

# Who is our beloved prophet Muhammad (SAW)

## The need for prophets:

Prophethood is not unknown to heavenly revealed religions, such as Judaism and Christianity. In Islam, however, it has a special status and significance.

According to Islam, Allah created man for a noble purpose: to worship Him and lead a virtuous life based on His teachings and guidance. How would man know his role and the purpose of his existence unless he received clear and practical instructions of what Allah wants him to do? Here comes the need for prophethood. Thus Allah has chosen from every nation at least one prophet to convey His Message to people.

One might ask, how were the prophets chosen and who were entitled to this great honor?

Prophethood is Allah's blessing and favor that He may bestow on whom He wills. However, from surveying the various messengers throughout history, three features of a prophet may be recognized:

1. He is the best in his community morally and intellectually. This is necessary because a prophet's life serves as a role model for his followers. His personality should attract people to accept his message rather than drive them away by his imperfect character. After receiving the message, he is infallible. That is, he would not commit any sin. He might make some minor mistakes, which are usually corrected by revelation.

2. He is supported by miracles to prove that he is not an imposter. Those miracles are granted by the power and permission of God and are usually in the field in which his people excel and are recognized as superior. We might illustrate this by quoting the major miracles of the three prophets of the major world religions, Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

Moses' contemporaries were excellent in magic, so his major miracle was to defeat the best magicians of Egypt of his day. Jesus' contemporaries were recognized as skilled physicians, therefore, his miracles were to raise the dead and cure incurable diseases. The Arabs, the contemporaries of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), were known for their eloquence and magnificent poetry. So Prophet Muhammad's major miracle was the Qur'an, the equivalent of which the whole legion of Arab poets and orators could not produce, despite the repeated challenge from the Qur'an itself. Again, Muhammad's miracle has something special about it. All previous miracles were limited by time and place; that is, they were shown to specific people at a specific time. Not so with the miracle of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), the Qur'an. It is a universal and everlasting miracle. Previous generations witnessed it and future generations will witness its miraculous nature in terms of its style, content and spiritual uplifting. These can still be tested and will thereby prove the divine origin of the Qur'an.

3. Every prophet states clearly that what he receives is not of his own, but from God for the well-being of mankind. He also confirms what was revealed before him and what may be revealed after him. A prophet does this to show that he is simply conveying the message that is entrusted to him by the One True God of all people in all ages. So the message is one in essence and for the same purpose. Therefore, it should not deviate from what was revealed before him or what might come after him.

Prophets are necessary for conveying God's instructions and guidance to mankind. We have no way of knowing why we were created. What will happen to us after death? Is there any life after death? Are we

accountable for our actions? These and so many other questions about God, angels, paradise, hell, and more, cannot be answered without direct revelation from the Creator and Knower of the unseen. Those answers must be authentic and must be brought by individuals whom we trust and respect. That is why messengers are the elite of their societies in terms of moral conduct and intellectual ability.

The prophets are also miraculously supported by God and instructed by Him to affirm the continuity of the message. The content of the prophets' message to mankind can be summarized as follows:

a) Clear concept of God: His attributes, His creation, what should and should not be ascribed to Him.

b) Clear idea about the unseen world, the angels, jinn (spirits), Paradise and Hell.

c) Why God has created us, what He wants from us and what rewards and punishments are for obedience and disobedience.

d) How to run our societies according to His will. That is, clear instructions and laws that, when applied correctly and honestly, will result in a smoothly functioning, harmonious society.

It is clear from the above discussion that there is no substitute for prophets. Even today with the advancement of science, the only authentic source of information about the supernatural world is revelation. Guidance can be obtained neither from science nor from mystic experience. The first is too materialistic and limited; the second is too subjective and frequently misleading.

Now one might ask:

How many prophets has God sent to humanity? We do not know for sure. Some Muslim scholars have suggested 240,000 prophets. We are

only sure of what is clearly mentioned in the Qur'an, that God has sent a messenger to every nation. That is because it is one of God's principles that He will never call a people to account unless He has made clear to them what to do and what not to do. The Qur'an mentions the names of 25 prophets and indicates that there have been others who were not mentioned to Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). These 25 include Noah, Abraham, Moses, Jesus, and Muhammad (Peace be upon them all). These five are the greatest among God's messengers. They are called 'the resolute' prophets.

An outstanding aspect of the Islamic belief in prophethood is that Muslims believe in and respect all the messengers of God with no exceptions. All the prophets came from the same One God, for the same purpose: to lead mankind to God. Hence, belief in them all is essential and logical; accepting some and rejecting others has to be based on misconceptions of the prophet's role or on a racial bias. The Muslims are the only people in the world who consider the belief in all the prophets an article of faith. Thus the Jews reject Jesus and Muhammad (peace be upon them), and the Christians reject Muhammad (PBUH). The Muslims accept them all as messengers of God who brought guidance to mankind. However, the revelations which those prophets before Muhammad (PBUH) brought from God have been tampered with in one way or another.

The belief in all the prophets of God is enjoined upon the Muslims in the Qur'an:

**Say, "We believe in God; and in what were revealed to us; and in what was revealed to Abraham, and Ishmael, and Isaac, and Jacob, and the Patriarchs; and in what was given to Moses and Jesus; and in what was given to the prophets—from their Lord. We make no distinction between any of them, and to Him we surrender." Q2/136**

The Qur'an continues in the following verses to instruct the Muslims that this is the true and impartial belief. If other nations believe in the

same, they are following in the right track. If they do not, they must be following their own whims and biases and God will take care of them. Thus we read:

**If they believe in the same as you have believed in, then they have been guided. But if they turn away, then they are in schism. God will protect you against them; for He is the Hearer, the Knower. God's coloring. And who gives better coloring than God? "And we are devoted to Him."Q2/137-138**

There are, at least, two important points related to prophethood that needs to be clarified. These points concern the roles of Jesus and Muhammad (peace be upon them) as prophets, who are usually misunderstood.

The Qur'anic account of Jesus emphatically rejects the concept of his 'divinity' and 'divine sonship' and presents him as one of the great prophets of God. The Qur'an makes it clear that the birth of Jesus without a father does not make him the son of God and mentions, in this respect, Adam, who was created by God without a father or mother.

**The likeness of Jesus in God's sight is that of Adam: He created him from dust, then said to him, "Be," and he was. Q3/59**

Like other prophets, Jesus also performed miracles. For example, he raised the dead and cured the blind and lepers, but while showing these miracles, he always made it clear that it was all from God.. According to the Qur'an, he was sent to the children of Israel; he confirmed the validity of the Torah, which was revealed to Moses (PBUH), and he also brought the glad tidings of a final messenger after him.

**And when Jesus son of Mary said, “O Children of Israel, I am God’s Messenger to you, confirming what preceded me of the Torah, and announcing good news of a messenger who will come after me, whose name is Ahmad.” But when he showed them the miracles, they said, “This is obvious sorcery.” Q61/6**

(The “*praised one*” is the translation of “Ahmad”, which is Prophet Muhammad’s name.)

However, the majority of the Jews rejected his ministry. They plotted against his life and in their opinion, crucified him. But the Qur’an refutes this opinion and says that they neither killed him nor crucified him; rather, he was raised up to God. There is a verse in the Qur’an which implies that Jesus will come back and all the Christians and Jews will believe in him before he dies. This is also supported by authentic sayings of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

## **Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) Lineage:**

Abraham is a central figure to the three major religions in the world, often called the father of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. If you follow his progeny, one can see that Moses, Jesus and Muhammad (peace be upon them all) can trace their lineage back to Abraham.

See below the Lineage tree of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) among all the prophets.



In Islam, Abraham is defined by his commitment to his faith through many tests, trials and tribulations. One of the most defining moments of his legacy is when he, along with his son Ishmael, constructed the Holy Ka'bah (the house of God), and made the following supplication;

**As Abraham raises the foundations of the House, together with Ishmael, “Our Lord, accept it from us, You are the Hearer, the Knower. Our Lord, and make us submissive to You, and from our descendants a community submissive to You. And show us our rites, and accept our repentance. You are the Acceptor of Repentance, the Merciful. Our Lord, and raise up among them a messenger, of themselves, who will recite to them Your revelations, and teach them the Book and wisdom, and purify them. You are the Almighty, the Wise.” Q2/127-129.**

This supplication was answered in a most beautiful way when GOD sent down Muhammad (PBUH) to deliver and emphasize the same message of Monotheism that Abraham taught. Not only Mohammad (PBUH) A DECENDENT OF Abraham, but he also descends from Ismael’s branch of progeny, who was present at the time Abraham made the supplication. Thus, Muhammad (PBUH) was the great answer to Abraham’s beautiful supplication, and it is an honor for all Muslims to be the “descendants of a Muslim nation” that Abraham asked for.

The last prophet of God, Muhammad, was born in Arabia in the sixth century C.E. Up to the age of forty, people of Makkah knew him only as a man of excellent character and cultured manners and called him Al-



Ameen (the trustworthy). He also did not know that he was soon to be made a prophet and receiver of revelation from God. He called the idolaters of Makkah to worship the one and only God and accept him (Muhammad, PBUH) as His prophet. The revelation that he received was preserved in his lifetime in the memory of his companions and was also recorded on pieces of palm leaf, leather, etc. Thus the Qur'an that is found today is the same that was revealed to him, not a syllable of it has been altered, as God Himself has guaranteed its preservation. This Qur'an claims to be the book of guidance for all of humanity for all times, and mentions Muhammad (PBUH) as the last Prophet of God.

The life of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) is full of countless examples that show his status as a role model for all societies and individuals. His life is one that was dominated by a superior morality, good habits, noble and gentle feelings and superior skills, all of which are characteristics that help prevent people from getting entangled in a web of sin. The rich and the prosperous, the poor and the needy, the ruler and the ruled, the weak and the lonely, the conqueror and the victorious commander, the teacher and the student, the preacher and the mentor, the merchant and the craftsman, the employer and the employee - in other words, every sort of person can find truths in Prophet Muhammad's life that constitute an example for them to follow:

**If one has to describe the mission of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) and reason of his prophethood in simplest and short form, then Allah has done in these three verses (Ayahs) of Quran.**

**It is He who sent among the unlettered a messenger from themselves; reciting His revelations to them, and purifying them, and teaching them the Scripture and wisdom; although they were in obvious error before that. Q62/2**

**O People of the Book! Our Messenger has come to you, making things clear to you—after a cessation of messengers—so that you cannot say, “No preacher has come to us, and no Warner.” In fact, a preacher has come to you, and a Warner; and God is Capable of everything. Q5/19**

**We sent you only universally to all people, a herald and Warner, but most people do not know Q34/28**

**The following characteristics and attributes of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) are described by Allah Himself in Quran.**

## **HIS EXALTED STATUS:**

### **1. He is Nur (Sacred Light of guidance)**

O People of the Book! Our Messenger has come to you, clarifying for you much of what you kept hidden of the Book, and overlooking much. A light from God has come to you, and a clear Book. (5:15)

Note: Prophet Muhammad (SAW) is Nur not in physical sense, but he is light of guidance from Allah. Quran clearly says in Surah Kahaf (chapter18, Ayah 110) Say, “I am only a human being like you, being inspired that your god is One God. Whoever hopes to meet his Lord let him work righteousness, and never associate anyone with the service of his Lord.”

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## **2. Allah blesses him**

Indeed, Allah and His angels shower blessings on the Prophet. O you who believe! Ask blessings on him and salute him with a worthy salutation. (33:56)

## **3. Mercy for all the worlds**

And We have sent you not except as a mercy for all the worlds. (21:107)

## **4. His name is Muhammad (Meaning the Most Praised One)**

And those who believe and do good works and believe in that which is revealed to Muhammad, and it is the truth from their Lord, He removes from them their ill-deeds and improves their state. (47:2)

## **5. Allah has exalted his Zikr (remembrance)**

And exalted for you your Zikr (remembrance) (94:4)

## **6. His exaltation on the Night of Mi'raj**

While he was at the highest horizon. Then he came near, and hovered around. He was within two bows' length, or closer. Then He revealed to His servant what He revealed. (53:7-10)

## **7. His Station of Praise (Al-Maqam al-Mahmud)**

And some part of the night offer Tahajjud (salah), an additional prayer for you. Soon will your Lord raise you to a Station of Praise. (17:79)

# THE BELOVED OF ALLAH

## **1. If you want to gain the love of Allah, follow him**

Say (O beloved Prophet, to mankind): If you love Allah, then follow me; Allah will love you and forgive you your sins, and Allah is Forgiving, Merciful. (3:31)

## **2. Allah addresses him with love and affection**

Ta Ha. (20:1)

Ya Seen. (36:1)

O you wrapped up in your raiment. (73:1)

O you enveloped in your cloak. (74:1)

## **3. Allah says: Realize that My Prophetic Messenger himself is with you**

And know that among you is Allah's (Prophetic) Messenger; were he to follow your wishes in many a matter, you would surely fall into trouble, but Allah has endeared the faith to you and has adorned it in your hearts, and he has made hateful to you unbelief and transgression and disobedience; such are those who are rightly guided. (49:7)

## **4. Allah describes him with His Own Attributes of Rauf (Most Kind) and Rahim (Merciful)**

Assuredly, there has come to you a (Prophetic) Messenger from among yourselves, grievous to him is that you are overburdened,

full of concern for you, for the believers (he is) most kind, merciful. (9:128)

### **5. Allah Himself praises him**

O Prophet! Indeed We have sent you as a beholder (witness) and a bearer of glad tidings and a warner. And as a summoner to Allah by His permission, and as an illuminating light. And give glad tidings to the believers that they will have great bounty from Allah. (33: 45-47)

### **6. Possessor of Allah's Grace**

But for the Grace of Allah upon you (O beloved Prophet), and His Mercy, a party of them had resolved to mislead you, but they will mislead only themselves and they will not hurt you at all. And Allah has sent down to you the Scripture and the Wisdom, and has taught you what you did not know, and the Grace of Allah toward you has been very great. (4:113)

### **7. He is a special favor of Allah Sub'hanahu wa Ta'ala**

Certainly, Allah has shown a special favor to the believers by raising among them a (Prophetic) Messenger from among themselves who recites to them His revelations, and purifies them, and teaches them the Scripture and the Wisdom, although before (he came to them) they were in manifest error. (3:164)

### **8. Allah does not punish people if he is in their midst**

And Allah would not punish them while you are in their midst, and Allah will not punish them while they seek forgiveness. (8:33)

### **9. Allegiance to him is allegiance to Allah**

Surely, those who swear allegiance to you (O beloved Prophet), swear allegiance to Allah. The hand of Allah is over their hands.

So whoever breaks his oath breaks it only to his own harm; and whoever fulfils his covenant which he has made with Allah, then on him will He bestow immense reward. (48:10)

## **HE RECEIVED THE HOLY QURAN:**

### **1. Allah gave him Surah al-Fatiha and the whole Qur'an**

And certainly, We have given you seven of the oft-repeated (verses) and the Grand Qur'an. (15:87)

### **2. Totally inspired**

Nor does he speak of (his own) desire.  
It is naught but revelation that is revealed. (53:3-4)

### **3. Allah revealed the Noble Qur'an on his blessed heart**

. It is a revelation from the Lord of the Worlds. The Honest Spirit came down with it. Upon your heart, that you may be one of the warners. In a clear Arabic language. And it is in the scriptures of the ancients. Is it not a sign for them that the scholars of the Children of Israel recognized it? (26:192-197)

### **4. The first revelation he received**

Recite: In the name of your Lord Who created. (96:1)

## **5. Teaches the Holy Qur'an and Hadith (Wisdom) and purifies people**

He is (the One) Who has raised among the unlettered ones a (Prophetic) Messenger from among themselves who recites to them His revelations and purifies them, and teaches them the Scripture and the Wisdom, although before that, they were indeed in manifest error. (62:2)

# **It hurts him most when people reject Allah's Message**

Perhaps you may destroy yourself with grief, chasing after them, if they do not believe in this information. Q 18/6

## **AMONG THE OTHER PROPHETS**

### **1. The Final Prophet, Sallallahu 'alayhi wa Sallam**

Muhammad is not the father of any of your men, but he is the (Prophetic) Messenger of Allah and the Last of the Prophets; and Allah has full knowledge of all things. (33:40)

## **2. Mentioned first among the greatest Prophets**

And when We took from the Prophets their Covenant, and from you (O beloved Prophet) and from Nuh and Ibrahim and Musa and Isa son of Maryam, and We took from them a firm covenant. (33:7)

Surely, We have revealed (the revelation) to you (O beloved Prophet) as We revealed to Nuh, and the Prophets after him, and We revealed to Ibrahim and Ismail and Is'haq and Ya'qub and the tribes, and 'Isa and Ayyub and Yunus and Harun and Sulayman, and We gave Dawud the Psalms. (4:163)

## **3. A Prophet with proven prophecies**

The Romans have been defeated. In a nearby territory. But following their defeat, they will be victorious. In a few years. The matter is up to God, in the past, and in the future. On that day, the believers will rejoice. In God's support. He supports whomever He wills. He is the Almighty, the Merciful. The promise of God—God never breaks His promise, but most people do not know. (30:2-6)

Undoubtedly, We have given you (O beloved Prophet) a clear victory. (48:1)

Certainly, Allah has proved true the true vision of His (Prophetic) Messenger. You shall indeed enter the Sacred Mosque, if Allah wishes, secure, (having your) heads shaved or hair cut short, not fearing. But He knows what you do not know, and He has granted you besides that, a victory near at hand. (48:27)



And (He will give you) another (blessing) which you love: help from Allah and a victory near at hand, so (O beloved Prophet) give glad tidings to the believers. (61:13)

#### **4. Given the knowledge of the unseen**

Allah will not leave the believers in the condition in which you are till He separates the wicked from the good, nor will Allah let you know the unseen. But Allah chooses of His (Prophetic) Messengers whom He wishes, (to receive knowledge thereof). So believe in Allah and His (Prophetic) Messengers, and if you believe and ward off (evil), then yours will be a vast reward. (3:179)

#### **5. Prophet Ibrahim prayed for his coming**

Our Lord! And raise up in their midst a (Prophetic) Messenger from among them who shall recite to them Your revelations, and shall teach them the Scripture, and the Wisdom and shall purify them. Surely, You are the Mighty, the Wise. (2:129)

#### **6. Foretold by Prophet 'Isa (Jesus)**

And when Isa son of Maryam said: O children of Israel! Indeed, I am the (Prophetic) Messenger of Allah to you, confirming that which was (revealed) before me in the Tawrat, and bringing good tidings of a (Prophetic) Messenger who comes after me, whose name is "the Praised One". Yet when he has come to them with clear proofs, they say: this is clear magic. (61:6)

#### **7. Allah asks all Prophets to believe in him**

And when Allah took from the Prophets their Covenant, (He said: Behold) that which I have given you of Scripture and Wisdom. Then comes to you a (Prophetic) Messenger, confirming that

which is with you. You shall believe in him and you shall help him. He said: Do you agree, and will you take up My burden (which I lay upon you) in this (matter)? They said: We agree. He said: Then bear you witness and I am with you among the witnesses (3:81)

## **8. Confirms the previous Prophetic Messengers of Allah**

Nay, he has come with the Truth, and he has confirmed the (Prophetic) Messengers (before him). (37:37)

## **9. Only Messenger of Allah, which Allah swears that he indeed is the Messenger of Allah.**

Ya, Seen, By the Wise Quran, You are one of the messengers. (36/1-3)

# **SERVES ONLY ALLAH, THE GLORIFIED AND THE EXALTED.**

## **1. Worships only Allah Sub'hanahu wa Ta'ala**

And when the devotee of Allah stood up in prayer to Him, they crowded on him, almost stifling.

Say (to them, O beloved Prophet): I pray to my Lord only, and ascribe to Him no partner. (72:19-20)

## **2. Puts total trust in Allah, Sub'hanahu wa Ta'ala**

Then if they turn away (O beloved Prophet), say: Allah suffices me. None is to be worshipped except Him. In Him have I put my trust, and He is the Lord of the Supreme Throne. (9:129)

## **3. Selflessly labors for Allah, asks for no reward**

Say: I ask of you no reward for this, except that who so will, may choose a way to His Lord. (25:57)

That is the good news God gives to His servants who believe and do good deeds. Say, "I ask of you no wage for it, except affection among the near of kin." Whoever does a good deed, We will increase its goodness for him. God is Forgiving and Appreciative. (42:23)

## **4. Rewarded by Allah**

And certainly for you, there is an endless reward. (68:3)

O Muhammad, surely, We have granted you the Kauther (countless blessings-it is also the name of a special fountain which will be granted to prophet on the Day of Judgment). 108:1

Did We not soothe your heart? And lift from you your burden. Which weighed down your back? And exalted your fame. (Allah has glorified his status until last day) (94:1-4.)

# HIS EXEMPLARY CHARACTER:

## **1. Most exemplary character**

You have an excellent example in the Messenger of God; for anyone who seeks God and the Last Day, and remembers God frequently. (33:21)

And most surely, you have an exalted moral character. (68:4)

## **2. Sadiq (Truthful)**

And when the believers saw the clans, they said: This is what Allah and His (Prophetic) Messenger promised us, and Allah and His (Prophetic) Messenger are true, and it only added to their faith and submission (to Allah). (33:22)

## **3. Final judge and arbiter**

But, nay, by your Lord, they do not believe (in reality) until they make you judge of what is in dispute between them and find within themselves no dislike of that which you decide, and submit with full submission. (4:65)

The saying of the believers when summoned to Allah and His (Prophetic) Messenger that he may judge between them is only that they say: We hear and we obey. And they are the successful. (24:51)

#### **4. Honored, Noble**

Undoubtedly, it is indeed the Word (brought) by an honored (Prophetic) Messenger. (69:40)

#### **5. Forgiving**

Keep to forgiveness (O beloved Prophet) and enjoin what is right, and turn away from the ignorant. (7:199)

#### **6. He is Burhan (Clear Proof)**

O mankind! Surely, there has come to you a clear proof from your Lord and We have sent to you a clear light. (4:174)

**7. Brave: Commands Muslims in battle** Remember when you left your home in the morning, to assign battle-positions for the believers. God is Hearing and Knowing. (3:121)

#### **8. He is not misguided**

Your friend has not gone astray, nor has he erred. Nor does he speak out of desire. It is but a revelation revealed. (53:2-4)

## **PREACHES ISLAM**

### **1. Established the correct Message of Islam**

Say: Surely, as for me, my Lord has shown me the straight path, a right religion, the creed of Ibrahim, the upright, and he was not of the polytheists.

Say: Surely, my prayer and my sacrifice and my living and my dying are for Allah, Lord of the worlds.

He has no partner, and this am I commanded, and I am the first of those who submit (to Him). (6:161-163)

Say (O beloved Prophet): Truly, I am commanded to worship Allah, being sincere to Him in obedience. And I am commanded to be the first of those who submit (to Him). (39:11-12)

## **2. Preacher to all humanity**

O mankind! The (Prophetic) Messenger has come to you with the truth from your Lord. Then believe; (it is) better for you. But if you disbelieve, still, surely, to Allah belongs whatsoever is in the heavens and the earth, and Allah is ever Knower, Wise. (4:170)

Blessed is He Who has sent down to His servants the Criterion (of right and wrong), that he may be a Warner to the entire world. (25:1)

And We have not sent you (O beloved Prophet) except as a bringer of good tidings and a Warner to all mankind; but most of the people do not know. (34:28)

## **3. He is Bashir and Nadhir (Bearer of glad tidings and a Warner)**

O people of the Scripture! Indeed, Our (Prophetic) Messenger has come to you making clear to you (Our Commands) after a break of the (coming of the Prophetic) Messengers, lest you say: There came not to us any bearer of glad tidings or a Warner (against evil), so indeed there has come to you a bearer of glad tidings and a Warner, and Allah has power over all things. (5:19)

## **4. Invites people to Islam**

Say: This is my way. I invite towards Allah, I and those who follow me having inner-sight, and Glory be to Allah, and I am not of the idolaters. (12:108)

## **5. Even the jinn respond to his call**

And when we inclined towards you (O beloved Prophet) certain of the jinn, listening to the Qur'an and, when they were in its presence, said: Be silent; then, when it was finished, they turned back to their people, warning.

They said: O our people! We have heard a Scripture which has been revealed after Musa, confirming that which was before it, guiding to the truth and to a right path.

O our people! Respond to Allah's call and believe in Him, He will forgive you some of your sins and guard you from a painful punishment. (46:29-31)

## **6. He brought the truth**

And say: The truth has come and the falsehood has vanished away. Undoubtedly, the falsehood is ever bound to vanish. (17:81)

And he who has come with the truth and he who accepts it as the truth, such are those that guard (against evil). (39:33)

## **7. A perfect guide to be followed**

Say (O beloved Prophet): O mankind! I am the (Prophetic) Messenger of Allah to you all, of Him to Whom belongs the Kingdom of the heavens and the earth. None is to be worshipped except Him. He gives life and He causes death. So believe in Allah and His Messenger, the Prophet who can neither read nor write, who believes in Allah and in His Words, and follow him so that you may be guided. (7:158)

## **8. He brought a new law (Shari'a)**

Those who follow the Messenger, the Unlettered Prophet, whom they find mentioned in the Torah and the Gospel in their

possession. He directs them to righteousness, and deters them from evil, and allows for them all good things, and prohibits for them wickedness, and unloads the burdens and the shackles that are upon them. Those who believe in him, and respect him, and support him, and follow the light that came down with him—these are the successful. (7:157)

### **9. He calls you to that which gives you life**

O you who believe! Answer (the call of) Allah and the (Prophetic) Messenger when he calls you to that which gives you life, and know that Allah comes between the man and his own heart, and that to Him you shall be gathered. (8:24)

### **10. Brings people from darkness into light**

A (Prophetic) Messenger reciting to you the clear revelations of Allah so that he may bring forth those who believe and do good works from the darkness into the light. And whosoever believes in Allah and does good deeds, He will admit him into Gardens (of Paradise) underneath which streams flow, to abide therein forever. Allah has indeed made good provision for him. (65:11)

### **11. His religion prevails over all religion**

He is (the One) Who has sent His (Prophetic) Messenger with the guidance and the religion of truth, that He may cause it to prevail over all the religions. And Sufficient is Allah as Witness. (48:28)



# HIS BLESSED HOUSEHOLD AND COMPANIONS:

## **1. His Household purified by Allah Sub'hanahu wa Ta'ala**

And settle in your homes; and do not display yourselves, as in the former days of ignorance. And perform the prayer, and give regular charity, and obey God and His Messenger. God desires to remove all impurity from you, O People of the Household, and to purify you thoroughly. (33:33)

## **2. His companions praised by Allah Sub'hanahu wa Ta'ala**

Muhammad is the Messenger of God. Those with him are stern against the disbelievers, yet compassionate amongst themselves. You see them kneeling, prostrating, seeking blessings from God and approval. Their marks are on their faces from the effects of prostration. Such is their description in the Torah, and their description in the Gospel: like a plant that sprouts, becomes strong, grows thick, and rests on its stem, impressing the farmers. Through them He enrages the disbelievers. God has promised those among them who believe and do good deeds forgiveness and a great reward. (48:29)

## **3. His companions: the Muhajirin (Emigrants) and the Ansar (Helpers)**

And those who believed and emigrated and fought in the way of Allah, and those who gave shelter and helped, they are the

believers in truth. For them is pardon and an honorable provision.  
(8:74)

And the foremost, the first of the Emigrants and the Helpers, and those who followed them in goodness, Allah is well pleased with them and they are well pleased with Him, and He has prepared for them Gardens (in Paradise) underneath which rivers flow, wherein they will abide forever. That is the supreme triumph.  
(9:100)

(It is) for the poor fugitives who have been driven out from their homes and their belongings, who seek grace from Allah and His pleasure and help Allah and His (Prophetic) Messenger. These are the truthful.

And those who had homes (in Madina) and the faith from before, love those who have fled to them, and find in their breasts no need for what they have been given, but prefer (the refugees) above themselves though they may be in desperate need (themselves). And who so is saved from his own avarice, those are they who are the successful. (59:8-9)

#### **4. His companions swear allegiance to him**

Certainly, Allah was well pleased with the believers when they swore allegiance to you beneath the tree, and He knew what was in their hearts, so He sent down tranquility on them, and has rewarded them with a near victory. (48:18)

# **BELIEVE, ASSIST. HONOR, LOVE, RESPECT AND OBEY HIM:**

## **1. Believe, assist and honor him**

That you (mankind) may believe in Allah and His (Prophetic) Messenger, and may assist him, and honour him, and may glorify Him morning and evening. (48:9)

You should believe in Allah and His (Prophetic) Messenger, and struggle hard in Allah's way with your property and your persons; that is better for you, did you but know! (61:11)

## **2. Love Allah and His Beloved Prophet more than anything else**

Say: If your fathers, and your sons, and your brothers, and your wives, and your kinsfolk, and the wealth you have acquired, and merchandise for which you fear that there will be no sale, and dwellings you desire are dearer to you than Allah and His (Prophetic) Messenger and striving in His way: then wait till Allah brings His command to pass, and Allah does not guide the wrongdoing folk. (9:24)

**3. He is closer to the believers than their own selves** The Prophet is more caring of the believers than they are of themselves, and his wives are mothers to them. And blood-relatives are closer to one another in God's Book than the believers or the emigrants, though you should do good to your friends. That is inscribed in the Book.(33:6)

#### **4. Respect him**

O you who believe! Do not place your opinions above that of God and His Messenger, and fear God. God is Hearing and Knowing. O you who believe! Do not raise your voices above the voice of the Prophet, and do not speak loudly to him, as you speak loudly to one another, lest your works be in vain without you realizing. Those who lower their voices before God's Messenger—those are they whose hearts God has tested for piety. They will have forgiveness and a great reward.(49:1-3)

#### **5. Obey Allah Ta'ala and His Beloved Prophet Sallallahu 'alayhi wa Sallam**

And obey Allah and the (Prophetic) Messenger that you may obtain mercy. (3:132)

Those are the limits set by Allah, and whoso obeys Allah and His (Prophetic) Messenger, He will make him enter Gardens (in Paradise) underneath which rivers flow, to abide therein And. that is the great success. (4:13)

O you who believe! Obey Allah and obey the (Prophetic) Messenger and those in authority from amongst you, then if you have a dispute concerning any matter, refer it to Allah and the (Prophetic) Messenger if you believe in Allah and the Last Day. That is better and very good in the end. (4:59)

And whoso obeys Allah and the (Prophetic) Messenger, they are with those to whom Allah has shown favor, of the prophets and the truthful and the martyrs and the righteous, and the best of company are they! (4:69)

Whoever obeys the (Prophetic) Messenger, indeed obeys Allah; and whoever turns away, so We have not sent you as a keeper over them. (4:80)

And the believing men and the believing women, they are protecting friends one of another; they enjoin the right and forbid the wrong, and they establish regular prayers and they pay the poor-due, and they obey Allah and His (Prophetic) Messenger. As for these, Allah will have mercy on them. Undoubtedly, Allah is Mighty, Wise. (9:71)

And he who obeys Allah and His (Prophetic) Messenger, and fears Allah, and keeps his duty (to Him): then these it is that are the successful. (24:52)

Say: Obey Allah and obey the (Prophetic) Messenger. But if you turn away, he is only responsible for the duty placed on him and you for that place on you, and if you obey him, you will be rightly guided. And the responsibility of the (Prophetic) Messenger is only to convey (the message) clearly.(24:54)

And establish regular prayer and pay the poor-due and obey the (Prophetic) Messenger that mercy may be shown to you. (24:56)

He (Allah) will set right your deeds for you and will forgive you your sins, and whosoever obeys Allah and His (Prophetic) Messenger, he has indeed gained a mighty success.(33:71)

The desert dwellers say: We believe. Say (to them O beloved Prophet): You believe not, but rather say "We submit", for the faith has not yet entered your hearts. But if you obey Allah and His

(Prophetic) Messenger, He will not diminish anything of (the reward of) your deeds. Surely, Allah is Forgiving, Merciful. (49:14)

And obey Allah and obey the (Prophetic) Messenger; but if you turn away, then (know that) the duty of our (Prophetic) Messenger is only to convey (the message) clearly. (64:12)

## **6. Follow the commands of Allah Sub'hanahu wa Ta'ala and of his Beloved Prophet.**

And it befits not a believing man or a believing woman, when Allah and His (Prophetic) Messenger have decided a matter (for them), that they should (after that) claim any choice in their matter; and whoso disobeys Allah and His (Prophetic) Messenger, he surely goes astray in manifest error. (33:36)

## **7. whatever he gives you, take it**

Whatever Allah has given to His (Prophetic) Messenger from the people of the towns, it is for Allah and for the (Prophetic) Messenger, and for the near of kin and the orphans and the needy and the wayfarer, so that it may not (merely) make a circuit between the wealthy among you, and whatever the (Prophetic) Messenger gives you, take it and whatever he forbids you, abstain (from it), and fear Allah; surely Allah is severe in retribution (evil). (59:7)

## **8. The reward of believing in him**

O you who believe! Fear God, and believe in His Messenger: He will give you a double portion of His mercy, and will give you a light by which you walk, and will forgive you. God is Forgiving and Merciful.(57:28)

# WAGED JIHAD AMIDST PERSECUTION:

## 1. Non-believers plot to kill him

And when those who disbelieve plotted against you (O beloved Prophet) to confine you, or to kill you or to drive you away; and they plan, but Allah (also) had arranged a plan; and Allah is the best of planners. (8:30)

## 2. His persecution

Permission (to fight) is given to those against whom war is made because they are oppressed; and Allah is indeed Able to help them;

Those who have been driven from their homes unjustly, only because they said: Our Lord is Allah, and had it not been for Allah's repelling some men by means of others, then cloisters and churches and synagogues and mosques, wherein the name of Allah is much remembered, would assuredly have been pulled down. And undoubtedly, Allah will help him who helps His cause. Surely, Allah is Most Strong, Almighty. (22:39-40)

## 3. Commanded to fight alone for Allah Sub'hanahu wa Ta'ala

So fight (O beloved Prophet) in the way of Allah. You are not taxed (with the responsibility of anyone) except for yourself, and

urge on the believers; maybe Allah will restrain the fierceness of those who disbelieve. And Allah is strongest in might and strongest in punishing. (4:84)

#### **4. He led Muslims in prayer while in battle**

And when you (O beloved Prophet) are among them, then lead them in prayer; let only a party of them stand with you (to worship) and let them take their arms. Then when they have performed their prostrations, let them fall to the rear and let another party come that has not worshipped and let them worship with you, and let them take their precautions and their arms. Those who disbelieve would like you to neglect your arms and your baggage that they may attack you once for all. And there is no blame on you to lay aside your arms, if rain impedes you or if you are sick. But take your precautions. Surely, Allah has prepared for the disbelievers degrading punishment. (4:102)

#### **5. Allah asks him to seek peace**

And if they incline to peace, then you also incline to it, and trust in Allah. Surely, He is the All-Hearing, the All-Knowing. (8:61)

#### **6. Allah helped him in Jihad**

O you who believe! Remember Allah's favor to you when there came against you forces, so We sent against them a strong wind and forces which you did not see, and Allah is Ever- Seeing what you do. (33:9)

#### **7. Allah made him victorious**

When Allah's help and the victory come. (110:1)



# HIS MIRACLES:

## **1. Living Miracle: The Holy Qur'an**

And if you are in doubt concerning that which We have revealed to Our slave, then produce a chapter like it, and call your witnesses besides Allah if you are truthful. (2:23)

Say: If the mankind and the jinn should combine together to produce the like of this Qur'an, they could not produce the like thereof though they were the helpers one of another. (17:88)

Then let them produce a discourse like it, if they are truthful. (52:34)

## **2. Human Miracle: he changed people's hearts**

And when they hear what has been revealed to the (Prophetic) Messenger, you will see their eyes overflowing with tears because of their recognition of the truth. They say: Our Lord, we believe, then inscribes us as among the witnesses (of truth). (5:83)

## **3. Heavenly Miracle: Isra' and Mi'raj**

Glorified be He Who carried His slave by night from the Sacred Mosque to the al-Aqsa Mosque whose precincts We have blessed, so that We might show him of Our signs. Surely, He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing. (17:1) Then he came near, and hovered around.

He was within two bows' length, or closer. Then He revealed to His servant what He revealed. The heart did not lie about what it saw.. Will you dispute with him concerning what he saw? He saw him on another descent. At the Lotus Tree of the Extremity. Near which is the Garden of Repose. As there covered the Lotus Tree what covered it. The sight did not waver, nor did it exceed.He saw some of the Great Signs of his Lord.(53:8-18)

#### **4. Historic Miracle: Hijra; escaped while surrounded**

If you help him not, indeed Allah helped him when those who disbelieve drove him forth, (with him was) the second of the two; when they were both in the cave, when he said to his companion: Grieve not, surely, Allah is with us. Then Allah caused His peace of reassurance to descend upon him and supported him with forces which you did not see, and made the word of those who disbelieved the lowest, while Allah's Word, that is the highest, and Allah is Mighty, Wise. (9:40)

#### **5. The miracle of the battle of Badr: Victory against all odds**

And Allah had certainly assisted you at Badr, when you were weak. So fear Allah in order that you may be thankful. When you said to the believers: Is it not sufficient for you that Your Lord should assist you with three thousand of the angels sent down?  
Yes, if you remain patient and fear Allah, and they attack you suddenly, your Lord will help you with five thousand angels marked out (for your help). (3:123-125)

## **6. The splitting of the moon**

The Hour drew near and the moon was split (in two).  
And if they see a sign, they turn away and say: (This is) perpetual magic. (54:1-2)

# **INTERCESSOR (SHAFI') AND A WITNESS**

## **1. Allah appointed him as an intercessor to plead for people's forgiveness**

And, it is by the mercy of Allah that you were gentle with them (O beloved Prophet), for if you had been stern and fierce of heart they would have dispersed from around about you. So pardon them and ask forgiveness for them and consult with them upon the conduct of affairs. And when you are resolved, then put your trust in Allah. Surely, Allah loves those who trust. (3:159)

And We did not send any (Prophetic) Messenger but that he should be obeyed by the permission of Allah. And if, when they were unjust to themselves, they had but come to you and asked forgiveness of Allah, and the (Prophetic) Messenger had asked forgiveness for them, they would have found Allah Forgiving, Merciful. (4:64)

O Prophet! When the believing women come to you, taking oath of allegiance to you that they will ascribe nothing as partner to Allah, and will not steal and will not commit adultery and will not kill their children, and will not produce any calumny, forging it between their hands and feet (regarding birth), nor disobey you in

what is good, then accept their allegiance and ask forgiveness for them from Allah. Surely, Allah is Forgiving, Merciful! (60:12)

## **2. An accepted intercessor**

They will have no power of intercession except for someone who has made a covenant with the Most Beneficent. (19:87)

On that Day no intercession avails except of him to whom the Most Beneficent has given permission and whose word He is pleased with. (20:109)

## **3. His prayers a solace for hearts**

Realize the poor-due out of their wealth, to purify them and cleanse them therewith, and pray for them. Surely, your prayer is a solace for them. And Allah is All-Hearing, All-Knowing. (9:103)

## **4. He is witness on the Day of Judgment**

And the Messenger will say, "My Lord, my people have abandoned this Quran."(25:30)

**Prophet Muhammad himself said in Hadith (By Muslim) that Allah has given him seven distinct things which He did not give to any other prophet.**

1. I have been sent with the shortest expressions bearing the widest meanings.
2. I have been made victorious with terror (cast in the hearts of the enemy by Allah)
3. The spoils of war were allowed for him. (before him, spoils of war were not allowed for prophets)
4. Whole earth is made worship place for me and my followers and also allowed using dirt from earth for cleanliness if water

is unavailable (The other religions only allows prayer in their designated places like churches and synagogues)

5. I was made the prophets of all the nations (From my time to till the last day)
6. Prophethood has ended after me (I am the last and final Messenger from Allah).
7. I was assigned as intercessor on the Day of Judgment

Allah has given some specials rewards and great Mercy to the followers of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) that He did not bestowed on other nations of the other Prophets before him. Listed below are few of them.

1. He gave the gift of 5 time's daily prayer on his journey to MARRAJ. Originally it was 50 prayers a Day, but eventually reduced to 5, but with His infinite Mercy Allah will still give rewards for 5 daily prayer equivalents to 50..
2. Fasting in the month of Ramadan was prescribed to us as it was prescribed for earlier nations, but the reward for Prophet's nation is much more and unimaginable as Allah says fasting is for Me and I will reward Myself (subhan Allah). He has assigned a special door called "Rehan" in paradise for entrance of the fasting people. Also in this month a special night is there when Quran (The ultimate guidance for mankind) was revealed and that night is better than 1000 months.
3. Accepted Hajj (pilgrimage to Mecca) will wipe out all our previous sins.
4. Any non Muslim accepts Islam, his/her previous sins will be forgiven.
5. Prophet's followers are guaranteed paradise (if they did not commit Shirk, or not asked sincere repentance about shirk) even after completing the punishment in hellfire for their committed sins.

6. Allah Himself protected the glorious Quran from any changes, so that book of guidance is available to human beings until the end of time. Similarly Prophets sunnah and Ahadith are preserved for us by prophets companions and their followers after followers.

These all blessings we got from Allah are due to our beloved Prophet Muhammad (SAW).

**Based on direct testimony by Allah through His own words in Quran as mentioned above, there is absolutely no doubt that our beloved Prophet (PBUH) is the noblest person, best teacher, best husband, best father, best companion, best leader, most merciful, most caring, most humble, the most righteous , the most patient in trials and tribulations throughout his life and overall the best human being ever walked on the face of this earth.**

**May Allah give us the ability to follow our Prophet's footsteps and his Sunnah. Ameen!**

## **Following are some quotes from Non Muslims about Prophet Muhammad (SAW) and Islam.**

**Thomas Carlyle in 'Heroes and Hero Worship and the Heroic in History,' 1840**

**"The lies (Western slander) which well-meaning zeal has heaped round this man (Muhammad) are disgraceful to ourselves only."**

**"A silent great soul, one of that who cannot but be earnest. He was to kindle the world, the world's Maker had ordered so."**

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**A. S. Tritton in 'Islam,' 1951**

**The picture of the Muslim soldier advancing with a sword in one hand and the Qur'an in the other is quite false.**

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**De Lacy O'Leary in 'Islam at the Crossroads,' London, 1923.**

**History makes it clear, however, that the legend of fanatical Muslims sweeping through the world and forcing Islam at the point of sword upon conquered races is one of the most fantastically absurd myths that historians have ever repeated.**

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**Gibbon in 'The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire' 1823**

**The good sense of Muhammad despised the pomp of royalty. The Apostle of God submitted to the menial offices of the family; he kindled the fire; swept the floor; milked the ewes; and mended with his own**

hands his shoes and garments. Disdaining the penance and merit of a hermit, he observed without effort of vanity the abstemious diet of an Arab.

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**Edward Gibbon and Simon Oakley in 'History of the Saracen Empire,' London, 1870**

"The greatest success of Mohammad's life was affected by sheer moral force."

"It is not the propagation but the permanency of his religion that deserves our wonder, the same pure and perfect impression which he engraved at Mecca and Medina is preserved after the revolutions of twelve centuries by the Indian, the African and the Turkish proselytes of the Koran....The Mahometans have uniformly withstood the temptation of reducing the object of their faith and devotion to a level with the senses and imagination of man. 'I believe in One God and Mahomet the Apostle of God' is the simple and invariable profession of Islam. The intellectual image of the Deity has never been degraded by any visible idol; the honors of the prophet have never transgressed the measure of human virtue, and his living precepts have restrained the gratitude of his disciples within the bounds of reason and religion."

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**Reverend Bosworth Smith in 'Muhammad and Muhammadanism,' London, 1874.**

**"Head of the State as well as the Church, he was Caesar and Pope in one; but he was Pope without the Pope's pretensions, and Caesar without the legions of Caesar, without a standing army, without a bodyguard, without a police force, without a fixed revenue. If ever a man ruled by a right divine, it was Muhammad, for he had all the powers**



without their supports. He cared not for the dressings of power. The simplicity of his private life was in keeping with his public life."

"In Mohammadanism everything is different here. Instead of the shadowy and the mysterious, we have history....We know of the external history of Muhammad....while for his internal history after his mission had been proclaimed, we have a book absolutely unique in its origin, in its preservation....on the Substantial authority of which no one has ever been able to cast a serious doubt."

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**Edward Montet, 'La Propagande Chretienne et ses Adversaries Musulmans,' Paris 1890. (Also in T.W. Arnold in 'The Preaching of Islam,' London 1913.)**

"Islam is a religion that is essentially rationalistic in the widest sense of this term considered etymologically and historically....the teachings of the Prophet, the Qur'an has invariably kept its place as the fundamental starting point, and the dogma of unity of God has always been proclaimed therein with a grandeur a majesty, an invariable purity and with a note of sure conviction, which it is hard to find surpassed outside the pale of Islam....A creed so precise, so stripped of all theological complexities and consequently so accessible to the ordinary understanding might be expected to possess and does indeed possess a marvelous power of winning its way into the consciences of men."

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**Alphonse de LaMartaine in 'Historie de la Turquie,' Paris, 1854.**

"Never has a man set for himself, voluntarily or involuntarily, a more sublime aim, since this aim was superhuman; to subvert superstitions which had been imposed between man and his Creator, to render God unto man and man unto God; **to restore the rational and sacred idea of divinity amidst the chaos of the material and disfigured gods of**

**idolatry, then existing.** Never has a man undertaken a work so far beyond human power with so feeble means, for he (Muhammad) had in the conception as well as in the execution of such a great design, no other instrument than himself and no other aid except a handful of men living in a corner of the desert. Finally, never has a man accomplished such a huge and lasting revolution in the world, because in less than two centuries after its appearance, Islam, in faith and in arms, reigned over the whole of Arabia, and conquered, in God's name, Persia Khorasan, Transoxania, Western India, Syria, Egypt, Abyssinia, all the known continent of Northern Africa, numerous islands of the Mediterranean Sea, Spain, and part of Gaul.

**"If greatness of purpose, smallness of means, and astonishing results are the three criteria of a human genius, who could dare compare any great man in history with Muhammad?** The most famous men created arms, laws, and empires only. They founded, if anything at all, no more than material powers which often crumbled away before their eyes. This man moved not only armies, legislations, empires, peoples, dynasties, but millions of men in one-third of the then inhabited world; and more than that, he moved the altars, the gods, the religions, the ideas, the beliefs and the souls.

"On the basis of a Book, every letter which has become law, he created a spiritual nationality which blended together peoples of every tongue and race. He has left the indelible characteristic of this Muslim nationality the hatred of false gods and the passion for the One and Immaterial God. This avenging patriotism against the profanation of Heaven formed the virtue of the followers of Muhammad; the conquest of one-third the earth to the dogma was his miracle; or rather it was not the miracle of man but that of reason.

**"The idea of the unity of God,** proclaimed amidst the exhaustion of the fabulous theologies, was in itself such a miracle that upon its utterance from his lips it destroyed all the ancient temples of idols and set on fire one-third of the world. His life, his meditations, his heroic reveling

against the superstitions of his country, and his boldness in defying the furies of idolatry, his firmness in enduring them for fifteen years in Mecca, his acceptance of the role of public scorn and almost of being a victim of his fellow countrymen... This dogma was twofold the unity of God and the immateriality of God: the former telling what God is, the latter telling what God is not; the one overthrowing false gods with the sword, the other starting an idea with words.

**"Philosopher, Orator, Apostle, Legislator, Conqueror of Ideas, Restorer of Rational beliefs.... The founder of twenty terrestrial empires and of one spiritual empire that is Muhammad. As regards all standards by which human greatness may be measured, we may well ask, is there any man greater than he?"**

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**Mahatma Gandhi, statement published in 'Young India,' 1924.**

I wanted to know the best of the life of one who holds today an undisputed sway over the hearts of millions of mankind.... I became more than ever convinced that it was not the sword that won a place for Islam in those days in the scheme of life. It was the rigid simplicity, the utter self-effacement of the Prophet the scrupulous regard for pledges, his intense devotion to his friends and followers, his intrepidity, his fearlessness, his absolute trust in God and in his own mission. These and not the sword carried everything before them and surmounted every obstacle. When I closed the second volume (of the Prophet's biography), I was sorry there was not more for me to read of that great life.

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**Sir George Bernard Shaw in 'The Genuine Islam,' Vol. 1, No. 8, 1936.**

**"If any religion had the chance of ruling over England, nay Europe within the next hundred years, it could be Islam."**

“I have always held the religion of Muhammad in high estimation because of its wonderful vitality. It is the only religion which appears to me to possess that assimilating capacity to the changing phase of existence which can make itself appeal to every age. I have studied him - the wonderful man and in my opinion far from being an anti-Christ, he must be called the Savior of Humanity.”

"I believe that if a man like him were to assume the dictatorship of the modern world he would succeed in solving its problems in a way that would bring it the much needed peace and happiness: I have prophesied about the faith of Muhammad that it would be acceptable to the Europe of tomorrow as it is beginning to be acceptable to the Europe of today.”

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**Michael Hart in 'The 100, A Ranking of the Most Influential Persons In History,' New York, 1978.**

My choice of Muhammad to lead the list of the world’s most influential persons may surprise some readers and may be questioned by others, but he was the only man in history who was supremely successful on both the secular and religious level. ...It is probable that the relative influence of Muhammad on Islam has been larger than the combined influence of Jesus Christ and St. Paul on Christianity. ...It is this unparalleled combination of secular and religious influence which I feel entitles Muhammad to be considered the most influential single figure in human history.

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**Dr. William Draper in 'History of Intellectual Development of Europe'**

Four years after the death of Justinian, A.D. 569, was born in Mecca, in Arabia, the man who, of all men, has exercised the greatest influence upon the human race... To be the religious head of many empires, to

guide the daily life of one-third of the human race, may perhaps justify the title of a Messenger of God.

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### **Arthur Glyn Leonard in 'Islam, Her Moral and Spiritual Values'**

It was the genius of Muhammad, the spirit that he breathed into the Arabs through the soul of Islam that exalted them. That raised them out of the lethargy and low level of tribal stagnation up to the high watermark of national unity and empire. It was in the sublimity of Muhammad's deism, the simplicity, the sobriety and purity it inculcated the fidelity of its founder to his own tenets, that acted on their moral and intellectual fiber with all the magnetism of true inspiration.

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### **Philip K. Hitti in 'History of the Arabs'**

Within a brief span of mortal life, Muhammad called forth of unpromising material, a nation, never welded before; in a country that was hitherto but a geographical expression he established a religion which in vast areas suppressed Christianity and Judaism, and laid the basis of an empire that was soon to embrace within its far flung boundaries the fairest provinces the then civilized world.

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### **Rodwell in the Preface to his translation of the Holy Qur'an**

Mohammad's career is a wonderful instance of the force and life that resides in him who possesses an intense faith in God and in the unseen world. He will always be regarded as one of those who have had that influence over the faith, morals and whole earthly life of their fellow men, which none but a really great man ever did, or can exercise; and whose efforts to propagate a great verity will prosper.

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**W. Montgomery Watt in 'Muhammad at Mecca,' Oxford, 1953.**

His readiness to undergo persecution for his beliefs, the high moral character of the men who believed in him and looked up to him as a leader, and the greatness of his ultimate achievement - all argue his fundamental integrity. To suppose Muhammad an impostor raises more problems that it solves. Moreover, none of the great figures of history is so poorly appreciated in the West as Muhammad.... Thus, not merely must we credit Muhammad with essential honesty and integrity of purpose, if we are to understand him at all; if we are to correct the errors we have inherited from the past, we must not forget the conclusive proof is a much stricter requirement than a show of plausibility, and in a matter such as this only to be attained with difficulty.

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**D. G. Hogarth in 'Arabia'**

Serious or trivial, his daily behavior has instituted a canon which millions observe this day with conscious memory. No one regarded by any section of the human race as Perfect Man has ever been imitated so minutely. The conduct of the founder of Christianity has not governed the ordinary life of his followers. Moreover, no founder of a religion has left on so solitary an eminence as the Muslim apostle.

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**Washington Irving 'Mahomet and His Successors'**

He was sober and abstemious in his diet and a rigorous observer of fasts. He indulged in no magnificence of apparel, the ostentation of a petty mind; neither was his simplicity in dress affected but a result of real disregard for distinction from so trivial a source.

In his private dealings he was just. He treated friends and strangers, the rich and poor, the powerful and weak, with equity, and was beloved by the common people for the affability with which he received them, and listened to their complaints.

His military triumphs awakened no pride nor vain glory, as they would have done had they been effected for selfish purposes. In the time of his greatest power he maintained the same simplicity of manners and appearance as in the days of his adversity. So far from affecting a regal state, he was displeased if, on entering a room, any unusual testimonials of respect were shown to him. If he aimed at a universal dominion, it was the dominion of faith; as to the temporal rule which grew up in his hands, as he used it without ostentation, so he took no step to perpetuate it in his family.

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**James Michener in 'Islam: The Misunderstood Religion,' Reader's Digest, May 1955, pp. 68-70.**

"No other religion in history spread so rapidly as Islam. The West has widely believed that this surge of religion was made possible by the sword. But no modern scholar accepts this idea, and the Qur'an is explicit in the support of the freedom of conscience."

"Like almost every major prophet before him, Muhammad fought shy of serving as the transmitter of God's word sensing his own inadequacy. But the Angel commanded 'Read'. So far as we know, Muhammad was unable to read or write, but he began to dictate those inspired words which would soon revolutionize a large segment of the earth: "There is one God"."

"In all things Muhammad was profoundly practical. When his beloved son Ibrahim died, an eclipse occurred and rumors of God's personal condolence quickly arose. Whereupon Muhammad is said to have

announced, 'An eclipse is a phenomenon of nature. It is foolish to attribute such things to the death or birth of a human being'."

“At Muhammad's own death an attempt was made to deify him, but the man who was to become his administrative successor killed the hysteria with one of the noblest speeches in religious history: 'If there are any among you who worshiped Muhammad, he is dead. But if it is God you Worshiped, He lives for ever'.”

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### **Lawrence E. Browne in 'The Prospects of Islam,' 1944**

Incidentally these well-established facts dispose of the idea so widely fostered in Christian writings that the Muslims, wherever they went, forced people to accept Islam at the point of the sword.

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### **K. S. Ramakrishna Rao in 'Mohammed: The Prophet of Islam,' 1989**

My problem to write this monograph is easier, because we are not generally fed now on that (distorted) kind of history and much time need not be spent on pointing out our misrepresentations of Islam. The theory of Islam and sword, for instance, is not heard now in any quarter worth the name. The principle of Islam that “there is no compulsion in religion” is well known.