He reveals (in stages), - they say, 'Thou are but a forger' but most of them understand not."*

VII.1 Doctrine of Abrogation on Jews and Christians

If there is contradiction between newer and older Quranic teachings the newer one abrogates the older one

Quran 2:62 <87> (Christians, Jews, and Muslims all will get reward in heaven)

Quran 9:29 <113> (Fight against Jews and Christians until they surrender)

Quran 9:29 contradicts to Quran 2:62 but the newer Quran 9:29 abrogates the older Quran 2:62

Therefore, Muslims have Quranic basis to do violence against Jews and Christians

Violence all over the world by extreme Muslims against non-Muslims has its root in the Quran and the Doctrine of Abrogation

VII.2 Doctrine of Abrogation on Salvation

Quran 2:62 <87> (Muslim, Jews, and Christians, whoever believe God go to heaven)

Quran 48:13 <111> (All non-Muslim will go to hell)

Quran 48:13 abrogates Quran 2:62 as 48:12 is newer.
Therefore, Muslims believe only they can go to heaven

- Thus, after the advent of Prophet Muhammad and Islam, no Jews and Christians can make it into Paradise unless they accept Allah as God, Muhammad as his last Prophet and the Qur'an as Allah's final book of guidance. (Fatwa No. 2912)
- The non-Muslims who do make it into Paradise will only be used as sex-slaves by believing Muslims (al-Jami` al-Saghir (7989))
- Muslims will be spared hell-fire by Allah on the Day of Resurrection by making innocent Christians and Jews take their place and be thrown into Hell. ([Sahih](#) Muslim: Chapter 8)

VIII. Summary:

- During his stay in Mecca Muhammad's messages were mostly peaceful and favorable to Jews and Christians
- Facing strong opposition from polytheistic communities in Mecca he moved to Medina where large Jewish communities resided
- He expected to be welcome but was refused to be recognized as a prophet by the Jewish communities
- Jewish leaders tried to discredit his prophethood by composing satirical legends against him or inventing poetic passages to rival the text of the Qur'an
- His hatred toward Jewish and Christian communities was growing
- He massacred all Jewish and Christian men and took women and children as slaves
- His hatred toward Jews Christians and non-Muslims was recorded as the revelations from Allah in Quran

(continue to next page)

- Islam scholars developed the doctrine of abrogation and endorsed the hateful Quran recited in Medina over the peaceful Quran recited in Mecca
- Salafism, Wahhabism, and Muslim Brotherhood which are adherents of Muhammad and Quran in Medina emerge as the inspiration behind every Islamic terrorist group (Al-Qaeda, Hamas, ISIS, Al-Shabbab, Boko Haram, etc.)

The violence by Muslims all over the world is deeply rooted in Muhammad and Quran in Medina

VIII.1 Suggestions to Christians:

- Most Muslims learn their religion from their parents, teachers, or other authorities
- They trust the teaching of their authorities even though their teachings are often biased
- Critical study of their holy books and Prophet is discouraged in Muslim society
- Christians Need to reach out Muslims around us and have personal relationship
- Need to have deep understanding of Islamic religion and culture
- Present Gospel to them with caution and respect emphasizing the common grounds between Christianity and Islam
- Use Bible and Quran when presenting the Gospel and comparing Christianity and Islam --- Muslims recognize the authority of Bible even though they learned that Bible is corrupted

VIII.2 Suggestions to Muslims¹⁷:

- Muslims need to admit that Islam has problems and try to reform
 - Christianity also went through reform to solve the problems existed in 15~16 centuries
- The doctrine of Inspiration of Quran must be modified
 - Bible has historical, cultural, and timeless universal aspects
 - Christians do observe only the timeless universal aspect of OT in 21st century
 - Quran also has historical, cultural, and timeless universal aspects
 - Cultural: marriage with young girl, cutting fingers of criminals
 - Historical: fighting against oppositions (including Jews and Christians) and beheading the enemies
 - Timeless universal: God's love and etc.
 - Cultural and historical aspects of Quran should be modified or not be observed in 21st century
 - Keep and observe the timeless universal aspect of Quran
 - The doctrine of abrogation should be modified
- Muslims need to study Quran with critical thinking not blindly accepting the teaching of authorities

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