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10 Things You Might Not Know About Jesus in Islam

Many people are surprised to learn that Muslims believe in Jesus peace be upon him.

This month's issue will share 10 things you may have not known about Jesus, peace be upon him, in Islam.

Also Inside:

Man & Prophet

Although Muhammad is deeply loved, revered and emulated by Muslims as God's final messenger, he is not an object of worship.

The Deen Show
with Eddie



Questions and Answers

“Do Islam & Christianity have different origins?”

No. Together with Judaism, they go back to the prophet and patriarch Abraham, and their three prophets are directly descended from his sons Muhammad from the eldest, Ishmael, and Moses and Jesus from Isaac. Abraham established the settlement which today is the city of Makkah, and built the Ka’abah towards which all Muslims turn when they pray.

“Why does Islam seem strange?”

Islam may seem exotic or even extreme in the modern world. Perhaps this is because religion does not dominate everyday life in the West today, whereas Muslims have religion always uppermost in their minds, and make no division between secular and sacred. They believe that the Divine Law, the Shari’a, should be taken very seriously, which is why issues related to religion are still so important.

“If there is only one God, then why are there so many religions?”

Allah does not force anyone to submit to Him. He has lay out a clear path and then made it known to them the two ways (Heaven or Hell). The person is always free to make his

or her own choice. There is not compulsion in the way of “Islam.” Whoever chooses to worship Allah without partners and is devoted to Him and is obeying His commands as much as possible, has grasped the firm handhold that will never break. Whoever denies God and chooses some other way to worship or not to believe at all, for them there is an eternal punishment that is most horrible (Hell).

Religion originated with Allah and then people began to add or take away from the teachings so as to take control over each other. Man made religions are an abomination before the Lord and will never be accepted. He will only accept true submission, obedience and in purity and peace to His commandments.

“If God created everything – then who created God?”

According to the Quran, Allah tells us that He is the only creator and sustainer of all that exists and that nothing and no one exists alongside Him, nor does He have any partners. He tells us that He is not created, nor is He like His creation in anyway. He calls Himself by a number of names and three of them are:

- A) The First – (Al-Awwal)
- B) The Last – (Al Akhir)
- C) The Eternal, who is sought after by His creation, while He has no need from them at all. (As-Samad)

He always has existed and He never was created, as He is not like His creation, nor similar to it, in any way.

“Where is God?”

Some other religions teach that “God is everywhere.” This is actually called “pantheism” and it is the opposite of our believe system in Islam. Allah tells us clearly that there is nothing, anywhere in the universe that resembles Him, nor is He ever in His creation. He tells us in the Quran that He created the universe in six “Yawm” (periods of time) and then He “Istawa ‘Ala Al Arsh” (rose up, above His Throne). He is there (above His Throne) and will remain there until the End Times.

“What does the word “Qur’an” mean?”

The word refers to the holy scripture of Islam, however, linguistically it means “the most recited” or “the most read.” The name is part of its miracle because there is no book in the world that is recited more than the Qur’ān. Millions of Muslims recite the Qur’ān daily and it is also recited during the five daily prayers.

“When was the Qur’an revealed?”

The Qur’ān was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad peace be upon him in 610. The Prophet peace be upon him continued to receive revelation over a period of 23 years.

“How is the Qur’an preserved?”

The early Muslims wrote the Qur’ān, but they also memorized it by heart. Since its revelation, Muslims have strived to memorize the parts of the Qur’ān or its entirety. Today, millions of Muslims have the entire Qur’ān memorized by heart. Parts of it are also recited in the 5 daily prayers. Therefore, if someone tries to change the Qur’ān, others will quickly catch it because they commit it to memory. A good example would be if someone tried to change the words to a national anthem or change the order of the alphabets. So many people have it memorized that it’s impossible to change without others noticing.

“What are the main teachings of the Qur’an?”

The central message of the Qur’ān is the oneness of God. One who reads the Qur’ān will quickly notice that God’s oneness is the most important message contained in the Qur’ān. Other major themes of the Qur’ān include belief in all Prophets and Messengers, belief in the hereafter, and belief in previous scripture.

“Are there different versions of the Qur’an?”

No, there is only one version of the Qur’ān. All Muslims, regardless of which sect they belong to, agree that the Qur’ān we have today is the exact version that was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad peace be upon him.

“What is the best translation of the Qur’an?”

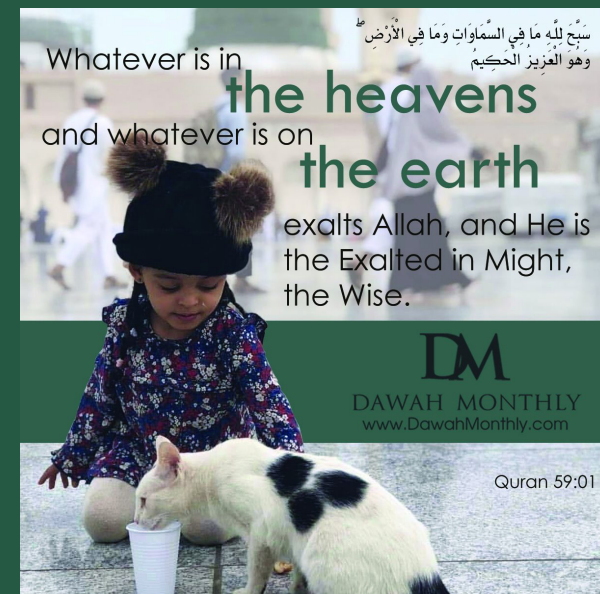
No translation is perfect. Each translation will have some deficiencies when trying to convey the original meaning of the text. Nevertheless, the general message of the verses can be found in most of the popular translations.

“How is the Qur’an different than the Bible?”

The Qur’ān has many similarities with the Old and New Testament, but it also differs in some respects. Muslims are required to believe in the original Torah revealed to Moses and the Injeel revealed to Jesus. However, they believe that these original books were lost and what remains of them today is tampered with and not completely authentic. Therefore, the Qur’ān is the final testament that came to correct any inaccuracies found in these scriptures and confirm what is true in them.

“Does the Qur’an tell Muslims to kill non-Muslims?”

Nowhere in the Qur’ān does it instruct Muslims to kill anyone based on their faith. The Qur’ān does allow self-defense and contains limits and instructions on fighting. One will find verses in the Qur’ān commanding Muslims to fight oppression, but never does it say to kill others simply based on their faith. To the contrary, the Qur’ān commands Muslims to be just, not transgress, and have good relations with people of other faiths.



إِنَّ الَّذِينَ يَخْشَوْنَ رَبَّهُم بِالْغَيْبِ لَهُمْ مَغْفِرَةٌ وَأَجْرٌ كَبِيرٌ

Indeed

those who fear their Lord unseen
will have forgiveness and great reward.

Quran 67:12

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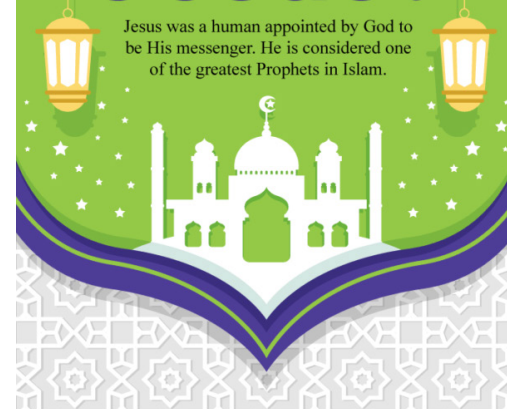
Muslims believe that every nation received a messenger from God. Just like the prophets before him, Jesus' message lasted in its original purity for a period of time, but the scripture he received was slowly altered and his original call to absolute monotheism became corrupted. Six centuries after Jesus, God sent His last messenger, Muhammad peace be upon him and revealed His final scripture, known as the Quran. Prophet Muhammad peace be upon him was sent to all of humanity and he confirmed the miraculous birth of Jesus, the miracles he performed and the essential truth of the message that God chose to reveal through Jesus. The Quran has been preserved in its exact original form for over 14 centuries. Through this final revelation, God protects His guidance for the entire human race, containing the same core message sent to all prophets and messengers of the One God, including Jesus, Moses, Abraham and Noah, peace be upon them.

According to the Quran, Jesus himself puts any false claims about his identity to rest: *"I told them only what You commanded me to: 'Worship God, my Lord and your Lord.' I was a witness over them during my time among them. Ever since You took my soul, You alone have been the watcher over them: You are witness to all things"* (5:117).

Today, Muslims seek to follow the original message of Jesus and all the prophets before him as confirmed by God's final messenger, Muhammad peace be upon him. Islam literally means 'submission' to God and is the same way of life followed by all the messengers of God. Only by following the original call of God's messengers can we find clear direction and tranquility in our lives.

Who was Jesus?

Jesus was a human appointed by God to be His messenger. He is considered one of the greatest Prophets in Islam.



What was his message?

Jesus preached the same message as other Prophets: there is only one God and only He should be worshiped.

Miracles & Message of Jesus



- ☘ Spoke as a baby
- ☘ Taught the scripture God revealed to him called *Injeel*
- ☘ Faith in God's absolute oneness leads to salvation
- ☘ God gave him ability to perform miracles to solidify people's faith, like healing the sick and raising the dead

Got Questions? Get Answers!



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10 Things You Might Not Know About Jesus in Islam

Many people are surprised to learn that Muslims believe in Jesus peace be upon him. One who reads the Quran will quickly realize that it does not only speak of who Jesus was, it also teaches who he wasn't. The Quran is a confirmation of the scriptures revealed to previous Prophets. This article will highlight 10 things you may have not known about Jesus, peace be upon him in Islam.

1. **Jesus, peace be upon him, is one of the greatest Prophets and Messengers in Islam**

Muslims believe in Jesus, peace be upon him, not as the son of God, but as one of God's greatest Prophets and Messengers. He is part of a chain of Prophets such as Abraham, Noah, David, Moses, and Muhammad peace be upon them all.

2. **Jesus was born miraculously without a father**

In Chapter 19 of the Quran, it recalls the birth of Jesus, peace be upon him. He was born to the Virgin Mary without a father. His miraculous birth was not a sign of his divinity, but evidence of his unique status as one of God's greatest Prophets. The Quran compares the birth of Jesus to the Creation of Adam. In God's eyes, Jesus is just like Adam: He created him from dust, said to him, 'Be', and he was (3:59). Adam was created with no parents but remains a Prophet. Similarly, for Muslims, Jesus' birth without a father is not an indication of his divinity.

3. **He spoke in the cradle**

When Jesus, peace be upon him, was born, the people at the time accused his mother Mary of committing fornication. In order to save her from such an accusation, the Quran explains in several places that Jesus spoke in the cradle. She pointed at him. They said, 'How can we speak with an infant?' He said: "I am indeed a servant of Allah: He has given me revelation and made me a Prophet (19: 30-31).

4. **There is an entire chapter in the Quran named after Mary**

Mary (Maryam in Arabic) is the only woman mentioned in the Quran by name. Not only that, but she is the only woman who has an entire chapter named after her. Her story is mentioned throughout the Quran, but chapter 19 highlights her giving birth miraculously to Jesus, peace be upon him. The Quran refers to Jesus as the son of Mary as a way of honoring her.

5.

Jesus performed miracles

The Quran, similar to the New Testament, highlights the many miracles Jesus, peace be upon him, performed. For example, he created birds from clay and blew in them to give them life, he healed the sick, blind, and was able to revive the dead. However, all of these miracles were given to him as a sign of Prophethood. Miracles were meant to convince those who were doubtful about Jesus being God's Messenger, they were not a sign of divinity. Otherwise, all Prophets who performed miracles would also be divine.

6.

Believing in Jesus, peace be upon him, is a requirement to being a Muslim

To be a Muslim, one must believe in all Prophets and Messengers. Denying or rejecting any of those Prophets is a denial of all of them. Therefore, rejecting the Prophethood of Jesus, peace be upon him, results in one no longer being a Muslim. It is a requirement of the Islamic faith.

7.

Jesus foretold the coming of the Prophet Muhammad peace be upon them both

The Quran highlights that Jesus foretold the coming of Muhammad: "And remember Jesus, the son of Mary, said: O children of Israel! I am the Apostle of God sent to you confirming the Torah, which came before me, and giving Glad Tidings of an Apostle to come after me, whose name shall be Ahmad. But when he came to them with Clear Signs, they said: this is evident sorcery." (61:6) The name Ahmad and Mohammed come from the same Arabic root and in essence are the same name.

8.

Jesus was not killed or crucified

The Quran explains that Jesus, peace be upon him, did not die. It speaks of some people in his time who claimed to have killed him, but God denies this claim and explains that it was only made to appear as though they crucified him. And for their saying, "We have killed the Messiah, Jesus, the son of Mary, the Messenger of God." In fact, they did not kill him, nor did they crucify him, but it appeared to them as if they did. Indeed, those who differ about him are in doubt about it. They have no knowledge of it, except the following of assumptions. Certainly, they did not kill him. Rather, God raised him up to Himself. God is Mighty and Wise (4: 157-158)

9.

Jesus will return to the earth before the day of judgment

In continuation with the verses about Jesus' alleged crucifixion, the Quran explains that he will return. There is none from the People of the Scripture but will believe in him before his/her own death, and on the Day of Resurrection he will be a witness against them (4: 159). In several narrations, the Prophet Muhammad peace be upon him explained that Jesus will return to earth and establish justice. His return to earth is considered one of the major signs of the day of judgment.

10.

God revealed a book called the Injeel to Jesus, peace be upon him

Muslims believe that God revealed scripture to Jesus, peace be upon him, called the Injeel or the Gospel. This book confirmed what was revealed to Moses in the Torah. This scripture has not been preserved in its entirety. Therefore, God revealed the Quran as His final message to mankind. All three of these scriptures, the Torah, Injeel, and Quran, call to the worship of only one God.

Want to learn more about Jesus, peace be upon him? Visit www.WhyIslam.org

Man & Prophet

Although Muhammad is deeply loved, revered and emulated by Muslims as God's final messenger, he is not an object of worship.

Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) was an illiterate but wise and well-respected man who was born in Makkah in the year 570 C.E., at a time when Christianity was not yet fully established in Europe. His first years were marked by the deaths of his parents. Since his father died before his birth, his uncle, Abu Talib, from the respected tribe of Quraysh, raised him. As Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) grew up, he became known for his truthfulness, generosity and sincerity, so that he was sought after for his ability to arbitrate in disputes. His reputation and personal qualities also led to his marriage, at the age of twenty-five, to Khadijah, a widow whom he had assisted in business. Thenceforth, he became an important and trusted citizen of Makkah. Historians describe him as calm and meditative.

Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) never felt fully content to be part of a society whose values he considered to be devoid of true religious significance. It became his habit to retreat from time to time to the cave of Hira', to meditate near the summit of Jabal al-Nur, the "Mountain of Light", near Makkah.

At the age of 40, while engaged in one such meditative retreat, Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) received his first revelation from God through the Angel Gabriel. This revelation, which continued for twenty-three years, is known as the Qur'an, the faithful recording of the entire revelation of God. The first revelation read:

"Recite: In the name of your Lord Who created man from a clot (of blood). Recite: Your Lord is Most Noble, Who taught by the pen, taught man what he did not know."

[Holy Quran 96:1-5]

It was this reality that he gradually and steadily came to learn and believe, until he fully realized that it is the truth.

His first convert was Khadijah, whose support and companionship provided necessary reassurance and strength. He also won the support of some of his relatives and friends. Three basic themes of the early message were the majesty of the one, unique God, the futility of idol worship, the threat

of judgment, and the necessity of faith, compassion and morality in human affairs. All these themes represented an attack on the crass materialism and idolatry prevalent in Makkah at the time. So when he began to proclaim the message to others the Makkans rejected him. He and his small group of followers suffered bitter persecution, which grew so fierce that in the year 622 C.E., God gave them the command to emigrate. This event, the Hijrah (migration), in which they left Makkah for the city of Madinah, some 260 miles to the north, marked the beginning of a new era and thus the beginning of the Muslim calendar. During his suffering, Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) drew comfort from the knowledge revealed to him about other prophets, such as Abraham, Joseph, and Moses, each of whom had also been persecuted and tested.

After several years and some significant battles, the Prophet and his followers were able to return to Makkah, where they forgave their enemies and established Islam definitively. By the time the Prophet died, at the age of 63, the

greater part of Arabia had accepted Islam, and within a century of his death, Islam had spread as far west as Spain and as far east as China. It was clear that the message was not limited to Arabs; it was for the whole of humanity.

The Prophet's sayings (Hadith), are revelation. The number of sayings collected by his followers and scholars is close to 10,000 in total. Some typical examples of his sayings are as follows:

"To pursue knowledge is obligatory on every believing (man and woman)." [Ibn Majah]

"Removing a harmful thing from the road is charity." [Bukhari, Muslim]

"Those who do not show tenderness and love cannot expect to have tenderness shown to them." [Bukhari]

"Adore Allah (God) as though you see Him; even if you do not see Him, He nonetheless sees you." [Bukhari, Muslim]

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The Quran Mentions

25

PROPHETS

most of whom are mentioned in the Bible as well.

1. Adam
2. Idris (Enoch)
3. Nuh (Noah)
4. Hud
5. Salih
6. Ibrahim (Abraham)
7. Ishma'il (Ishmael)
8. Ishaq (Isaac)
9. Lut (Lot)
10. Ya'qub (Jacob)
11. Yusuf (Joseph)
12. Shu'aib
13. Ayyub (Job)
14. Musa (Moses)
15. Harun (Aaron)
16. Dhul-kifl (Ezekiel)
17. Dawud (David)
18. Sulaiman (Solomon)
19. Ilias (Elijah)
20. Al-Yasa' (Elisha)
21. Yunus (Jonah)
22. Zakariyya (Zechariah)
23. Yahya (John)
24. Isa (Jesus)
25. Muhammad



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The Book of Food (Meals)

To eat with one's right hand, and to start with the right side in doing other things, etc.

Hadith 5380

Narrated Aisha: The Prophet (peace be upon him) used to love to start doing things from the right side whenever possible, in performing ablution, putting on his shoes, and combing his hair.
(Al-Ash'ath said: The Prophet (peace be upon him) used to do so in all his affairs.)

Indeed,

good deeds

do away with misdeeds.



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The Prophet Muhammad's Last Sermon *(peace be upon him)*

This sermon was delivered on the Ninth Day of Dhul Hijjah 10 A.H. in the 'Uranah valley of Mount Arafat' (in Mecca).

After praising, and thanking Allah he said:

"O People, lend me an attentive ear, for I know not whether after this year, I shall ever be amongst you again. Therefore listen to what I am saying to you very carefully and TAKE THESE WORDS TO THOSE WHO COULD NOT BE PRESENT HERE TODAY.

O People, just as you regard this month, this day, this city as Sacred, so regard the life and property of every Muslim as a sacred trust. Return the goods entrusted to you to their rightful owners. Hurt no one so that no one may hurt you. Remember that you will indeed meet your LORD, and that HE will indeed reckon your deeds. ALLAH has forbidden you to take usury (interest), therefore all interest obligation shall henceforth be waived. Your capital, however, is yours to keep. You will neither inflict nor suffer any inequity. Allah has Judged that there shall be no interest and that all the interest due to Abbas ibn 'Abd'al Muttalib (Prophet's uncle) shall henceforth be waived...

Beware of Satan, for the safety of your religion. He has lost all hope that he will ever be able to lead you astray in big things, so beware of following him in small things.

O People, it is true that you have certain rights with regard to your women, but they also have rights over you. Remember that you have taken them as your wives only under Allah's trust and with His permission. If they abide by your right then to them belongs the right to be fed and clothed in kindness. Do treat your

women well and be kind to them for they are your partners and committed helpers. And it is your right that they do not make friends with any one of whom you do not approve, as well as never to be unchaste.

O People, listen to me in earnest, worship ALLAH, say your five daily prayers (Salah), fast during the month of Ramadan, and give your wealth in Zakat (charity). Perform Hajj if you can afford to.

All mankind is from Adam and Eve, an Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab; also a white has no superiority over black nor a black has any superiority over white; except by piety and good action. Learn that every Muslim is a brother to every Muslim and that the Muslims constitute one brotherhood. Nothing shall be legitimate to a Muslim which belongs to a fellow Muslim unless it was given freely and willingly. Do not, therefore, do injustice to yourselves.

Remember, one day you will appear before ALLAH and answer your deeds. So beware, do not stray from the path of righteousness after I am gone.

O People, no prophet or apostle will come after me and no new faith will be born. Reason well, therefore, O People, and understand words which I convey to you. I leave behind me two things, the QURAN and my example, the SUNNAH and if you follow these you will never go astray.

All those who listen to me shall pass on my words to others and those to others again; and may the last ones understand my words better than those who listen to me directly. Be my witness, O ALLAH, that I have conveyed your message to your people".

For Questions about Islam, Comments, Suggestions or other inquiries about this publication please contact: **Editor@DawahMonthly.com**

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