

# SIMILARITIES BETWEEN ISLAM AND CHRISTIANITY

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## Al-Qur'an 3:64

Al-Qur'an 20:25-28

Greet you in the same manner as Jesus (pbuh) greeted in Hebrew Luke 24:36

'Sholam alay kum'

or Islamic greeting in Arabic Assalaamu alai kum

both meaning 'Peace be on you'.

## INTRODUCTION

**Similarities / Similar Teachings in the Qur'an and the Bible which Muslims follow but Christians don't**

## I ISLAM

### 1. DEFINITION

#### A. Meaning of Islam

- (i) Islam is derived from the word *salaam* meaning peace.
- (ii) Submission to the Will of Allah (swt) i.e. God Almighty.

#### B. Meaning of 'Muslim' – One who submits his will to Allah.

#### C. Islam is not a new religion found by Prophet Muhammad (pbuh).

### 2. MESSENGERS IN ISLAM

- A. (i) To every nation was sent a Guide or a Messenger  
Al-Qur'an 35:24  
Al-Qur'an 13:7

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- (ii) 25 Prophets mentioned by name in the Qur'an
  - (iii) Islam is the only non-Christian faith that believes in Jesus (pbuh)
  - (iv) Stories only of some prophets mentioned in Qur'an  
Al-Qur'an 4:164  
Al-Qur'an 40:78
  - (v) More than 1,24,000 Messengers according to Hadith
- B. (i) Previous Messengers were only sent for their people and nation and their complete message was meant only for a particular time period.
- (ii) Moses (pbuh) was only sent for the Jews.
  - (iii) Jesus (pbuh) sent only for the Jews i.e. lost sheep of Israel.  
Al-Qur'an 3:49  
Mathew 10:5-6  
Mathew 15:24
  - (iv) Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) is the Last and Final Messenger for the Whole of Mankind.  
Al-Qur'an 33:40  
Al-Qur'an 21:107  
Al-Qur'an 34:28  
Sahih Bukhari Vol.1 Book of *Salaah* Chapter 56 Hadith No. 429
  - (v) Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) prophesised in the Bible.  
Al-Qur'an 7:157  
Al-Qur'an 61:6  
Deuteronomy 18:18  
Isaiah 29:12  
Song of Solomon 5:16  
John 16:7  
John 16:12-14

### 3. REVELATIONS OF GOD

- A. Several Revelations sent by Allah – Al-Qur'an 13:38.  
By name only four are mentioned in the Qur'an.
- B. (i) The Qur'an is the Last and Final Revelation.
- (ii) All previous Revelations before Qur'an were only sent for a particular group of people and for a particular time period

(iii) The Qur'an was Revealed for the Whole of Mankind

Al-Qur'an 14:1

Al-Qur'an 14:52

Al-Qur'an 2:185

Al-Qur'an 39:41

## II PILLARS OF ISLAM:

### 1. **Tauheed: Monotheism**

A. *La ilaha ilallahu, Muhammad-ur-Rasoolullah*

Sahih Bukhari Vol. 1 Hadith No. 7

B. Believe in Allah and the Last Day, and the Angels and the Book and the Messengers.

Al-Qur'an 2:177

C. Come to common terms — Worship of one God

Al-Qur'an 3:64

D. Concept of God

Al-Qur'an 112:1-4

Deuteronomy 6:4

Mark 12:29

E. *Shirk* – Biggest Sin

Al-Qur'an 4:48

Al-Qur'an 4:116

Exodus 20:2-5

Deuteronomy 5:7-9

F. Jesus (pbuh) not God. He never claimed Divinity

Al-Qur'an 5:72

John 14:28

John 10:29

Mathew 12:28

Luke 11:20

John 5:30

Acts 2:21

G. 99 Attributes of Almighty God

Al-Qur'an 17:110

H. Prefer using name 'Allah' rather than the word 'God' as the word 'God' can be played around with. Allah in the Bible – *Eli, Eli, Lama Sabachthani*

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Mark 15:34  
Mathew 27:46

## 2. Salaah

### A. Not merely Prayers but Programming

Al-Qur'an 5:90  
Al-Qur'an 2:188

### B. Prayers restrain you from shameful and unjust deeds

Al-Qur'an 29:45

### C. *Salaah* timings – for healthy soul five times a day

. Al-Qur'an 17:78  
Al-Qur'an 20:130

### D. Take off shoes before entering mosque.

#### (i) Commandment of Allah to Moses

Al-Qur'an 20:11-12  
Exodus 3:5  
Acts 7:33

#### (ii) Can Pray with Shoes.

Sunan Abu Dawood – Vol. 1, Book of Salaah, Chapter 240,  
Hadith No. 652-653.

#### (iii) Hygienic

### E. Ablution

(i) Al-Qur'an 5:6  
Exodus 40:31-32  
Acts 21:26

#### (ii) Hygienic

#### (iii) Mental Preparation

### F. Stand shoulder to shoulder, while praying –

Sahih Bukhari – Vol. 1, Book of Adhan Chapter 75 Hadith no. 692  
Abu Dawood – Vol. 1, Book of Salaah Chapter 245 Hadith No. 666.

### G. Sujud – Prostration

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- (i) To humble your mind, humble your body
- (ii) Sujud mentioned 92 times in the Qur'an  
Al-Qur'an 3:43  
Al-Qur'an 22:77
- (iii) Prostration in the Bible  
Genesis 17:3; Numbers 20:6  
Joshua 5:14; Mathew 26:39

### 3. Zakaah

- A. Meaning: Purification and Growth
- B. Description: 2.5% of saving every lunar year in charity  
Al-Qur'an 9:60
- C. If every human being gives *Zakaah*, not a single person will die of hunger.
- D. "Wealth does not circulate only amongst the wealthy and the rich"  
Al-Qur'an 59:7
- E. I Peter 4:8

### 4. SAUM - FASTING

- A. Description – one lunar month i.e. during the month of *Ramadaan* every lunar year, Muslims fast, i.e. abstain from food and drinks from sunrise till sunset.
- B. Benefits: learn self restraint. If you can control your hunger you can control almost all your desires. It enhances spiritual awareness.  
Al-Qur'an 2:183
- C. Medical Benefits:
  - (a) Increases absorption capacity of intestines
  - (b) Lowers cholestrol.
- D. Discourages smoking, alcoholism and other addictions.
- E. Bible prescribes Fasting  
Mathew 17:21  
Mark 9:29

## 5. HAJJ

- A. Description – Pilgrimage atleast once in life time if you can afford it
- B. Universal Brotherhood – 2.5 million people from all over the world gather, wear two pieces of unsewn cloth, preferably white. Cannot differentiate between rich and poor.  
Al-Qur'an 49:13
- C. Significance of *Kaaba* – Muslims don't worship it  
Psalms 84:4-7

## III ISLAM IS A COMPLETE WAY OF LIFE

These five pillars do not constitute complete Islam. Only if the pillars are strong, will the structure be strong.

### 1. HUMANS CREATED TO WORSHIP ALLAH

- A. *Jinn* and Man created for worship of Allah  
Al-Qur'an 51:56
- B. Meaning of *Ibadaah* – root word *Abd* meaning 'slave'.

### 2. OBEYING COMMANDMENTS OF ALLAH IS SUBMITTING YOUR WILL TO ALLAH

- A. Abstaining from alcohol  
Al-Qur'an 5:90  
Proverbs 20:1  
Ephesians 5:18
- B. Abstaining from prohibited food  
Al-Qur'an 5:5  
Al-Qur'an 2:173, 5:3, 6:145, 16:115
  - (i) Dead meat  
Leviticus 17:15  
Deuteronomy 14:21
  - (ii) Blood  
Genesis 9:4, Leviticus 17:14, Deuteronomy 12:16,  
I Samuel 14:33, Acts 15:29
  - (iii) Pork is prohibited

Leviticus 11:7-8  
Deuteronomy 14:8  
Isaiah 65:2-5

- (vi) Food on which names beside Allah have been invoked  
Acts 15:29; Revelation 2:14

C.(i) Being Honest in your Business

- (ii) Helping Neighbours  
Al-Qur'an 107:1-7

- (iii) Abstaining from Backbiting  
Al-Qur'an 104:1-3  
Al-Qur'an 49:11-12

- (iv) Obeying and Respecting Parents  
Al-Qur'an 17:23, 24

- (v) Celibacy or Monasticism is prohibited in Islam  
Sahih Bukhari: Vol. 7 Book of Nikah, Chapter No. 3, Hadith No. 4

- (vi) Loving, being Kind and Just to your Wife  
Al-Qur'an 4:19

- (vii) Abstaining from Adultery  
Al-Qur'an 17:32

D. Dressing Modestly

- (i) Al-Qur'an 24:30  
Mathew 5:27-28

- (ii) Al-Qur'an 24:31

- (iii) Six Criteria for Hijab in Islam  
Deuteronomy 22:5  
I Timothy 2:9 e.g. of Mary  
I Corinthians 11:5-6

E. Circumcision

Acts 7:8  
John 7:22  
Luke 2:21

F. In short, every Muslim should follow all the Commandments of Allah (swt) and His Messenger Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) and abstain from the things they have prohibited.

## CONCLUSION

- (a) If Christian is a person who follows the teachings of Christ (pbuh) and not one who worships Christ (pbuh). (We are more Christian than the Christians themselves).
- (b) Muslim is a person who submits his will to Allah.  
Jesus (pbuh) said, "not my will but thy will be done." i.e. Muslim.  
John 5:30
- (c) Al-Qur'an 5:82