

Series of PROPHETICS in the BIBLE for the ADVENT of MUHAMMAD (pbuh)

By: M.A.C.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I cannot help but feel grateful to God, the Almighty, the Creator and Lord of the heavens and the earth and all between them Who made possible this small book become a reality.

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*M.A.C. Cave
3 June 1994*

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

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PREFACE

The World Assembly of Muslim Youth (WAMY) is pleased to bring out this booklet, "The Prophecies in the Bible for the Advent of prophet Muhammad (pbuh)," by Mr. M.A.C. Cave. This publication documents the various prophecies in the Bible on the advent of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), as Messenger of Allah (God).

"Behold, I send my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts." (Malachi 3:1).

It is a tribute to Mr M.A.C. Cave for his dedication and zeal in marshalling documentary evidences from the Bible conveying the prophethood of Muhammad (pbuh).

This booklet should serve as an eye-opener to those in quest of truth. Read this publication without the blinkers or prejudices, God's willing, you will see the light at the end of the tunnel.

*Mohammad Abbas Afesh
Executive Director
and
Supervisor of "Islamic Da'wah Committee"
World Assembly of Muslim Youth (WAMY)*

INTRODUCTION

I do not wish to write a long introduction, but I feel it a duty to explain in order to render justice to those who may read this booklet. The readers will be amazed to learn about some revealed truths in the Bible especially, of some of the learned but antagonistic and repugnant persons, either because of their chauvinistic attitude or their ignorance of the Scriptures, either in the Old or the New Testament, have remained extant today after the departure of the prophets.

The lack of knowledge of ancient languages has added to our inability to understand the meanings of the Scriptures. What about Aramaic, the original language of Jesus (pbuh) * which became extinct long before the Gospel was written in Greek? The problem becomes more complicated when very few even among the clergy are able to understand the Vulgate Bible and the original Greek version of the New Testament, when the researches are based mainly upon Latin and Greek etymology renders the most honest effort futile. Hence, the preface of the Revised Standard Version of the Bible (RSV), Second Edition, 1952, says:

(1) "**Yet the king James Version have grave defects.** By the middle of the nineteenth century, the development of Biblical studies and discovery of many manuscripts, more ancient than those upon which the king James Version was based, made it manifest that **these defects are so many and so serious** as to call for revision of the English translation."

(2) "The king James Version of **the New Testament was based upon a Greek text that was marred by mistakes**, containing the accumulated errors of fourteen centuries of manuscript copying." And what about the allegations of the Jehovah's Witnesses in their Awake publication of September 1951 which states: "**That the Bible has 50,000 errors?**"

It is a fact, that Christian Scholars who worked on the translations and revisions of the Bible were crippled in their attempt to produce something closer to the original Scriptures. The matter has been exacerbated by the fact that most of them were biased in rendering their translations and revisions of the Scriptures. The crux of the matter was that, they were not for free and ready to accept the **TRUTH** but were driven by one premise - "**these scholars were -**

* (pbuh). It means (peace be upon him) which is a kind of salutation accorded by Muslims to prophet of God. For more than one prophet, the salutation is (pbut) which means, peace be upon them.

united in their commitment to the authority and infallibility of the Bible as God's Word in written form. " (Quoted in the preface of the New International Version [NIV] Bible). Hence, they copied only which conformed to their established beliefs and omitted those which deviated from it.

It was a kind of soul searching on my part to arrive at the truth in the Bible. My decision to embark on this venture sprang out of my own experience through the trials and tribulations of my life. I was tossed back and forth on the choppy sea of harbour. It was a voyage of discovery which helped me to sift truth from falsehood and lend a new meaning to my life. My research was not confined to the Scriptures, but also to many treatise and articles of religious scholars, some of which, became sensational among laymen, divergent scholars and theologians of different faiths.

Throughout my research period, I had always tried to be objective and not a least biased as to the true nature of the scriptures from the different versions of the Bible. I have carefully compared the verses from each one of them. I wish to add, that I have not the slightest intention to hurt the religious sentiments of anyone or raise unnecessary dispute with the Churches, but wish to invite them to a pleasant and honest investigation of these prophecies with the spirit of love and impartiality for their greater good.

Had my research been in favour of Jesus (pbuh), as had been originally passed unto us, I would have been very extremely happy. However, you will find in this small book many glaring examples which are remarkably devastating and too overwhelming in favour of the prophethood of **Mohammad (pbuh)**. Any reader for that matter will readily agree on the authenticity and truthfulness of my research. The doctrines of Christianity deeply rooted among Christian theologians, and passed consequently, to generations as the ultimate truth , are in fact, baseless and fictitious because the Bible speaks to the contrary. If I beckon others to follow suit, this labour of love will not be vain.

O God! With your Divine will make this small book be a source of spiritual light, and let its effulgence beyond the horizons and touch those souls who have sunk deeply in the quagmire of sin. O God! I have conveyed the truth, please open the hearts of the people to it, and forgive my shortcomings and protect the people from it. Amen.

M.A.C. Cave
15 August 1995

"WONDERFUL COUNSELLOR" (Series - I)

The commissioning of Muhammad (pbuh)

This topic may come as a bolt from the blue to non-Muslims, and may even bewilder some to the extent to conclude that it is a kind of hoax that the unlettered Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) was indeed prophesized on many occasions in the Bible. Right reason tells that the truth prevails over falsehood, as Allah says: **"that the truth stands out clear from error..."**

We are also told in the Quran that Allah, by his Mercy, sent prophets to all nations of the world and the last of them was Muhammad (pbuh), the seal of all prophets. While each of the previous prophets was sent to a certain tribe with a particular mission and at a specific time, Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was sent for all mankind. His message was the Final Revelation, the Last Testament and the Complete Code of Life with a universal and comprehensive characters applicable to all mankind until the Last Day.

It was long after the departure of Jesus (pbuh), around the early part of the seventeenth century, that during the so called Dark Ages that Muhammad (pbuh) was commissioned as prophet. He was unschooled, yet a Wonderful Counselor and a Prince of Peace. He was the one who established a government (law) unparalleled in justice and was the "Counselor" and "Prince of Peace" revealed to Isaiah (pbuh). He was the "prophet like unto Moses", revealed to Moses (pbuh), and the progeny of Kedar, Ismael and Abraham, peace be upon them. He was the one spoken to "my Lord" by prophet David (pbuh), and the one alluded to and expected by Jesus (pbuh) as the "Counselor" or "comforter", the "Holy Spirit" and the "Spirit of truth" to come. He was "the Prophet" whom John and the Baptist predicted to come. The one who he said would be mightier than he and whose shoes he is not worthy to bear. His name was **Prophet Muhammad** (pbuh), whose Message was same in essence and purpose as the previous revelations which calls for man's total submission to the Will of Allah (the worship of the Only True God).

Prophecy

The first of the series of prophecies can be found in the book of Isaiah (chapter 9, verse 6) which Prophet Isaiah (pbuh) has rightly predicted:

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government

will be upon his shoulder, and his name will be called 'Wonderful Counselor', Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.'

Most Christian theologians and Churches believe that this particular prophecy was for the advent of Jesus (pbuh). However, all were totally misled because the Bible says to the contrary.

The religion advocated by Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was meant for Peace because it requires believers to submit themselves (materially and spiritually) to the Only True God (Allah), the Creator and Supreme Sovereign of all the worlds. Thus, anyone who submits himself will achieve a complete peace mentally and physically. Peace with the Only One Allah, Who has no partner, no sharer, no associate and no helper. Allah is unique and nothing is similar to Him, be it in essence, substance or attributes. He is the All-powerful, the All-knowing, the Omnipotent and the Only Sovereign of the whole universe.

On the other hand, no Christian can claim that the mission of Jesus (pbuh), was meant for peace because he categorically denied it in Matthew (10:34):

"Do not think I have come to bring peace on earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and a man's foes will be those of his own household". And in Luke (19:27): *"But as for these enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, bring them here and slay them before me".* Also in Luke (22:36): He Jesus said to them: *"But now, let him who has purse take it, and likewise a bag. And let him who has no sword sell his mantle and buy one."*

The prophecy was corroborated by Jesus (pbuh)

Prophet Jesus' (pbuh) sayings also support the prophecy of Isaiah (9:6) in the book of John (John 14:16-17): *"And I will pray to the father, and He will give you another Counselor (another prophet) to be with you forever (until the Last Day)."*; (John 15:26): *"But when the Counselor comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness to me.";* (John 16:7): *"Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you..."*; (John 16:12-15): *"I have yet many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you*

the things that are to come. He will glorify me for he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

These above verses from the Bible prove one thing that Jesus (pbuh) expected someone to continue his unfinished mission (the worship of One True God). Whom Jesus (pbuh) called "Eli" or "Elio" in his Aramaic language which corresponds to "Elohem" for the Jews and "Allah" for the Arabs (Muslims). He anticipated the advent of a Counselor and Spirit of truth like him whose words are true (coming from God), but not the Holy Ghost as claimed by authorities of the churches. The one who would come is a man like Jesus (pbuh) with flesh and bones, a prophet like him not the spirit of a different nature, which cannot be seen.

Since the Christians claimed that the Holy Ghost is one of Trinity, whom they believed to be one of the Godhead, then their argument that this Spirit of truth is the same as the Holy Ghost is untenable. John (16:12-15) above clearly explained the Spirit of truth as one who is dependent on God. The words *"for he will not speak on his authority but whatever he hears he will speak"* meant nothing more than a subservient servant who is going to fulfill his Master's (God's) Will and he can never be God, for God is a master unto Himself.

Further, Jesus (pbuh) said, that the spirit of truth will foretell and glorify him by taking his message from his unfinished mission and teach it to the people. All the above sayings were inspired by God and all were fulfilled by Prophet Muhammad (pbuh).

Again, the contents of the Qur'an came from Allah through the agency of angel Gabriel; the circumstances and the manner how Muhammad (pbuh) received it has a profound resemblance with the prophecy in Isaiah (29:12): *"And when they give the book (scroll) to one who cannot read", saying "Read this", he says, "I cannot read"*. It means that he will not speak of his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak. And when Jesus (pbuh) said, *"he will glorify me for he will take what is mine and declare it to you,"* becomes all the more decisive, in that, the message of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was in no way different message but the same in essence, intent and purpose as the previous messages which call for the worship of the Only True God (Allah). Further, Jesus (pbuh) was glorified in the Qur'an by his name "Jesus" 25 times and that the whole chapter 19 of the Qur'an is named after his mother "Mary".

Reminders in the Qur'an

Finally, these fitting reminders from the Qur'an are for those who will pervert the meanings of the previous messages.

"O children of Israel! call to mind the (special) favor which I bestowed upon you, and I shall fulfil My Covenant with you, and fear none but Me." (Qur'an, 2:40)

" And believe in what I reveal, confirming the revelation which is with you, and be not the first to reject faith therein, nor sell My Signs for a small price and fear Me, and Me alone." (Qur'an, 2:41)

"And cover not Truth with falsehood, nor conceal the Truth when ye know (what it is)." (Qur'an, 2:42)

"Then woe to those who write the Book with their own hands, and then say: 'This is from Allah, to traffic with it for a miserable price! Woe to them for what their hands do write, and for the gain they make thereby'." (Qur'an 2:79)

Conclusion

I conclude with the strongest conviction that **Isaiah** (9:6) refers to the advent of **Prophet Mohammad (pbuh)**, the overwhelming evidence of which is as clear as day light. No mount of logic can refute such a claim, not even by those who are out to downplay Islam or those who are jaundiced against the prophet of Arabia. No other prophet can authoritatively claim this prophecy except Muhammad (pbuh), the son of Abdullah whose roots came from the famous Quraish tribe of Makkah, the origin of which was from the Kedar tribe, the second son of Prophet Ismael (pbuh), and who incidentally was the first son of Prophet Abraham (pbuh).

"A PROPHET LIKE MOSES" (Series - II)

Prophecy

One of those prominent prophecies for the advent of prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) can be found in the book of Deuteronomy (18:18-19):

"I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brethren; and I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. And whoever will not give heed to my words which he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him."

Such of those who attend the Sunday Bible School will tell you at the impulse of the moment that the prophet referred to here was Jesus (peace be upon him). Similarly, Christian theologians including those with credentials of the highest eminence teach the same dogma because they are programmed to believe in. The Bible writers who were openly prejudiced, because of chauvinism, jingoism, jealousy, and their apparent patriotism and nationalism were include to favor Prophet Isaac (pbuh), the second son of Prophet Abraham (pbuh) bore to him by his first wife Sarah. They tried to conceal and deprive Prophet Ismael (pbuh) the right of the firstborn. However, they failed to change the context of (Deut. 21:15-17) which revealed the right of the firstborn child and the promise of God to *Hagar*, the mother of Ismael in Genesis (17:20) and in Genesis (21:15).

Prophet Ismael (pbuh), the first son of Prophet Abraham (pbuh) by his second wife Hagar (Genesis 16:3 and Genesis 16:11) was given a very limited historical account in the Bible. Described as the son of a maid, who together with his mother was banished and settled in the wilderness of *Paran* (present name is Makkah). He was later given an Egyptian wife by his mother (Genesis 21:21), and, out of this union, he got twelve sons who later became rulers of their respective tribes (Genesis 25:13-16). Most prominent among them (Ismaelites) was the *Kedar* tribe of which the *Quraish* tribe of Makkah traced its origin, and of which, was the ancestor of the parents of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh).

About the Truth

Anyone who undertakes a judicious study about the Bible and approach the subject matter with an open mind, will certainly discover the truth of the roles played by both Prophets Ismael and Isaac (peace be upon them). Since both

were sons of Prophet Abraham (pbuh), therefore, their descendants were brethren to each other; Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was through Prophet Ismael (pbuh) and similarly, Prophet Jesus (pbuh) was through Prophet Isaac (pbuh).

The prophecies in the Bible, e.g., that of Deuteronomy, obviously, unveil the truth and that those beliefs which were considered absolute truths were, in fact, false. For, indeed, no other prophets who followed Prophet Moses (pbuh) were worthy of honor in any respect, except Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), the direct descendant of Prophet Ismael (pbuh) and the progeny of Prophet Abraham (pbuh).

Explanations

1. "I will raise up a prophet for them like you from among their brethren." It is explicit that the prophet who would come must neither come from the children of Israel nor from among themselves, but rather, would come from their brethren (from the descendants of Ismael, pbuh).

2. "...and I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him." Obviously, the prophet who would come could not speak by himself other than what he would be told to say. This process of putting the words in his mouth is for the listener to repeat or parrot the words exactly as he hears them from the speaker. In other words, someone echoes another's words (voices). This clearly indicates Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), God's words being revealed to him (through the agency of angel Gabriel), had a unique and striking resemblance with another prophecy in the Bible (Isaiah 29:12): "Or if you give the scroll to someone who cannot read, and say read this please, he will answer, I do not know how to read."

Besides, this prophecy couldn't be attributed to Prophet Jesus (pbuh) because the Bible says that "Jesus grew in wisdom." whereupon, we read in the Bible that as a young man, he used to argue among the Pharisees and the Teachers of the law.

3. "Whoever will not give heed to my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him." This does not only point to a particular prophet, but also, describes specifically the kind of book (revelation) received by the prophet. That the words (commands) which the prophet would speak were conditioned as being "in the name of God". For one thing, no other book of revelation in the history of religion was written like that of the Qur'an which is unique in itself because all the 114 chapters, except for one, are preceded by

"In the Name of God, the Beneficent, the Merciful."

Further Analysis (Comparison)

Further analysis regarding the circumstances surrounding the lives of Moses, Jesus and Muhammad (peace be upon them) in relation with (Deut. 18:18): **"I will raise up a prophet for them like you (Moses)..."**

1. **Birth** - Both Moses and Muhammad (pbuh) were born normally, while Jesus (pbuh) was an extraordinary. (see Matt. 1:18).
2. **Civil Status** - Both married and raised children, while Jesus (pbuh) remained a bachelor.
3. **Revelation** - Both received revelations (Torah or Law to Moses and Qur'an to Muhammad (pbuh), while Jesus (pbuh) according to the book of Matthew (5:17), came only to confirm the law and the prophets but did not bring a new law (revelation).
4. **Status as Prophets** - Both were accepted as prophets by their own people, while Jesus (pbuh), was rejected. (see Luke 3:23, Matt. 10:5-6 and John 18:36).
5. **Status as Citizens** - Both were kings, established governments and brought laws for their subjects to follow. Both were acknowledged as religious, spiritual, political and military leaders. On the other hand, the fact that Jesus (pbuh) came to uphold the law and the prophets yet his disciples were not prepared to practice his teachings for he had to submit to the laws of Caesar according to Luke (20:25).
6. **Death** - Both died a natural death and were buried, while Jesus (pbuh) according to Luke (24:50) and Mark (15:37) met a violent death. However, in another source, we read a different view which is totally in contradiction with the established Christian doctrine. The prayers of Jesus (pbuh) in Gethsemane asking for his safety according to Matthew (26:39) and Luke (22:42-43) were in fact answered. He was saved by God, as being confirmed in Hebrew (5:7) which made his story different from that of the well-established doctrine. In fact, Jesus (pbuh) was neither crucified nor killed by the Jews, rather, he was saved by God, which incidentally, confirmed by the Qur'an in Surah "An-Nisaa," (4:157-158).

7. **Finally** - Most Christians today believe Jesus (pbuh) to be God or Son of God. Therefore, how could anyone compare a mere prophet (e.g., Moses (pbuh) to a Son of God or to a God?

Conclusion

The Biblical and logical evidences are incontrovertible proofs that the prophecy found in Deuteronomy (18:18-19) exclusively and conclusively points to the coming of **Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)**. The same is the case with the other evidences found in the Bible hold so much weight that it becomes more potent and incontestible that the scale of prophecies clearly points in favor of the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) in a glowing tribute.

"THE LORD OF THE PROPHET DAVID (PBUH)" **(Series – III)**

If one studies the Bible and approach the subject objectively will be surprised to know that the established truths of the churches since centuries are preposterous, absurd and puerile false. For, which they are used. They must stand by their meaning direct and plain to be understood. That the original words in the Bible need not be rephrased, or hidden in group of words that convey different meaning. Remember that Almighty God (Allah), the Creator, is the Ultimate Truth: He is not the author of confusion.

Prophecy

One of the most striking prophecies in the Bible for the advent of Muhammad (pbuh) is found in the book of Psalm (110:1)

"The Lord says to my Lord: 'Sit at my right hand, till I make your enemies your footstool.'"

It is quoted in the Gospels of Matthew (22:44), Mark (12:36) and Luke (20:42). In most translated versions of the Bible in different languages, two name (Lords) are preceded by a capital letter "L" which implies that both were the same in all respects. Thus, "The Lord says to my Lord." According to this, if the first 'Lord' is God, then the second 'Lord' is also God. Nothing is more convenient as an argument for the Christian missionaries than to say: the speaker and the spoken to, are Gods. Therefore, according to it, David (pbuh) knew two Gods! But nothing is more illogical than this reasoning! Had Prophet David (pbuh) written, "The Lord said to my Lord", he would have made himself ridiculous, for then he would have admitted himself to be a slave of two Lords (Gods), without even mentioning their proper names. Further it would mean that David's second Lord had taken refuge with his first Lord. Now, you would understand how different writers manipulated the words in the Bible to convey different message to suit their beliefs.

Prophet David (pbuh), being the king was never a servant of any human being whatsoever during his time. It is unthinkable Abraham, Isaac or Jacob (pbuh) for whom the usual and reasonable term was "*Father*" or "*Father Abraham*". Equally inconceivable is that David (pbuh) would use the appellation "*my Lord*" for any of his descendants, for whom, too, the usual term would be "*Son*" and "*my Son*". Thus, if it was Jesus (pbuh) who was referred to

as "my Lord", clearly Prophet David (pbuh) should have said: "*The Lord said to my Son*", because Prophet Jesus (pbuh) was his descendant, he could not say that he was his son.

Of course, the Pharisees (Jewish Rabbins) and commentators of the Old Testament understood "my Lord" to be the *Messiah* (Jesus) who would descend from David (pbuh) himself. Hence, they replied to the question put to them by Jesus (pbuh) as quoted in Mathew (22:41 and 42) and from the other Gospels. But, Prophet Jesus (pbuh) flatly repudiated the Jews when he asked them a second question in Mathew (22:43 – 45): *He said to them, "How is it then David, speaking by the spirit, calls him "Lord"? If then David calls him "Lord", how he can be his son?"*

David's Lord

Indeed, there remains besides God, no other conceivable being who could be David's Lord, except the noblest and the highest human race. It is quite intelligible to assume that in the sight of God and by His mercy, there must be a man who is the noblest, the most praised and the most coveted of all men. Surely the seers and the prophets of old knew his holy personage.

The question of Prophet Jesus (pbuh) in Mathew (22:45) put the Jews into silence, for they could find no answer. Further, by his expression, certainly, he excluded himself from that title (my Lord). The second lord mention was neither Jesus (pbuh) nor was the second God. Furthermore, it becomes very decisive in that, it would awaken the Christians to place Jesus (pbuh) in his right status as the holy servant of God. They would renounce the extravagant character ascribed to him, much to his own disgust, someone to be worshipped or considered to be God. In the book of Mark (7:6-7), Jesus (pbuh) said: "*This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.*" It was because he wanted them to understand that he was not God or one to be worshipped. Besides, you cannot find on Jesus sayings "*You worship me,*" instead, he asked people to worship God, the Creator.

One cannot imagine a teacher who seeing his pupils unable to answer his question, should keep silent, unless he is himself ignorant like them and is not able to give a solution. But Jesus (pbuh) was not ignorant or malevolent. The present Gospels of the churches do not report the answer of Jesus (pbuh) to their question, "Who was the Lord of David?"

The Last Prophet

It was less than 600 years after Prophet Jesus (pbuh), that Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), the last messenger of God and the seal of the prophets was sent to mankind. Thus, God's blessings of both branches of Abraham's family tree (Ishmael and Isaac) peace be upon them, was completed fulfilled.

Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) who was sent as the last Prophet and messenger of God was not an Israelite, but he was an Ishmaelite who could not be the son of Prophet David (pbuh). David (pbuh) calls him *"my Lord"*, in Psalm (110:1), *"the Prince of peace and the wonderful counselor"* in Isaiah (9:6), *"the Prophet Moses"* in Deuteronomy (18:18) and *"that Prophet awaited by the Jews"* according to the book of John (1:20-21). Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was also the one referred to by Prophet Jesus (pbuh) as the *"Counselor and the spirit of truth"* who would come after him (e.g., in the Gospel of John, chapter 14, 15 and 16). In fact, Jesus (pbuh) was the "other counselor" and he had been awaiting for "another counselor", who would continue his unfinished mission and glorify him after he has gone away. This Prophet (pbuh) was a man like him, a prophet like him, a spirit of truth like him, and a Spirit or Holy Spirit with human flesh and bones.

Conclusion

I, therefore, conclude in all humanity and candor, with strongest beliefs that the overwhelming evidence found in the Bible prove conclusively, that the one referred to by Prophet David (pbuh) as "my Lord" was no other than **Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)**, the fulfiller of the everlasting Covenant of Allah (God) made to Prophet Ishmael (pbuh), and the promise of God to Hagar (Ishmael's mother). Indeed, Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was the true and rightful inheritor of the Divine Legacy bestowed to the Ishmaelite (Arabs), being the brethren of the Israelites (Jews). He brought **ISLAM** (the religion of total submission, surrender and obedience to the Will of Allah) which confirm all previous Messages, and thenceforth, put on the shoulders of the Muslims to propagate to all mankind.

"TO HIM SHALL BE THE OBEDIENCE OF THE PEOPLES" (Series – IV)

Jacob Gathered His Tribe

Prophet Jacob, peace be upon him (pbuh), before his death summoned his twelve sons and their families at his deathbed (Genesis 49). He blesses them and told the future of his whole tribe.

Prophecy

This prophecy may be regarded as the nucleus of these scriptures which can be found in Genesis (49:10):

"The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he (Shiloh) comes to whom it belongs; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples."

In many versions of the Bible, *Shiloh* is written instead of the pronoun *he*. Incidentally, Shiloh is also a name of a town, but it is interesting to note that another meaning of it is peace, tranquility, e.g. **Islam**. Shiloh refers to a person who would come and bring peace to the people. So the Israelite Prophethood would stop as soon as the **he (Shiloh)** comes. Another warning to Israelites to cease as a nation before God is foretold in the book of Jeremiah (31:36): *"If this fixed order departs from before me, says the Lord, then shall the descendants of Israel cease from being a nation before me forever."* In fact, the above prophecies were corroborations of God's threat to the Israelite nation prophesied in the book of Deuteronomy (32:21): *"They have stirred me to jealousy with what is no god; they have provoked me with their idols. So I will stir them to jealousy with those who are no people; I will provoke them with a foolish nation."*

The Jews who regard themselves as the *chosen people* and like to think of themselves as a *superior race* were, in fact, described by Moses (pbuh) as stiff-necked, arrogant and rebellious people in Deuteronomy (31:27). They have been chauvinistic, unyielding and idol worshippers. The truth was that the Jews have been jealous of Ishmael (pbuh) because they knew very well that in him, the Covenant of God was made, concluded and sealed through his circumcision (Deuteronomy 17:13, 17:24-26). It was out of this rancor that their scribes and

doctors of law have corrupted the Scriptures. They have intentionally removed the name Ishmael and inserted Isaac instead, thus, denying the existence of the former and depriving him of his legitimate right as the firstborn. However, the descriptive epithet "thy only son" in Genesis (22:2 and 22:12), has unveiled the truth. It was Ishmael who was "the only son" of Prophet Abraham (pbuh) when Isaac was not yet born. In fact, Prophet Ishmael (pbuh) was 14 years older than Prophet Isaac (pbuh) according to Genesis (16:16 and 21:5).

God's Wisdom and Justice

God, seeing their inequity and injustice punished the Israelites by shifting the *scepter* and *ruler's staff* (Gen. 49:10), to the Arabs (descendants of Prophet Ishmael [pbuh]) who were then considered as a foolish nation. A western commentator consumed of jealousy, intellectual dishonesty, bigotry, contempt, with certain vile and venom in his tongue likened the Arabs as brutes with human skins. For the Arabs before Islam were marauders, hence, they were called a foolish nation by those who were hostile towards them.

Moreover, in the book of Matthew (21:42-44), we read the following prophecy by Prophet Jesus (pbuh): (Verse 42): Jesus said to them: *"Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner;'"* (Verse 43): *"Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a nation bringing forth the fruit thereof;"* (Verse 44): *"And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken, but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder."*

God, through His infinite wisdom and justice, commissioned Muhammad (pbuh) to be His Messenger. God conferred on him and to his nation (the Muslim Ummah) the spiritual honor to propagate His religion – ISLAM. Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), the seal of all the prophets brought with him a fiery law (Quran) with universal and comprehensive characters for the ultimate guidance of mankind. Up to the time of Jesus (pbuh), the Israelites were anticipating for "the prophet like unto Moses" prophesied in Deuteronomy (18:18) and in John (1:19-21) when they asked John the Baptist: "Are you that Prophet?" He answered "No." They were expecting a prophet who would come with a temporal power to restore the kingdom of David and who would gather the dispersed Israelites unto Canaan.

Fulfillment of the Prophecies

The phrase "Scepter and ruler's staff" means the royal authority and power of a sovereign. And the phrase "**until he (Shiloh) comes to whom it**

belongs" and **"to him shall be the obedience of the peoples,"** means the one who possessed the sovereign power (royal authority) and the prophecy (prophethood) to whom the obedience of the peoples belong.

Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was the fulfillment of the prophecies of the earlier prophets. He was the one to whom God's Revelations throughout history were culminated and perfected, thus forming a universal religion as ordained by God for mankind to follow.

Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) replaced the Jewish worn-out royal authority and prophecy (scepter and the ruler's staff) which was adulterated, and the corrupt priesthood who were burdensome and oppressive. He removed all forms of idol worship from a greater part of the globe. He has brought with him the purist monotheistic religion which is **ISLAM** – the religion of total surrender, submission and obedience to the Only One True God (Allah). He has established the kingdom of God on Earth by producing the desired fruits prophesied by Prophet Jesus (pbuh) in Matthew (21:42-44). In fact, in less than a century, Islam spread throughout Africa, Asia and Europe.

God (Allah) says in His Book:

"...This day have I perfected your religion for you, completed my favour upon you, and have chosen for you Islam as your religion..."

(Quran, chapter 5, verse 3)

What George Bernard Shaw said about Muhammad (pbuh):

"He must be called the saviour 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 much needed peace and happiness." (The Genuine Islam, Singapore, Vol. 1, No. 8, 1936).

Conclusion

I conclude with honest conviction that no other prophets of God rendered so great and admirable service to man than **Muhammad (pbuh)**. He was the one prophesied by the earlier prophets. He was the noblest and the greatest prophet of all times.

"THE ORACLE CONCERNING ARABIA" (Series – V)

The Head Prophecy

Prophecy Isaiah (pbuh) lived during the seventh century before the advent of Prophet Jesus (pbuh). He, as one of the prophets of God prophesied about the coming of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) in the Bible. Of the many prophecies one was the "**Oracle concerning Arabia**" in Isaiah (21: 13-17) which is self-explanatory:

"The oracle concerning Arabia. In the thickets in Arabia you will lodge O caravans of De'danites. To the thirsty bring water, meet the fugitive with bread, O inhabitants of the land of Tema, for they have fled from the swords, from the drawn sword, from the bent bow, and from the press of battle. For thus the Lord said to me, 'Within a year, according to the years of a hireling, all the glory of Kedar will come to an end; and the remainder of the archers of the mighty min of the sons of Kedar will be few; for the LORD, the God of Israel, has spoken.'"

The oracle means a discourse or statement as an answer or a decision given, though ambiguous, usually accepted as an authoritative opinion by wise men whom people of earlier times considered them as prophets of God. For the record, **Kedar** found in Genesis (25:13) was the second son of Prophet Ismael (pbuh) who lived in the wilderness of **Paran** (early name of the whole of Makkah) in Genesis (21:21). The first part of the prophecy was about the inhabitants of **Tema** (old name for Madinah) who met the fleeing people fresh from battle (e.g., Muslim fighters and non-combatants during the early periods of Islam), coming from the parts of Makkah, they were persecuted by the same people (non-Muslims) of the Kedar tribe later known as the powerful **Quraish** tribe. However, the people of Tema not only received the fleeing people heartily but also gave them all-out support and wholeheartedly embraced Islam.

The second part was about the glory of Kedar coming to an end. This part coincide with the victorious conquest of Maddah by the Muslim army from Madinah (Tema) after they became strong and established. The makkans never resisted the powerful army of Muslims, instead most of the sons of Kedar (non-Muslims) laid their arms and embraced Islam. The above prophecy remarkably coincide with the earlier prophecy in Deuteronomy (33:2) ***He said, "The Lord came from Sinai, and downed from Se'ir upon us, he shone forth from Mount Paran, he came from the ton thousands of holy ones, with a fiery***

law (flaming fire) at his right hand." What referred to as Mount Paran is similar to the mountain of Makkah as is indicated in the geography of the Arabian Peninsula. The expression "he shone forth from Mount Paran," implies the Qur'an and the Law given to Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). And the expression "he came from the ten thousands of holy ones, with a fiery law (flaming fire) at his right hand" was the exact number of min who accompanied Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) when he triumphantly returned to Makkah from his exile in Madinah.

Shifting of Prophethood

As pointed out earlier in the fourth article of the series, that, by the Grace of Allah, through His justice and wisdom, the royal authority and the prophecy or the spiritual honor to propagate the religion of God was shifted from the Israelites to the Ismaelites (the progeny of Prophet Ismael [pbuh]), the firstborn of Prophet Abraham (pbuh). The shifting of prophethood from the Israelites to the Ismaelites have been prophesied by the earlier propheis, like Moses, Jacob, David, Isaiah, Jeremiah and others of whom mentioned has been made in the previous issues. For Jesus (pbuh), the prophecy in Mathew (21: 43) serve a good example which like the others, fulfilled and culminated in the person of Muhammad (pbuh): *"And whosoever shall fall on this stone (corner stone) shall be broken, but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder."* The unprecedented spread of Islam for less than a century had, in fact, fulfilled the above prophecy. Many nations succumbed to the irresistible beauty and many peoples from the greater part of Africa to far Asia and Europe.

Other Prophecies by Prophet Isaiah (pbuh)

Another prophecies are found in Isaiah (42:1;4 and11) which suggest very clear ideas about the Arabian Prophet (pbuh) and the vivid descriptions of Arab inhabitants in the following examples; (Verse1): ***"Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights"***; (Verse 4): ***"He will not fail or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth..."***; (Verse 11): ***"Let the desert and its cities lift up their voice, the villages that Kedar inhabits; let the inhabitants of Sela sing for joy, let them shout from the top of the mountains. Let them give glory to the LORD, and declare his praise in the coast-Lands."*** By specifying "Kedar inhabitants" clearly refers to the Arabs (Ismaelites) whose prophet came from among them was Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) and whose message **Islam** that gave complete justice and peace to the

people. The religion of submission (Islam) was chosen by God Himself and conferred the prophethood to Muhammad (pbuh) to whom His soul delights. Peace which is the meaning of Islam religion is the natural result of Justice. Also, the prophecy mentioned about the coasts-lands that signify those coasts around the Arabian Peninsula and the Medeteranian Sea especially along north Africa. The people who inhabit these places have forgotten their original languages and adopted the language of the Qur'an which is pure Arabic in reference to (Isaiah 29:10-12).

Prophecy of the Glorious house of God in Makkah

Again, another very noticeable prophecies are those of chapter 60 of the book of Isaiah. To Quoting *portions from the chapter* (Verse 1): "***Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory o the LORD has risen upon you.***"; (Verse 3-4): "***And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. Lift up your eyes round about, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far, and your daughters shall be carried in the arms.***"; (Verse 7): "***All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered to you, the rams of Neba-ioth shall minister to you; they shall come up with acceptance on my altar, and I will glorify my glorious house.***"; (Verse 11): "***Your gates shall be open continually; day and night they shall not be shut; that min may bring to you the wealth of the nations, with their kings led in procession...***"

You will notice that every class of Muslims all over the world visits the Masjid Al-Haram (Holy Mosque) in Makkah the whole year round. Its gates are never closed (during 24 hours period) because rulers and their people enter it continuously bight and day. It is the Glorious House of Allah (God), whose glory, majesty and splendor are unparalleled in the world.

Conclusion

Therefore, nothing remains, not even an iota o doubt, that the above prophecies which mentioned about the places, the people, the revelation and the glorious house of God have, by every reason and logic, confirm the prophethood of **Muhammad (pbuh)** in no uncertain terms.

"THE MESSAGE OF THE COMENANT IN WHOM YOU DELIGHT" (Series – VI)

The Prophecy

The last book of the Hebrew Scripture bears the name Malachi. The word "Malakh" in Hebrew and the word "Malak" in Arabic as well as the "Angelos" in Greek from which the English word "Angel" was derived signify a "messenger", one who was commissioned to deliver a message.

The prophecy found in Malachi (3:1) might have been written during the early period of the fourth century before the Christian Era (C.E.):

"Behold, I send my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts."

The Corruption of the Hebrew Scripture as Quoted in the three Gospels

I purposely quoted hereunder similar prophecies under the name of the first three Gospels writers of the save RSV Bible who were supposedly "**inspired by the Holy Ghost**" in order to see for yourselves the **intentional tampering** of the Scriptures: (Matthew 11:10-11): This is he of whom it is written, "Behold, I send my messenger **before thy face, who shall prepare thy way before thee...**" Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has risen no one greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. **Have you noticed the big difference from the original prophecy in Malachi (3:1)?** Matthew's gospels had the tendency to prove the fulfillment of some particular passages written in the Hebrew scripture. He tried to connect almost every passage in the life of Jesus (pbuh) but he not only proved himself biased but lack of understanding of the Hebrew as language. The corruption in the original text was done deliberately by substituting "**before me**" with "**before thy face**" and adding the words "**who shall prepare thy way before thee**", Matthew and the two others and /or their "accomplices" **have obviously corrupted the whole text of Malachi (3:1)** Their collective objective was clear; in fact, they wanted to convey a different meaning of the prophecy. The original text, tell us that God (the Lord of hosts) was the speaker, who was telling the people (believers) that He was sending His messenger (the messenger of the covenant who was their own Lord) to prepare the way for him (God). Hence, the words "**whom you seek**" and "**whom you delight**" referred to the messenger of the covenant.

However, the Bible tamperers succeeded in changing the meaning in the original text by inserting the words "**who shall prepare thy way before thee**", thus creating a "**second messenger**" whose way was to be prepared by the "**first messenger**". To complete their scheme, they wrote about John the Baptist as being commissioned to prepare the way for another messenger, carefully paving the way for the accommodation of Jesus (pbuh) in the scenes in order to serve their purpose.

About the Gospel of Mark since it was identical with the first and the third Gospels. he had committed the same errors as much as the other two Gospels writers have committed. But what was worst, Mark had attributed the original prophecy to Prophet Isaiah (pbuh) instead of Prophet Malachi (pbuh) who was the real author. The Gospel of Mark (1:2) reads as follows: *As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, who shall prepare thy way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."* This shows the complete ignorance of Mark about the Hebrew scripture. **This misquotation by Mark and the other contradictions and errors are so serious that it put the authenticity of the whole Bible in a BIG QUESTION MARK.**

The same was true with Luke, who himself, like Mark was not among the twelve apostles appointed by Jesus (pbuh) had also committed the same errors. (Luke7:27-28): *"Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, who shall prepare thy way before thee. I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John; yet he who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he. "*

Rational

Let us open our eyes and look into brighter light of reason. The messenger sent by God was not one who would prepare a high way for another messenger but one who was commissioned to establish a good religion. His mission was to remove all the obstacles in the way between God and His creation and to fill the gaps and chasms in this great path, so that it would be smooth and free from any danger. The messenger was commissioned to abrogate all those religions in the pasts which has been already adulterated by men with anew and invigorated precepts not for the Jews alone but for all mankind. The "way" was to be the shortest road to "reach" God; the simplest religion to "worship" Him, and the "safest" Faith, to remain ever pure and unblemished, that is free from superstition and stupid dogmas. It was a kind of road (a religion) that would lead people to believe in and worship the Only True God without having need of a kind of leadership of hundreds impostors of self-appointed guides. Above

all, the Messenger was to come suddenly to his temple and remove all kinds of idolatry, and inculcating to the believers the worship of the One True God.

According to the gospel of Matthew (11:14), Jesus (pbuh) is alluded to have said that John the Baptist was Elijah who would come, but which fact is foretold in Malachi (4:5-6) to take place some time before the day of Resurrection. John the Baptist was not the messenger sent to prepare the way because he did not prepare anything for God (the Lord of hosts). He did not abrogate any of the law of Moses nor did add a little to it. In fact, he was rejected as a prophet and occupied himself only with half a dozen of followers baptizing the crowds in the river. As to baptism, it is the ablution or the old Jewish practice of washing and hardly considered as a religion but the Churches has established it as a mysterious institution of the Sacrament of Baptism. Moreover, it was obvious that the two are in no way connected with the prophecy of Malachi. If it was true that John the Baptist (pbuh) was the appointed as messenger to prepare a way for Jesus (pbuh), then there was on point and wisdom for him to stay away from Jesus (pbuh). He ought to have immediately followed and adhered to Jesus (pbuh) when he had seen and known him, but he never has done it.

Further, the Churches have always believed that the Messenger who would prepare the way was John the Baptist. But since the Messenger foretold was **one not two**, so therefore, neither John the Baptist nor Jesus was referred to in the prophecy. The Churches believed that Jesus (pbuh) is God, then he could not be employed to prepare the way before the face of God. And if Jesus (pbuh) were God who have this prophecy to Malachi (pbuh), then, who was that other God before whose face the way was to be prepared?. **The claimed that it was Jesus (pbuh) who prepared the way for the Trinitarian Christianity, is absolutely baseless.**

Furthermore, the Messenger indicated in the prophecy has to be a Messenger of God's religion, the Lord Commander and the Messenger of the Covenant. Besides, he is to be distinguished to come suddenly to his temple or mosque and he is to be looked for and sought by the people, and is greatly coveted and desired. **Who could be this man who was the Messenger of the Covenant and whom the people delight?**

Conclusion

The most logical answer to the above question is no other than **Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)**. Indeed, no other prophet could ever have fitted with all those sterling qualities for a glorious prophet except him. He was the Messenger of the covenant in the fulfillment of God's Promise to his forefathers, Prophet

Abraham and Prophet Ismael, peace be upon them. He was the only prophet and Lord who had succeeded in establishing a religion for all mankind unparalleled in justice and peace anywhere in the world.

"The Prophet" (Series VII)

The Prophecy

The Jews were eagerly waiting for the coming of *"the Prophet"* prophesied by Moses (pbuh) in the book of Deuteronomy (18:18-19) up to the time of Jesus (pbuh). They sent delegations to inquire about John the Baptist, whose confession is recorded in the Gospel of John (1:20-21):

He confessed, he did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" And he answered, "No."

Contradiction between Jesus and John the Baptist, peace be upon them.

Christians regard John the Baptist (pbuh) as a subordinate and herald of Jesus (pbuh). Christian teachings show Jesus (pbuh) as the object of John's confession and prophecy. However, consider the following points of contradictions between Jesus and John the Baptist, peace be upon them, in their separate declarations according to the Bible. **Can anyone form a correct conclusion from these Gospels full of statements opposing and denying each other?** The charges are exceedingly grave and serious because the persons involved are no ordinary mortals but prophets created miraculously in the womb by the Spirit. The narrators (Gospel writers) as alleged were those inspired by the Holy Spirit, and the records believed to be revelation from God! Yet all are lies, false statements, spurious revelations, but still, formed the part of the sacred Scripture of the Christians.

Jesus (pbuh) is said to have declared that John the Baptist (pbuh) was the *"reincarnation"* of Prophet Elijah (pbuh) according to Matthew (11:13-14; 17:11-12) and Luke (1:17). However, John the Baptist (pbuh) has expressly revoked Jesus (pbuh) on this regard when he told the Jewish delegation in John (1:20-21): *"he was not Elijah, nor Christ, nor the Prophet."* Further, God said in Malachi (3:1), that Prophet Elijah (pbuh) will be sent only just before the coming of the great and terrible day (Day of Judgement), which statement, renders Jesus words in the above cited Gospels to be interpolations.

Furthermore, we read in the First Gospel that John the Baptist did not know the mission of Jesus (pbuh) according to Matthew (11:3). John said to Jesus: *"Are you he who is to come, or shall we look for another?"* In the Fourth Gospel John (pbuh) do not even know Jesus (pbuh) personally until he was

baptized according to John (1:31): *"I myself did not know him (Jesus)."* Whereas, in the Third Gospel it was reported that both their mothers were related according to Luke (1:36 and 1:39-45) and personally known to each other.

On the other hand, it was obvious that Jesus (pbuh) knew his cousin very well according to Matthew (11:11) when he said:

"Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has risen on one greater than John the Baptist." Did Jesus (pbuh) really make such declaration? Was John the Baptist greater than Abraham, Moses, David and Jesus himself? If this particular statement of Jesus (pbuh) was true, then the greatness of John can only consist in his absolute abnegation, self-denial and refraining from the world with all its luxuries and pleasure. Or did his greatness consist –as the Churches will have it –in being a cousin, contemporary and witness of Jesus? **We believe that the value and greatness of a man, as well as of as a Prophet, can be determined and appreciated by his work.** We have no absolute knowledge of the number of persons converted by John the Baptist through his sermons and purification by baptism.

Ascertaining the Identity of "the Prophet" referred by John the Baptist

Now remains the task of ascertaining the identity of *"the Prophet"* sought by the Jews within they confronted John the Baptist (pbuh). First, I have to present to you the following arguments: (1) In the book of Luke (3:16) and in Mark (1:7), John the Baptist, said: ***" And he preached, saying: After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I Have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the holy Spirit and with fire."***

The words *" After me comes he who is mightier than I"* present a very decisive factor that excludes completely Jesus (pbuh) from being the foretold Prophet because Jesus and John (peace be upon them), were contemporaries who were born in one and the same year. It also indicates the future to be at some indefinite distance which in the prophetic language is equivalent to one or more cycles of time of about five to six centuries where there appears one great Luminary Soul as had been proven in the history of true religion (i.g., from Abraham, Moses, David, Jesus and Muhammad). However, we believe that John the Baptist introduced Jesus (pbuh) as the true Messiah but that there was one coming after him, who was so glorious and dignified, and mightier than himself who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire (Luke 3:16).

(2) It was not Jesus (pbuh) who could be intended by John the Baptist because if it were, then he would have followed him (Jesus) as his disciple and

subordinate. But instead, John continued preaching, baptizing, receiving disciples, scolding the Jewish hierarchy, and foretelling the coming of another Prophet who was "**mightier**" (Mark1:7) than himself without taking the least notice of the presence of Jesus (pbuh).

(3) The elevation of Jesus (pbuh), first, to a son of God, and then, God (second person of Godhead) by the Christian Churches when, in fact, he was circumcised like every Israelite and baptized by John like an ordinary Jew, proved the case to be inconsistent and absurd. There was no point in baptizing Jesus (pbuh) in the Jordan river as an ordinary Jew, if he was the one referred to by John as being "**mightier**" than himself, more so that he was "**not worthy to stoop and untie the thong of the thong of his sandals,**" and that this mighty prophet would "**baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire.**" Moreover, the statement "**to fulfil righteousness**" reported to have spoken by Jesus (pbuh) appeared to be an interpolation in that, how and why all the righteousness would be accomplished by them if Jesus were baptized?

(4) In the book of Matthew (11:3), John was ignorant about the gift of prophecy in Jesus (pbuh) until he heard it while he was in prison. John sent his disciples to ask him: "**Are you he (that prophet) who is to come, or should we look for another?**" This statement invalidated and made meaningless John's exclamation towards Jesus (pbuh) as reported in the book of John (1:29): Seeing Jesus coming towards him, he exclaimed: "**Look the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.**"

Further, the answer given by Jesus (pbuh) to the question of John (pbuh) was ambiguous and obscure. If Jesus (pbuh) was the messenger of the Covenant and the Dominator or the Adon (Lord) of all the prophets, why he did not declare it openly. Indeed, it must have been a criminal hand which erased and effaced the words of Jesus (pbuh) from the original Gospel Jesus ought to have, to say the least, shown himself straightforward, and to have declared: "**John is the Eliah who was sent as a precursor to prepare the way for me!** Jesus (pbuh) had never declared this for the simple reason that it contradicts the prophecy in Malachi (3:1).

Furthermore, if Jesus (pbuh) were the Lamb of God to take away the sin of the world, then John's preaching would be ridiculous and futile! The very nature and essence of his mission was to preach penance-that is to say, every man is responsible for his own sin and must bear it, or take away by himself through repentance. The baptism was only washing (ablution) as a sign of the remission of sins, but it is the confession and the promise not to repeat the sin that which can take it away and not by any other means.

Has the "Lamb of God" really taken away the sin of the world? Look upon the dark pages of the "Ecclesiastical History" of numerous Churches and you

will discover the answer with a big NO! The "lambs" in the confessional-boxes (in the churches) can tell you by their groanings under the weight of the multi-colored, multi-ethnic, multi-facets, multi-dimensional and multi-farious sins loaded upon the shoulders that the 'Christians, in spite of their science and "advanced" civilization, have committed more horrible sins, murders, rapes, adulteries, robberies, wars, oppressions and insatiable greed for conquest and money than all the rest of the mankind put together.

(5) The assertion by the Churches that John's mission was to prepare the way for Jesus and the latter as a triumphant Conqueror coming suddenly to his temple in Jerusalem, and there establishes the religion of "*shalom*" (pbuh) and make Jerusalem more glorious than before as prophesied in Haggai (2:8) is to admit ignorance of historical facts. Jerusalem has never gained its original glory since the time of John and Jesus, peace be upon them.

Conclusion

I conclude that "*the Prophet*" awaited by the Jews was in truth **Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)**. The prophet who suddenly came to his temple with a "*fiery law*" in his hands and established the religion of **ISLAM (peace or shalom)**. He was the one whom John the Baptist claimed to be "*mightier*" than himself. He was, in fact the "*least*" among the family of prophets because he was the "*last*" and the "*youngest*," but the "*greatest*" (the **Adon**) of all the prophets since he was the most successful. Moreover, if during the time of Jesus (pbuh), what he said in Matthew (11:11) was true, "*that among those born of women there risen no greater than John*"; and what John said in Mark (1:7) was true, "*after me comes he who is mightier than I*," then, it was indeed Muhammad (pbuh) who was "*the prophet*" awaited by the Jews.

***"THE DESIRED OF ALL NATIONS
SHALL COME"
(Series VIII)***

Prophecies

(Haggai 2:6-7): "This is what the Lord Almighty says: In a little while I will once more shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. I will shake all nations, and 'the desired of all nations will come,' and 'I will fill this house with glory,' says the Lord Almighty."; (Haggai 2:9): "'The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house,' says the Lord Almighty. and 'in this place I will grant peace,' declares the Lord Almighty."

These prophecies manifest the prophthood of Muhammad (pbuh). Had Jesus (pbuh) been foretold about them, then, the writer of the Gospel of Matthew, who by *inspiration* recorded every prophecy he thought was connected with his Master that he found in the Old Testament, would have by no means likely passed over these prophecies unnoticed.

Let me quote the prophecy in Malachi (3:1) to provide the readers clearer understanding of the above prophecies, thus: *"Behold, I send my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the lord of hosts."*

The prophecies in (Haggai 2:6-7;2:9) and Malachi (3:1) are unique and have special relationship because they convey the same message delineating the advent of *"the prophet"* raised-up by God whom he declared to Moses (pbuh) in the book of Deuteronomy (18:18). It was *Prophet Mohammad (pbuh)*, the honest, trustworthy and praised-one (*Al-Ameen*) who was also described to come suddenly to his temple in (Makkah).

What was described in Malachi (3:1) as the messenger who will come suddenly to his temple has been also prophesied in the book of Isaiah (21:13-16) in a more detailed manner that has shown one of the most important historical accounts on the life of prophet Muhammad (pbuh). The event was the time when the Muslims were severely persecuted in Makkah and were forced to migrate to Madinah. However, just after more than a year they conquered Makkah upon their return from their exile which was rightly prophesied earlier in (Deuteronomy 33:2) that shows the culmination of the conquest of Makkah, thus: *"he came from the ten thousands of holy ones, with flaming fire at the right hand."* This was the exact number of people who accompanied Prophet

Muhammad (pbuh) when he triumphantly returned to Makkah with the *fiery law* (his message) in his hands – **the inimitable law of Islam full of justice for everyone, a universal and comprehensive message for all people and ages until the Last Day.**

The Glorious House of God

God said in the above prophecy of Haggai (2:6-7): *"and I will fill his house with glory,"* which refers to the house of God in Makkah (considered to be a temple of God) first built by prophet Abraham and his son Ismail, peace be upon them. It was also the same *"Glorious House of God"* described in chapter 60 of the book of Isaiah. So far, all the prophecies mentioned are related to Haggai (2:9) which says: *"' The Glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house,' says the Lord Almighty. And in this place 'I will grant peace,' declares the Lord almighty."*

By comparison, the glory of the House of God in Jerusalem is dwarfed by that of the House of God in Makkah more than anything else on earth by any human standard whose glory, majesty and splendour, is by far, unparalleled anywhere in the world. As regards peace, security and glory since time immemorial, while that in Jerusalem suffered turbulence and continues to be in the same state. The only short spell of tranquility that it enjoyed was way back during the reign of King Solomon (prophet Soleiman), peace be upon him.

Facing Makkah (Kaaba – Masjid Al-Haram) as the center of Prayer

Let me also add the following prophecy in Luke (24:49) where Jesus (pbuh) was quoted as saying: *"I am going to send you what my father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high"*

All that Jesus (pbuh) meant by his words above was to convey to the apostles to continue paying tributes to the City of Jerusalem (**House of God in Jerusalem – Masjid Al-Aqsa**) and turning their faces towards it until they are instructed by God to face (**Kaaba – Masjid Al-Haram**) the **House of God in Makkah**. Thus what should have been written in Luke (24:49) should have been the following words: *"I am going to send you 'Muhammad' what my father has promised; but continue to pay tribute to Jerusalem (stay in the city) until u have been instructed otherwise (clothed with power) to face makkah by God (from on high)."*

The above prophecy was fulfilled by prophet Muhammad (pbuh), after whose coming the respect and homage paid to Jerusalem was, in fact, shifted to

that of the House of God in Makkah. Hence, Muslims during prayers face Makkah where the Kaaba – Masjid Al-Haram is located, and which throughout history has remained a "*sanctuary*" for all people because "*peace*" reigned supreme in the area for all those who enter it ever since it was built.

Conclusion

The numerous prophecies cited are by no means out of context or coincidence. Right reason tells us that the prophecies taken from different books of the Bible spoken by different prophets at different times of history are not all coincidence. They are, in fact, cogent proofs which clearly point in no uncertain term about the coming of **Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)**.

"HE SHONE FORTH FROM MOUNT PARAN" (Series – IX)

Head Prophecy

"The Lord came from Sinai, and downed from Se'ir upon us; he shone forth from Mount Paran, he came from the ten thousands of holy ones, with flaming fire at his right hand."

The above prophecy, the blessings of Prophet Moses (pbuh) on the Israelites was reported in the book of **Deuteronomy (33:2)**. It is evident that the historical account of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), perfectly matched the above prophecy upon his triumphant return to Makkah when he was accompanied by approximately ten thousand followers.

Let me also quote the prophecy from the book of Habakkuk (3:3): **"God came from Teman, the Holy one from Mount Paran. His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise."**

Paran, the old name of Makkah

Mount Paran is consistently referred to the mountains of Makkah where prophet Ismael (pbuh) and his descendants settled (Genesis 21:21). The expression *"he shone forth from Mount Paran,"* meant Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) received revelation (the Qur'an-through the agency of angel Gabriel), and the words *"flaming fire" or "fiery law" is Islam* which Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) carried with exuding emotions.

Prophet Solomon (pbuh) in his discourse mentioned Muhammad (pbuh) by name.

Prophet Solomon (pbuh) described the features of his beloved in the, "Songs of Solomon" (5:10-16): *"My beloved is white and ruddy; the chiefest among the ten thousand; his head is as the most fine gold; his locks are bushy and black as a raven. His eyes are as the eyes of doves by the rivers of waters, washed with the milk, and fitly set. His cheeks are as a bed of spices, as sweet flowers; his lips like lilies, dropping sweet-smelling myrrh. His hands are as gold rings set with the beryl; his belly is as bright ivory overlaid with sapphires; his legs are as pillars of marble set upon sockets of fine gold, whose countenance is as Lebanon, excellent as the cedars; his mouth is most*

sweet. Yea, he is altogether "Lovely". This is my beloved, and this my friend, O daughters of Jerusalem".

The descriptions being poetic, yet portrayed the very nature of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). You will notice that Prophet Solomon (pbuh) mentioned him by name-Muhammad. The word "lovely" corresponds to "Mohammadim" in the Hebrew language. However, the more appropriate translation is "illustrious" or "the praised-one." The use of plural form of a word is traditional in the Hebrew language. Thus, the word Ellovah which is an appellation given to the Deity, is rendered by the plural form Ellohim, when God is spoken of. Similarly, Mohammadim is used when referred to Muhammad as a traditional practice accorded to important personage.

Additional Prophecy

In the book of Isaiah (21:7), we read the following: *"He saw two riders, one of them was a rider upon an ass, and the other a rider upon a camel, and he hearkened diligently with much head."*

There can be no two opinions as to the identities of the two riders portrayed by the Prophet Isaiah (pbuh) as forerunners in restoring the right worship to the Only One true God. The rider upon the ass was none other than Prophet Jesus (pbuh) when he entered Jerusalem, and the rider upon the camel meant to be Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) in whose country and people the camel forms the chief conveyance.

Conclusion

The above prophecies are self-explanatory when taken in literal, spiritual, symbolical, parabolical, metaphorical, allegorical meaning or what you have. There remain not the least of doubt that the above prophecies referred to **Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)**, are conclusive proofs for the advent of the unlettered prophet of the entire mankind, the son of Abdullah, the descendant of Abraham through his son Ismael, may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon them all.

***"THE COUNSELOR, THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE COMFORTER, THE
SPIRIT OF THE TRUTH"
(Series-X)***

Prophecies

Prophet Jesus (pbuh) reminded his disciples about the coming of another prophet like him, whom he described as a Counselor, the Holy Spirit in the Gospel of John (14:25-26):

"These things I have spoken to you, while I am still with you. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you."

In John (16:7), however, Jesus (pbuh) made it a point that his departure was a pre-condition for the coming of the awaited Prophet (pbuh):

"But I tell you the truth; it is for your good that I am going away (not to die on the cross). Unless I go away the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you."

In another chapter in John (16:12-14) Jesus (pbuh), described the Prophet to come as the Spirit of truth:

"I have yet many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you"

And in the book of Luke (3:16) and in Mark (1:7), John the Baptist (pbuh), the cousin and contemporary of Jesus (pbuh) has corroborated by saying that a prophet will come who is mightier (greater) than him because he will baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire instead of water:

"After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I Have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire."

Jesus (pbuh) expectation of another prophet to complete God's Plan

All the statements made by Jesus (pbuh), show that he was aware of another prophet like him to come after he departs whom he called by names like: Counselor, Holy Spirit, Spirit of Truth and in some versions of the Bible as Comforter, Paraclete and so on.

Jesus (pbuh) was expecting another prophet who will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness. In fact, he stressed the necessity of the coming of this Counselor (pbuh) to complete the universal plan of God to mankind and show the world the Straight Path that help mankind achieve success on the Day of Judgement. However, Jesus (pbuh) has already accomplished his portion of prophethood as planned by God for mankind to prove his point, he said in John (17:9): "*I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom thou hast given me...*" *He then glorified God in John (17:4), RSV: "I glorified thee on earth, having "accomplished" the work thou gavest me to do..."* In the Greek-Interlinear New Treatment, by the Iverson-Norman Associates, 1975, like in the Kings James Version, he used the word "**finished**": Thus, "*I thee glorified on the earth, the work finishing which thou hast given to me that I should do...*" These very expressions of Jesus (pbuh) in the Bible speak of the true nature of his message and to whom it was intended.

The Message of the Prophet to come

The one who will come (Counselor, Holy Spirit, Spirit of Truth, Comforter, Praclete, etc.) will bring with him a Divine Guidance (Revelation) for the people to follow. It is not authored by himself but one that he shall receive, hence the words in John (16:13), "*he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak.*" It also proves that this Counselor or the Holy Spirit or the Spirit of truth as portrayed earlier in John (14:25-26) is not a divine being, but **a man, a prophet** like Jesus (pbuh). Further, the words found in the same verse "**he will declare to you the things that are to come,**" means that this man will foretell the future, he being inspired by God. Moreover, the message that he brings will essentially be the same message as of Jesus (pbuh), Further, the words found in the same verse "**he will declare to you the things that are to come**", means that this man will foretell the future, he being inspired by God. Moreover, the message that he brings will essentially be the same message as of Jesus (pbuh), hence the words "**for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.**" In fact, the message of Prophet Muhammad

(pbuh) is the same in essence with the original messages brought by all the previous messenger of God including Jesus (pbuh) – i.e. , **to unite the people in the belief and worship of the Only One True God (Allah)**. It was not by coincidence, but rather, a part of the universal plan of God to send His last messenger to complete the mission of prophethood for all human beings.

The reader may notice that in some versions of the Bible, however, the name Counselor, Holy Spirit, and Spirit of truth are translated into "Paraclete" which in some versions is either "Comforter" or "Consoler", that Bible writers (the Christians) translated it into "Paraclete" but I would say that the Christians designed it wrongly. To discuss this topic at length, however, is not feasible in view if the limited space allotted to me. Therefore, we must be content with the meaning given is also confusing because in some parts of the Bible, the Holy Spirit is God while in some parts it refers only as a Counselor and Spirit of truth without divine connotation.

Further, in the critical study of the scripture, it has to be noted, that the correct procedure in interpreting the Scriptures is not to change their literal meanings to spiritual, mystical, symbolical, allegorical or figurative sense, one must get the literal truth conveyed by it. Moreover, it must be settled once and for all that God's revelation does not contradict itself because God is not an author of confusion.

Conclusion

I conclude with deep conviction that all the prophecies by Jesus in John's Gospel (characters 14, 15 and 16), and all other prophecies revealed to the prophet of God (i.e., Moses, Isaiah, David, Solomon, Malachi, John the Baptist, and others), peace be upon them, clearly refer to **Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)**. He was and is, in fact, the one referred by the previous prophets as the "**the revealed Prophet from among your brethren**," "**my Lord**", "**Wonderful Counselor**" and "**Prince of Peace (Shiloh)**", "**Lovely**" or "**Praised-One**" or "**Illustration**" or "**Ahmad**", "**Messenger of the covenant**," "**one who suddenly come to his temple**," "**rider upon a camel**", "**the prophet who was commissioned to prepare the way to the Lord (God Almighty)**" and "**the Prophet who was mightier than John the Baptist**". According to Jesus (pbuh), he was the "**Counselor**," "**Holy Spirit**," "**Spirit of Truth**", "**Comforter**," "**counselor**," or the "**Paraclete**".

**"PROPHECIES IN OTHER GREAT RELIGIONS FOR THE ADVENT
OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD
(PBUH)"
(Series XI)**

It is never surprising for Muslims that other great religions of the world contain prophecies for the advent of **Prophet Muhammad**, peace be upon him, whose message is **Islam**, the only Code of life ordained by God for mankind with a universal and comprehensive character applies to all times, ages and to all peoples of the world. Hence, according to the revelation (the **Qur'an**), Muhammad (pbuh) was the last Messenger and the seal of the prophets of God.

A-Prophecies in Hindu Scriptures

In the sacred Hindu scriptures which is the foundation of the Hindu religion that appeared almost simultaneously with Buddhism sometime about the year 600 B.C, there are a good number of prophecies about the advent of prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him. A few of these are in the Puranas. The one in the Bhavishya Purana is the clearest of them all. The fifth word from the left to right (in the Sanskrit text) quoted herein below is the name of our Noble Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, and the name of his country" **Musrusthalnivasinan denizen of the desert (Arabia)".** For this reason, the Arya Samaj had tried to cast doubt on the authenticity of the Puranas. But according to Sanatanist Pandits and the vast bulk of Hindus, nevertheless, considered the Puranas to be authentic. Their argument is that it contains a reference to the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). The prophecy which comes from the original Sanskrit text runs as follow:

I- Original Sanskrit text:

I - Original Sanskrit Text:

एतस्मिन्नन्तिरे म्लेच्छ आचार्येण समन्वितः ।
महामद इति ख्यातः शिष्यशाखासमन्वितः ॥ ५ ॥
नृपश्चैव महादेवं मरुस्थलनिवासिनम् ।
गङ्गाजलैश्च संस्नाप्य पञ्चगव्यसमन्वितैः ।
चंद्रनादिभिरभ्यर्च्य तुष्टाव मनसा हरम् ॥ ६ ॥
भोजराज उवाच—नमस्ते गिरिजानाथ मरुस्थलनिवासिने ।
त्रिपुरासुरनाशाय बहुमायाप्रवर्तिने ॥ ७ ॥
म्लेच्छैर्गसाय शुद्धाय सच्चिदानन्दरूपिणे ।
त्वं मां हि किंकरं विद्धि शरणार्थमुपागतम् ॥ ८ ॥

English translation of the above prophetic words:-

"A malechha (belonging to a foreign country and speaking foreign language) spiritual teacher will appear with his companions. His name will be Mohammad. Raja (Bhoj) after giving Maha Dev Arab (of angelic disposition) a bath in the "Panchgavya" offered him the presents of his sincere devotion and showing him all reverence said, "I make obeisance to thee." "O Ye! The pride of man kind, the dweller in Arabia. Ye have collected a great force to kill the Devil and you yourself have been protected from the malachha opponents." "O Ye! The image of the Most Pious God the biggest Lord, I am a slave to thee, take me as one lying on thy feet. In this eulogy of the Prophet, Maharishi Vyasa has enumerated the following points:

- (1) The name of the Prophet is clearly stated as Mohammad;
- (2) He is said to be belonging to Arabia. The Sanskrit word Marusthal used in the prophecy means a sandy tract of land or a desert;
- (3) Special mention is made of the companions of the Prophet. There has hardly been any other Prophet in the world who had such a host of companions all resembling him;
- (4) He will be immune from sins, having an angelic disposition;
- (5) The Raja of India will show him his heart-felt reverence;
- (6) The Prophet will be given protection against his enemies;

- (7) He will kill Devil, root out idol-worship and will do away with all sorts of vices;
 (8) He will be an image of the All-powerful God;
 (9) The Mahrishi wishes to be lying at his feet;
 (10) He is regarded as the pride of mankind (Parbatis Nath).
 (Bhavishya Purana Parv 3, Khand3, 1Adhya3, Shalok5-8)

II – Original Sanskrit Text:

॥ अथर्ववेदे २० । ११० ॥
 ॥ एष पुत्रास्तृणादि ॥
 इदं व्रजा उषं शुभ नाणकं वदिस्यसे ।
 इति स्रष्टया नयति च श्रीरम ऋ कथनेषु दधे ॥ १ ॥

३१९०

उद्गा कस्यं प्रवाहिषो वपुनमो दिदं ।
 वृषा रणस्य नि जिहीयते दिव ईयमाव उपस्युषः ॥ ० ॥
 इष वृषदे नामहे वृष निष्ठापद वृषः ।
 श्रीरिं वृताम्बितां स्रष्टया इष गोनाम् ॥ ३ ॥ (१)

English translation:

"O people, listen this emphatically! The man of Praise (Muhammad) will be raised among the people. We take the emigrated in our shelter from sixty thousand and ninety enemies whose conveyances are twenty camels and she camels, whose loftiness of position touches the heaven and lowers it.

He gave to Mamah Rishi hundred of gold coins ten circles, three hundred Arab horse and ten thousand cows."

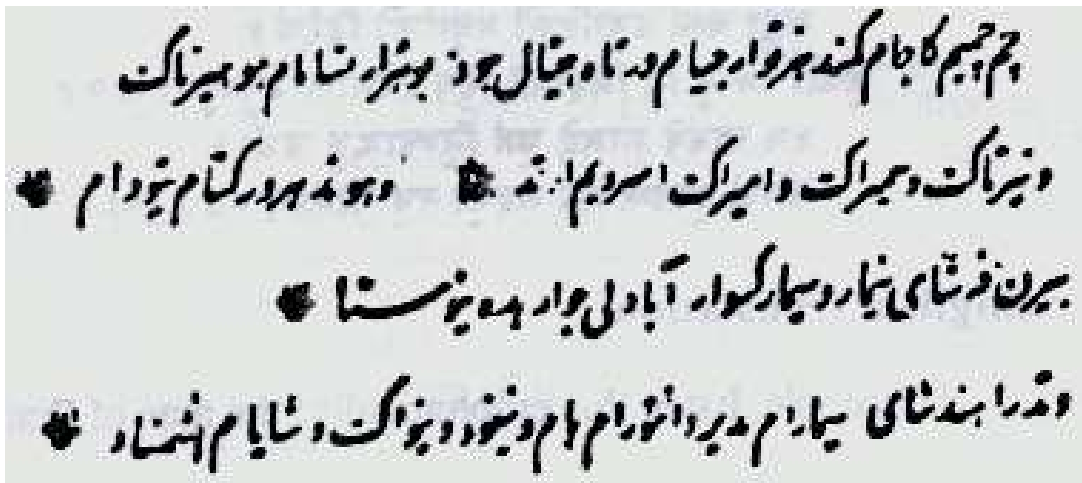
(A tharva Veda, Kanda 20, Sukta 127, Mantra 1-3)

B – Prophecy in the Parsi Scripture

The Parsi religion is one of the oldest religions in the world, perhaps as old as if not older than the Hindu religion. It two collections of Scriptures-the Dasatir and the Zand Abasta, which may be called respectively the old and the New Testaments of the Parsi religion. In Dasatir, No. 14, which is associated

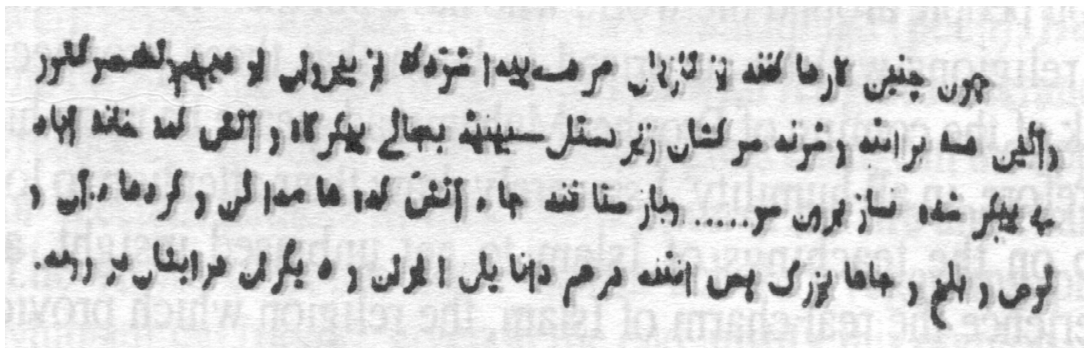
with the name of Sasanil, there is not only a corroboration of the Doctrines and the Teachings of Islam, but a clear prophecy is made in the clearest terms, and is preceded by a vision of a state of extreme disorder and demoralization in Persia (Iran). It runs thus:

Original Pahlavi:



هم چیم که بام کند هر تو ابرجیام و نه ماه جیال بود بوئزاد شامام بو بهرناک
و نیزناک و میراک و امیراک اسرویم اینه ۰ و بود هر در کت نام تو دام ۰
بیرن فدشای بنیاد و سیار کسوار آبادلی جواد همه بنوستا ۰
و در ایندشای سیارام دیر و انوارام دام و بنود و نیزناک و شایام بنستاد ۰

Modern Persian:



چون چنین کارها کند از کزبان هر چه بیدار خرد که از بیرون او همه پلشور
دالین همه برانند و خردند مرگشان ز نمر لستل سینه به جالی بیکر گاه و آتش که خند اباد
به بیکر شده ساز برون هر..... و باز صفا کند جا و آتش که ها همه اکن و کرده ها و آن و
لوس و بلع و جاها بزرگ پس اینده هر هم دانا بیل المون و ه بگرین هر اینبار بر رومه.

English translation:

"When the Persians should sink so low in morality, a man will be born in Arabia whose followers will upset their throne, religion and everything. The mighty still-necked ones of Persia will be overpowered. The house which was built (referring to Abraham building-the Kaaba in Makkah) and in which was many Idols have been placed will be purged of idols, and people will say their

prayers facing towards it. His followers will capture the towns of the Parsis Tus and Balkh and other big places round about. People will embroil with one another. The wise men of Persia and others will join his followers."

This prophecy is contained in a book which has ever been in the hands of the Parsis, and its words do not admit of two interpretations. The coming man is to be an Arab. The Persians would join his faith. Fire temples would be destroyed. Idols would be removed. People would say their prayers facing towards the "**Kaaba**" Can this prophecy fit in with any person other than **Muhammad**?

Source: Islam: The Religion of All Prophets, Begum Aisha Bawany WAQF, Karachi-2 (Pakistan)

Conclusion

The foregoing prophecies are self-explanatory. Over a billion people around the world who have put their faith in these two religions will be surprised to learn that these prophecies speak of the coming of Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him. Therefore, in all humanity, I sincerely draw their attention to look deep on the teachings of Islam to get unbiased insight, and experience to all human ills and ultimately leads them to eternal bliss.

***WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT
MUHAMMAD (PBUH)
(WAMY Series)***

During the centuries of the crusades, all sorts of slander were invented against the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). But with the birth of the modern age, marked with religious tolerance and freedom of thought, there has been a great change in the approach of Western authors in their delineation of his life and character. The views of some non-Muslim scholars regarding prophet Muhammad (pbuh), given at the end, justify this opinion.

But the West has still to go a step forward to discover the greatest reality about Muhammad (pbuh) and that is his being the true and the last Prophet of God for the whole humanity. In spite of all its objectivity and enlightenment there has been no sincere and objective attempt by the west to understand the prophethood of Muhammad (pbuh). It is so strange that very glowing tributes are paid to him for his integrity and achievement but his claim of being the Prophet of God has been rejected explicitly or implicitly. It is here that a searching of the heart is required, and a review of the so-called objectivity is needed. The following glaring facts from the life of Muhammad (pbuh) have been furnished to facilitate an unbiased, logical and objective decision regarding his Prophethood.

Up to the age of forty Muhammad (pbuh) was not known as a statesman, a preacher or an orator. He was never seen discussing the principles of metaphysics, ethics, law, politics, economics or sociology. No doubt he possessed an excellent character, charming manners and was highly cultured. Yet there was nothing so deeply striking and so radically extraordinary in him that would make men expect something great and revolutionary from him in the future. But when he came out of the Cave (HIRA) with a new message, he was completely transformed. Is it possible for such a person of the above qualities to turn all of a sudden 'an impostor' and claim to be the Prophet of Allah and invite all the rage of his people? His people offered to accept him as their King and to lay all the riches of the land at his feet if only he would leave the preaching of his religion. But he chose to refuse handedly in face of all kinds of insults, social boycott and even physical assault by his own people. Was it not only God's support and his firm will to disseminate the message of Allah and his deep-rooted belief that ultimately Islam would emerge as the only way of life for the humanity, that he stood like a mountain in the face of all oppositions and conspiracies to eliminate him? Furthermore, had he come with a design of rivalry with the Christians and the Jews, why should he have made belief in

Jesus Christ and Moses and other Prophets of God (peace be upon them), a basic requirement of faith without which no one could be a Muslim?

It is not an incontrovertible proof of his Prophethood that in spite of being unlettered and having led a very normal and quiet life for forty years, when he began preaching his message, all of Arabia stood in awe and wonder and was bewitched by his wonderful eloquence and oratory? it was so matchless that the whole legion of Arab poets, preachers and orators of highest caliber failed to bring forth its equivalent. And above all, how could he then pronounce truths of a scientific nature contained in the Qur'an that on other human-being could possibly have developed at that time?

Lastly but not the least, why did he lead a hard life even after gaining power and authority? Just ponder over the words he uttered while dying: *"We the community of the Prophets are not inherited. Whatever we leave is for charity."*

As a matter of fact Muhammad (pbuh) is the last link of the chain of Prophets sent in different lands and times since the very beginning of the human life on this planet.

What they say about Muhammad (pbuh)

These are some of the glowing tributes attributed by famous men of letters in history about Prophet Muhammad (pbuh):

1. (Lamarine, "*Histoire de la Turquie*," Paris 1854, Vol. II, pp. 276-277):

"If greatness of purpose, smallness of means, and astounding results are the three criteria of human genius, who could dare to compare any great man in modern 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 not only moved armies, legislations, empires, peoples and 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 souls.....his forbearance in victory, his ambition, which was entirely devoted to one idea and in no manner striving for an empire; his endless prayers his mystic conversations with God, his death and his triumph after death; all these attest not to an imposture but to a firm conviction which gave him the power to restore a dogma. 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 the words.

Philosopher, orator, apostle, legislator, warrior, conqueror of ideas, restorer of rational dogmas, of a cult without images; 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?"

2. (Edward Gibbon and Simon Ockley, "History of the Saracen Empire," London 1870, p.54):

*"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. **"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 honours 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."*

3. Bosworth Smith, "Mohammad and Mohammedanism," London 1874, p.92):

*''' He was Caesar and Pope in one; but he was Pope without Pope's pretensions, Caesar without the legions of Caesar': Without a standing army, without bodyguard, without a palace, without a fixed revenue; **'if ever any man had the right to say that he ruled by the right divine, it was Mohammad'**, for he had all the power without its instruments and without its supports."*

4. Annie Besant, "The life and Teachings of Muhammad," Madras 1932, p.4):

*"It is impossible for anyone who studies the life and character of the great Prophet of Arabia, who knows how he taught and how he lived, **to feel anything but reverence for that mighty Prophet, one of the great messengers of Supreme.** And although in what I put to you I shall say many things which may be familiar to many, yet I myself feel whenever I re-read them, a new way of admiration, a new sense of reverence for that mighty Arabian teacher."*

5. W. Montgomery, "Mohammad at Mecca," Oxford, 1953, p.52):

"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 leader, and the greatness of his ultimate achievement all argue his fundamental integrity. **To suppose Muhammad and impostor raises more problems than it solves.** Moreover, none of the great figures of history is so poorly appreciated in the West as Muhammad."

6. James A. Michener, "Islam: The misunderstood Religion", in the Reader's Digest (American Edition for May, 1955, pp.68-70)

"Muhammad, the inspired man who founded Islam, was born about A.D. 570 into an Arabian tribe that worshipped idols. Orphaned at birth, he was always particularly solicitous of the poor and needy, the widow and the orphan, the slave and the downtrodden. At twenty he was already a successful businessman, and soon became director of camel caravans for a wealthy widow. When he reached twenty-five his employer, recognizing his merit, proposed marriage. Even though she was fifteen years older, he married her and as long as she lived remained a devoted husband.

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 rumours 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 worshipped Muhammad, he is dead. But if it is God you worshipped, He lives forever'."

7. Michael H. Hart, The 100: A Ranking of the Most Influential Persons in History, New York: Hart Publishing Company, Inc. 1978, p.33):

*"My choice of Muhammad to lead the list of the world's most influential person 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 religious and secular level.**"*

M.A.C. Cave
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Riyadh, Saudi Arabia