

Open Peer Review on Qeios

Old Testament and New Testament Prophecies of Prophet Muhammad

Reza Rezaie Khanghah¹

1 Shahid Rajaee Teacher Training University

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

In this paper we will discuss about Old Testament and New Testament Prophecies of Prophet Muhammad.[1][2]

"I (God) will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee (Moses), and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him." [3]

Moses foretold the following: Jews were waiting for the fulfillment of three distinct prophecies. The first was the coming of Christ. The second was the coming of Elijah. The third was the coming of the Prophet. This is obvious from the three questions that were posed to John the Baptist: "Now this was John's testimony, when the Jews of Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was. He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, "I am not the Christ." They asked him, "Then who are you? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No." [4] If we look in a Bible with cross-references, we will find in the marginal notes where the words "the Prophet" occur in John 1:21, that these words refer to the prophecy of Deuteronomy 18:15 and 18:18. We conclude from this that Jesus Christ is not the prophet mentioned in Deuteronomy 18:18.

The Awaited Prophet will be from the Brethren of the Jews

Prophet Abraham had two sons: Ishmael and Isaac. The Jews are the descendants of Isaac's son, Jacob. The Arabs are the children of Ishmael. The children of Isaac are the brethren of the Ishmaelites. Thus, the Arabs are the brethren of the Jewish nation.^[5]

The Bible affirms:

'And he (Ishmael) shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren. [6]

'And he (Ishmael) died in the presence of all his brethren. [7]

Muhammad is from among the brethren of the Israelites, because he was a descendant of Ishmael the son of Abraham. Abraham had two sons, Ishmael and Isaac^[8]. The prophet spoken of was not to come from among the Jews themselves, but from among their brothers, i.e. the Ishmaelites. Muhammad, a descendant of Ishmael, is indeed this prophet. Also, Isaiah 42:1-13 speaks of the servant of God, His "chosen one" and "messenger" who will bring down a law. "He will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his law the islands will put their hope."^[9]. Verse 11, connects that awaited one with the descendants of Kedar. Who is Kedar? According to Genesis 25:13, Kedar was the second son of Ishmael, the ancestor of the Prophet Muhammad.



A Warning to Rejecters

The prophecy continues:

"And it shall come to pass, [that] who-soever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require [it] of him."(in some translations:"I will be the Revenger").^[10]

Interestingly, Muslims begin every chapter of the Quran in the name of God by saying:

Bismillah ir-Rahman ir-Raheem

"In the Name of God, the Most-Merciful, the Dispenser of Grace."

Comforter

• "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever." (American Standard Version)^[11]

The Greek word parakletos, has been translated as 'Comforter.' Parakletos more precisely means 'one who pleads another's cause, an intercessor.'[12]

By combining manuscripts with no single definitive reference. The Bible translators attempt to "choose" the correct version. In other words, since they do not know which "ancient manuscript" is the correct one, they decide for us which "version" for a given verse to accept. Take John 14:26 as an example. John 14:26 is the only verse of the Bible which associates the Parakletos with the Holy Spirit. But the "ancient manuscripts" are not in agreement that the "Parakletos" is the 'Holy Spirit.' For instance, the famous Codex Syriacus, written around the fifth century C.E., and discovered in 1812 on Mount Sinai, the text of 14:26 reads; "Paraclete, the Spirit"; and not "Paraclete, the Holy Spirit." Why is it important? It is significant because in biblical language a "spirit," simply means "a prophet."

"Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world." [13]

• Jesus said the parakletos is a human being:

"He will speak." [14]

"...for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you. [7]

It is impossible that the Comforter be the "Holy Ghost" because the Holy Ghost was present long before Jesus and during his ministry^[16]. In John 16:13 Jesus referred to the paraclete as 'he' and not 'it' seven times, no other verse in the Bible contains seven masculine pronouns. Therefore, paraclete is a person, not a ghost.

• Jesus is called a parakletos: "And if any man sin, we have an advocate (parakletos) with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." [17]. Here we see that parakletos is a physical and human intercessor. Jesus describes the function of the other Parakletos: "He will guide you into all the truth." [18]



• God says in the Quran of Muhammad: "O mankind! The Messenger has now come unto you with the truth from your Lord: believe, then, for your own good!..." [19]

"He will glorify Me." [20]

The Quran brought by Muhammad glorifies Jesus: "...who shall become known as the Christ Jesus, son of Mary, of great honor in this world and in the life to come, and [shall be] of those who are drawn near unto God."^[21]

Muhammad also glorified Jesus: "Whoever testifies that none deserves worship except God, who has no partner, and that Muhammad is His servant and Messenger, and that Jesus is the servant of God, His Messenger, and His Word which He bestowed in Mary, and a spirit created from Him, and that Paradise is true, and that Hell is true, God will admit him into Paradise, according to his deeds." [22]

- "He will convince the world of its sin, and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment. [23]

 The Quran announces: "Indeed, they have disbelieved who say, 'God is the Christ, son of Mary' seeing that the Christ [himself] said, 'O Children of Israel! Worship God [alone], who is my Lord as well as your Lord.' 'Indeed, whoever ascribes divinity to any being beside God, unto him will God deny paradise, and his goal shall be the fire: and there are not for the wrongdoers any helpers!" [24]
- "He shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, [that] shall he speak. [25]

 The Quran says of Muhammad: "Neither does he speak out of his own desire: that [which he conveys to you] is but [a divine] inspiration with which he is being inspired." [26]
- John 14:26 "and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

 The words of the Quran:"...while the Messiah had said, 'O Children of Israel, worship God, my Lord and your Lord. [97]
- ...reminds people of the first and greatest command of Jesus they have forgotten:

"The first of all the commandments is, 'Hear, O Israel; the Lord our God is one Lord." [28]

"And He will disclose to you what is to come." [29]

The Quran states: "That is from the news of the unseen which We reveal, [O Muhammad], to you...^[90]. Hudhaifa, a disciple of Prophet Muhammad, tells us: "The Prophet once delivered a speech in front of us wherein he left nothing but mentioned everything that would happen till the Hour (of Judgment)." [31]

"That he may abide with you for ever." [32]

...meaning his original teachings will remain forever. Muhammad was God's last prophet to humanity [33]



• "He will be the spirit of truth' [34]...meaning he will a true prophet, see 1 John 4: 1-3.

"The world neither sees him..." [35]

Many people in the world today do not know Muhammad.

"...nor knows him"[36]

Fewer people recognize the real Muhammad, God's Prophet of Mercy.

"The Advocate (parakletos)"[37]

Muhammad will be the advocate of humanity at large and of sinful believers on Judgment Day: People will look for those who can intercede on their behalf to God to reduce the distress and suffering on Day of Judgment. Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and Jesus will excuse themselves. Then they will come to our Prophet and he will say, "I am the one who is able." So he will intercede for the people in the Great Plain of Gathering, so judgment may be passed. This is the 'Sta-tion of Praise' God promises Him in the Quran:"...It may be that your Lord will raise you to Station of Praise (the honor of intercession on the Day of Resurrection)" [38][39]

Some Muslim scholars suggest what Jesus actually said in Aramaic represents more closely the Greek word periklytos which means the 'admired one.' In Arabic the word 'Muhammad' means the 'praiseworthy, admired one.' In other words, periklytos is "Muhammad" in Greek.

Anselm Turmeda (1352/55-1425 CE), a priest and Christian scholar, was a witness to the prophecy. After accepting Islam he wrote a book, "Tuhfat al-arib fi al-radd 'ala Ahl al-Salib."

The Second Witness: Abdul-Ahad Dawud, the former Rev. David Abdu Benjamin Keldani, BD, a Roman Catholic priest of the Uniate-Chaldean sect.^[40]

After accepting Islam, he wrote the book, 'Muhammad in the Bible.' He writes in this book: "There is not the slightest doubt that by "Periglyte," Prophet Muhammad, i.e. Ahmad, is intended."

The Prophecies of Holy Books/Torah^[41]

- 1. First Revelation: "... Read this...he said, I am not learned [42].
- Historical Facts: Angel Gabriel delivered first revelation: "Read...name of your Lord, who created man...^[43]. Muhammad replied: "I am not learned".
- 2. Prophet from Arabia: "Arabia, and all the Princes of Kedar...[44]
- 3. A Prophet Like Moses: God said to Moses, "I will raise up a Prophet... like unto thee. I will put my words in his mouth, & he shall speak them all..."[45]

Historical Facts: Angel Gabriel used to bring revelations from God to Muhammad - thus God put "His words in Muhammad's mouth" [46]. "He does not speak of (his own) desire... [47].

4. Prophet with 10,000 Saints: "...he came with 10,000 saints...right-hand went a fiery law...^[48]

Historical Facts: Muhammad returned to Makka with 10,000 devout followers & established the rule of law there.



- 5. Until Shiloh Come: Jacob told his children..."until Shiloh come...[49]. Shiloh means "peace" (Islam).
- 6. Pilgrims of Bacca Valley: "...they go through the valley of Baca; there it has a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools"^[50]. Makka is referred to as Baca^[51]. The famous ZamZam spring is located here. Makka used to get flooded.
- 7. Prophecy By Name: Muhammad was quoted by name: "Cheeko mane tah kim, vechulo Mohamadim: his language is most sweet, & he is Muhammad"^[52]
- 8. Prophecy Come To Pass: "When a Prophet speaks, if word does not come to pass or come true... word which the Lord has not spoken..."[53].

God informed Muhammad that the Romans would defeat the Persians^[54]. Chapter Rum of Quran was revealed at that time (615 AD) in support of Christians. The Romans won battle in 627 AD. Muhammad professed that the Muslims would soon conquer the Persian & Byzantium empires. At the battle of Yarmuk in 634 AD, they defeated the Byzantine army, & at the battle of Madain in 637 AD, they defeated the Persians.

References About Muhammad in Hindu Scriptures

- 1. Verse 5 of Bhavishya Puran: "...His name will be Mahamad... Mahadev Arab... 'O Ye! The pride of mankind, the dweller in Arabia."... [55].
- 2. Sama Veda, II, 6, 8: "Ahmad acquired religious law from his Lord. This law of religion is full of wisdom."

Prophet Muhammad in Deuteronomy 18:18-19



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

I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers; I will put my words in his mouth, and he will tell them everything I command him. If anyone does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name, I myself will call him to account.^[56]

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

Firstly, he will be like Moses (peace be upon him). Secondly, he will descend from the brothers of the Israelites, the Ishmaelites. Thirdly, God will put His words into the mouth of this prophet, and he will declare what God commands him. Let us examine these three characteristics in depth:

Birth	The birth of Jesus (peace be upon him) was miraculous. According to Christian and Muslim beliefs, he was miraculously born of the Virgin Mary. However, both Moses (peace be upon him) and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) were born in the usual manner; the physical association of man and woman.
Parents	Moses had a father and a mother; so did Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him). Jesus, however, had only a mother and no human father.
Marital status	Both Moses (peace be upon him) and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) got married and had children. There is no record of a marriage and offspring in the case of Jesus (peace be upon him).
Death	Both Moses (peace be upon him) and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) died due to natural causes and were buried. The end of the mission of Jesus (peace be upon him) on the earth was unusual; being raised up to the heavens according to Islamic belief and crucifixion according to Christian belief. According to Christians, Jesus died for the sins of the world, but Moses did not have to die for the sins of the world. He and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) died due to natural causes.
Prophethood	Jesus was regarded by later Christians as the Son of God and not as a prophet of God (Allah), as Moses and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) were.
Acceptance/rejection of prophethood by people (moral success)	Unlike Jesus, Moses and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) were accepted as prophets by their people in their very lifetime. On the other hand, Jesus (peace be upon him) was not accepted by the people to whom he was sent. According to the Bible, "He [Jesus] came unto his own, but his own people received him not." [57] Even today, after two thousand years, his own people - the Jews, as a whole - still reject him.
Confrontation of the enemy	Moses encountered his enemies (the Pharaoh's army) who sought to destroy him and his followers before they could escape to the Red Sea. Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) also encountered his enemies (the pagan Arabs), who sought to destroy him and his followers in several battles. No such encounter was reported in the case of Jesus. On the contrary, Jesus was reported to have commanded his disciple, Simon Peter, to put his sword back into its sheath when he attempted to defend Jesus at the time of his arrest.
Victory	Moses' encounter with his enemies ended with a military and moral victory. His enemies drowned, and Moses and his followers were saved. Muhammad's encounters with his enemies also ended with his final military and moral victory over them. He and his followers reentered Makkah, the city and centre of plotting against him. Jesus' victory against his enemies was only a moral victory, which did not involve an immediate military victory over them at the same time.
Acceptance	Moses was accepted by his people as a Prophet also Muhammad was enthusiastically accepted as a Prophet during his lifetime. however Jesus (peace be upon him) was rejected by his people (the Israelites). The Christian Gospel clearly confirms this: when Jesus (peace be upon him) was dragged before the Roman Governor, Pontius Pilate, and charged with sedition, he made a convincing point in his defence to refute the false charge. He said: My kingdom is not of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight that I should not be delivered to the Jews, but now is my kingdom not from hence. ^[58]
Preservation of teachings	The teachings revealed to Moses and Muhammad were available in a written form in their lifetime. The teachings of Jesus, however, were not written during his lifetime. Even the earliest Gospel was written down many years after him.

With these ten points of comparison between Moses (peace be upon him), Jesus (peace be upon him) and Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him), any rational person will conclude that Muhammad (blessings and peace be upon him) is the prophet referred to in Deuteronomy 18:18-19, "like unto me (Moses)."

References

- 1. \(^\text{Website.}\)
- 2. \(^\text{Website.}\)
- 3. Deuteronomy 18:18.
- 4. [^]John 1:19-21.



- 5. ^'Muhammad: His Life Based on the Earliest Sources' by Martin Lings, p. 1-7.
- 6. Genesis 16:12.
- 7. ^Genesis 25:18.
- 8. Genesis 21.
- 9. [^]Isaiah 42:4.
- 10. Deuteronomy 18:19.
- 11. [^]John 14:16.
- 12. Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words.
- 13. ^1 John 4: 1-3.
- 14. [^]John 16:13.
- 15. [^]John 16:7.
- 16. ^Genesis 1: 2, 1 Samuel 10: 10, 1 Samuel 11: 6, Isaiah 63: 11, Luke 1: 15, Luke 1: 35, Luke 1: 41, Luke 1: 67, Luke 2: 25, Luke 2: 26, Luke 3:22, John 20: 21-22.
- 17. ^1 John 2:1.
- 18. [^]John 16:13.
- 19. ^Quran 4:170.
- 20. [^]John 16:14.
- 21. ^Quran 3:45.
- 22. ^Saheeh Al-Bukhari, Saheeh Muslim.
- 23. [^]John 16:8.
- 24. ^Quran 5:72.
- 25. [^]John 16:13.
- 26. ^Quran 53:3-4.
- 27. ^Quran 5:72.
- 28. Mark 12:29.
- 29. [^]John 16:13.
- 30. ^Quran 12:102.
- 31. [^]Saheeh Al-Bukhari.
- 32. [^]John 14:16.
- 33. ^Quran 33:40.
- 34. [^]John 14:17.
- 35. [^]John 14:17.
- 36. [^]John 14:17.
- 37. [^]John 14:26.
- 38. ^Quran 17:79.
- 39. ^See also Saheeh Al-Bukhari.
- 40. ^Read his biography here: (http://www.muhammad.net/biblelp/bio_keldani.html).



- 41. ^Abdul Hye. Where Do You Stand?.
- 42. ¹Isaiah 29:12.
- 43. ^Quran 96:1.
- 44. **Ezekiel 27:21.
- 45. Deuteronomy 18:18.
- 46. [^]John 16:13, Isaiah 28:10.
- 47. ^Quran 53:3-4.
- 48. Deuteronomy 33:2.
- 49. ^Genesis 49:10.
- 50. ^Psalms 84:5-6.
- 51. ^Quran 3:96.
- 52. Song of Solomon 5:16.
- 53. Deuteronomy 18:22.
- 54. ^Quran 30:3.
- 55. Prati Sarg Parv III.
- 56. ^Deuteronomy 18:18-19.
- 57. [^]John 1:11.
- 58. [^]John 18:36.