

PROPHET
MOHAMMAD
(PEACE BE
UPON HIM)

THE LAST
MESSENGER
OF ALLAH.



Prophet Mohammad, (Peace be Upon Him)

The Final Messenger of Allah!

"There has certainly come to you a Messenger from among yourselves. It upsets him to see harm reach you (or to see you suffer); [he is] concerned for you [for your well-being and guidance] and to the believers, he is kind and merciful." (Quran, chapter 9, verse 128)



"Ashkhad La-ilaha-illallah-Ashdad muhammadur-rasulullah" -- "I testify that there is no God worthy of worship except Allah, I testify that Muhammad is his Messenger"

THIS BOOK IS FREE FOR EVERYONE AND HAS NO COPYRIGHT. I FREELY GIVE THIS BOOK TO ANYONE WHO CAN SHARE AND SPREAD THE WORD AND HELP PEOPLE TO KNOW WHY I A MUSLIM CONVERT LOVE MY PROPHET WITH ALL OF MY SOUL AND HEART.

One of the most renowned works on famous people in history is Michael Hart's book entitled "The 100: A Ranking of the Most Influential Persons in History". Would it surprise you that Mr. Hart, an astrophysicist and historian by training and a self-proclaimed white separatist, would choose Mohammad, peace be upon him, as the single most important, successful, and ultimately the greatest person to have ever walked on the face of the Earth? In the book, Mr. Hart says: "My choice of Mohammad to lead the list of the world's most influential persons may surprise some readers and may be questioned by others, but he was the only man in history who was supremely successful on both the religious and secular level." [1]

Who was this man? What was his message? What can we learn from him? Why is there so much controversy around him?

Anything less than a lengthy biographical series on the Prophet would not do justice to his greatness, but here we will try to share a few important lessons and teachings that we can extract from his life.

Who was Prophet Mohammad?

Prophet Mohammad's full name was Mohammad ibn (son of) Abdullah ibn (son of) Abdul Mutallib. He belonged to the Banu Hashim branch of the tribe of Quraish in Makkah. Banu Hashim was a very noble clan and they were responsible for providing food and water to the pilgrims of Makkah.

Mohammad, peace be upon him, is the last and final Prophet of Allah (God). He led the Arabs from ignorance to spiritual enlightenment and his message, the true way of life known as "Islam", is the only path of salvation and worldly happiness and success for all of humanity.

Islam is not a religion invented by Prophet Mohammad, as is commonly believed by many non-Muslims. It is the final religion in the sequence of divine religions that came from Allah. Those who followed the teachings of the Bible (The New Testament) in the time of Jesus were Muslims. Those who followed the teachings of the Torah (The Old Testament) in the time of Moses were Muslims.

Muslims believe in all of the divine books sent down by Allah to His prophets to bring mankind out of darkness to the right path, and every prophet's religion was called "Islam". Whenever people strayed from the path of worshipping The One, True God, God would send them a messenger to show them the right path once more, and Mohammad (peace be upon him) was simply the restorer of the message of

Allah, and the message he brought is God's final message to mankind until the Day of Judgment. Islam, as we know it now, represents the final set of teachings that came from Allah and it is forever preserved in the words of the Quran, which have not changed in over 1,400 years, and the teachings of Mohammad, peace be upon him.

About his life

Mohammad was born in Makkah in the year 570 CE. His father died before he was born, and his mother, Aaminah, died when he was 6 years old. After the death of his mother, he was taken care of by his grandfather, Abdul Muttalib, who passed away when Mohammad was 8. Finally, Abu Talib, who was Mohammad's uncle, became his guardian, and he raised him to adulthood.

Mohammad could neither read nor write, and he worked as a shepherd and later as a merchant. He was known far and wide as 'the truthful one' and 'the trustworthy one' because of his honesty, truthfulness, fairness in dealing, and trustworthiness.

Mohammad (peace be upon him) received his first revelation at the age of 40. He initially preached Islam privately to close friends and family but later did it openly to the public at large. That is when the people of Makkah became his enemies and started calling him a liar, a magician, a soothsayer, an insane person, and someone who is possessed.

In response to this, Allah says in the Quran:

"Say (O Muhammad SAW): "If Allah had so willed, I should not have recited it to you nor would He have made it known to you. Verily, I have stayed amongst you a lifetime before this. Have you then no sense?" [Quran, chapter 10, verse 16]

Not only was Mohammad unlettered, meaning he could not read nor write, but he was known as honest and trustworthy and never lied, ever, his entire life. How, then, could someone who does not lie about worldly matters lie about God?

Is Mohammad mentioned in the Old or New Testament?

Deuteronomy 18 says: "I will raise them up a prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee; and I will put My words in his mouth, and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him."

The brethren of the Jews, who are the children of Issac and Jacob, are the Arabs, who are the children of Ismael, the brother of Issac. The mention of a prophet, from among their brethren, and 'like unto thee' indicate that the prophet to come will have similarities to Moses. This means he cannot be Jesus, because Moses and Jesus came from the same family line, and Mohammad, peace be upon him, came from the lineage of the brother of Issac.

Furthermore, the comparisons run more deeply between Mohammad and Moses. Both had natural births and were run out of their hometowns, and both ultimately held both religious as well as political leadership (whereas Jesus did not). And the mention of putting "My words in his mouth" is as clear as day to all Muslims: the Quran is the Word of Allah, conveyed to Mohammad by the Angel Gabriel, with no changes and no additions whatsoever. That is why it is an eternal message, unchanging, protected until the end of time.

His death

By the time of his death, most of the Arabs in the Arabian Peninsula had become Muslims, and the companions of the Prophet took up the responsibility of spreading the message far and wide. It is because of their struggles and sacrifices that the message has reached us today.

Mohammad, peace be upon him, passed away only after completing the mission of his existence and perfecting the true religion as Islam.

In the Quran Allah says about Mohammad (peace be upon him):

"And We have sent you (O Mohammad) not but as a mercy for mankind, jinns, and all that exists)."
[Quran, chapter 21, verse 107]

"Muhammad is not the father of [any] one of your men, but [he is] the Messenger of Allah and the last of the prophets." [Quran, chapter 33, verse 40]

Mohammad was perfection personified. He was a father, a husband, a political leader, a religious leader, a military general, a peacekeeper, a keeper of trusts, a simple shepherd, an honest merchant, a freer of slaves, a supporter of the oppressed, a bringer of laws, an establisher of fairness, justice, and equality, and the leader of all of mankind on the Day of Judgment. If you take any aspect of life, you will find his teachings to be unrivaled and unparalleled, and beneficial for everyone, both man and woman, young and old.

Views of non-muslims about Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him)

Bosworth Smith: "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 a 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 Mohammed, for he had all the power without its instruments and without its supports." [2]

Annie Besant: "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 the 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." [3]

Through Quranic verses and sayings of the Prophet Mohammad, we will now take a look at some of the things that we can learn from the greatest man in the history of mankind.

Prophet Mohammad's love for us

Allah had given every single Prophet, one request – one supplication that is guaranteed to be accepted. The Prophets of the past have used this to ask something that they really wanted to see fulfilled. For example, the peoples of Noah and Moses, peace be upon them, were destroyed after the supplication of their prophets against them. Similarly, Prophet Ibrahim made a supplication to Allah for Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him), asking for the final messenger to come from his progeny. That is why Prophet Mohammad later said, "I am the Dua of my father Ibrahim."

Solomon made a supplication to Allah for a dominion that would never be given to anyone after him, saying:

"My Lord, forgive me and grant me a kingdom such as will not belong to anyone after me. Indeed, You are the Bestower." [Quran, chapter 38, verse 35]

Allah then gave him power that no one had before him, which was control of the jinn, the wind, and command over animals, mountains, and more.

Some narrations state that, once he knew the blessings of being in the nation of Mohammad, the prayer that Jesus made for himself was to be a follower of Mohammad (peace be upon him), which was accepted and this is why Jesus will return as the Messiah, even in the Islamic tradition, but he will be a follower of the Islam of Mohammad.

As for Mohammad himself, he was also given a supplication to use as well, but what did he use it for? The Prophet said:

"Allah has given one supplication to every single prophet and every single messenger that he has guaranteed that he will respond to. And every single prophet has used up this supplication for himself in this world, except for me. I have saved it and I have not used it and I will not use it in this life. I have kept it for my Ummah (my followers) and I will use it for them on the Day of Judgment. And my supplication will be, 'O Allah, forgive my entire Ummah'." [4]

A supplication he could have used for himself, instead, he saved it for his followers.

In another narration, Mohammad says: "I wish I could meet my brothers. I wish I could meet my brothers, for I love them!" The companions said to him, "O Messenger of God! We are your brothers!" and he said, "You are my companions. My brothers are a people who haven't seen me, believed in me, and loved me so much so that I'm more beloved to them than their parents and their children" [5]

Mohammad was a man who did not only care for his companions present with him but also for his followers that would come after him. Such is our beloved Prophet (peace be upon him).

Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him) has been sent as a mercy to the worlds. He is a source of blessing for every human and every creature in this world, both believer and non-believer. His love, his

care, his blessings, and his teachings were not only for the people who were at his time or people who followed him and reverted to Islam but his blessings are for everyone, whether Muslim or not.

When the Prophet visited the nearby town of Taif to preach, the chiefs there not only rejected his teachings but went a step further and asked children and slaves to throw stones at him and injured him. That is when the angel Gabriel came and asked if the Prophet wished for the people of Taif to be between two mountains. The Prophet did not want that, he forgave them and prayed for them saying that if they did not accept the message, then he hoped that their children would. This prayer was accepted and the people of Taif eventually came to Islam.

The incident of Taif is the perfect example of the Prophet being a mercy to all of mankind. How many of us can forgive someone who has not asked forgiveness? And then not just forgive them but our Prophet prayed for them and asked for the best thing for them: believing offspring who would follow Islam.

His teachings about people's rights and care and love for each other

The Prophet said during the farewell pilgrimage:

"All of mankind is from Adam and Eve, an Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab; also a white has no superiority over a black nor does a black have any superiority over a white except by piety and good action." [6]

More than 1400 years ago this amazing man tells us the answer for what we fight about now in the 21st century. Every life is important. Color, race, ethnicity, and language do not give anyone any higher status than others. For Allah, the most beloved person is the most pious and God-fearing person. This is said by a man who was an Arab himself and from the best of the Arab tribes, yet he gave everyone the same status.

His teachings were not just for high-level social issues. He covered every aspect of an individual's life. Having disagreements and conflicts is common. Look at how he teaches us to make peace and reform relationships.

"Reconcile with whoever cuts you off, give to whoever deprives you, and forgive whoever wrongs you."
[7]

"Fulfill the trust for the one who entrusted you and do not cheat the one who cheated you." [8]

"None of you will believe until you love for your brother what you love for yourself." [9]

"Exchange gifts, as that will lead to increasing your love to one another." [10]

A house in Jannah (paradise)

The Prophet, peace be upon him, said: "I guarantee a house in Jannah (Paradise) for one who gives up arguing, even if he is in the right; and I guarantee a house in the middle of Jannah for one who abandons lying even when joking or for the sake of fun; and I guarantee a house in the highest part of Jannah for one who has good manners." [11]

About women

Before the advent of Islam, women were often treated worse than animals. Some of the men loved and cared for their horses more than the women in their family. The pagan society of pre-Islamic Arabia had an irrational prejudice against their female children whom they used to bury alive. The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) was totally opposed to this practice. He showed them that supporting their female children would act as a screen for them against the fire of Hell:

"On the Day of Judgment, I will be together with the person who brings up and nurtures two girls until they become adults." [12]

The Prophet wanted to put a stop to all cruelties to women. He preached kindness towards them. He told the Muslims:

"Fear Allah in respect of women."

"The best of you are they who behave the best to their wives."

"A Muslim must not hate his wife, and if he is displeased with one bad quality in her, let him be pleased with one that is good."

"The more civil and kind a Muslim is to his wife, the more perfect in faith he is."

The Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) was most emphatic in enjoining upon Muslims to be kind to their women when he delivered his famous speech on the Mount of Mercy at Arafat in the presence of over one hundred thousand of his companions who had gathered there for the farewell pilgrimage. In it, he ordered those present, and through them all those Muslims who were to come later, to be respectful and kind towards women. He said:

"Fear Allah regarding women. Verily you have married them with the trust of Allah and made their bodies lawful with the word of Allah. You have rights over them, and they have rights over you in respect of their food and clothing according to your means."

Kindness towards enemies

If we look at modern-day concepts of war, how many innocent civilians die? Do armies care about elderly citizens or refugees? Do they care for farms, crops, and food? Do they care for housing societies or apartments or hospitals? Are elderly people and children spared from killing while the whole city is being bombed? With all the destruction, nobody has even a second to spare to think of the animals and plants.

Now let's look at the instructions that were given to the companions and followers of the Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him):

- No killing of children and women (who are not attacking/fighting in the war)
- No killing of elderly and sick persons
- Exercising patience even during war
- Not to head into war hoping for a conflict; there may be other solutions
- Leave the monks and those in places of worship alone
- No destruction of property, cultivated lands, or crops
- No uprooting or burning of green and fruit-bearing trees
- No slaughtering of animals for reasons other than food
- No hurting or burning bees
- No theft or robbery in the guise of war
- Avoiding destruction to any inhabited place

When Makkah was conquered and Abu Sufyan (leader of Makkah at the time) surrendered, the Prophet Muhammad announced:

"Those who seek shelter in the Ka'ba are safe; those who seek shelter in the house of Abu Sufyan are safe; those who remain confined to their houses are also safe."

As the Muslims entered Makkah, the people feared for how will they be treated. They feared that the Muslims would want revenge for all those years they had made them suffer, forced wars upon them and caused them immense trouble. However, the Prophet (peace be upon him) and his companions entered humbly with no sign of pride or arrogance, which was actually the trend and expected from the leader of the conquering army. He announced clemency for everyone in Makkah who no longer wished to fight the Muslims by saying:

"This day no reproach shall be on you. God will forgive you; He is the Most Merciful of the Merciful. You can go on your way."

Kindness towards animals and plants

Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), was a source mercy for all of creation, not just his family and friends or the Arab nation, or the people of his time, and not for human beings alone either. This is succinctly summarized in the Quran as follows:

"And we have sent you O Muhammad not but as a mercy for all of humankind, jinn, and all that exists."
(Quran, chapter 21, verse 107)

He felt for the creatures, was always kind towards them and warned people who were cruel to them and said:

"Whoever kills a sparrow or anything bigger than that without a just cause, God will hold him accountable on the Day of Judgment." The listeners asked, "O Messenger of God, what is a just cause?" He replied, "That he will kill it to eat, not simply to chop off its head and then throw it away."

If the Prophet saw any animal over-burdened or ill-fed, he would speak mildly to the owner and say, "Fear God in your treatment of animals." [13]

The final word

Mohammad's teachings and his way of life will endure until the end of time. The lengthiest of works on his life would not do justice to his greatness, and our only hope is that this brief overview of who Mohammad was and what some of his teachings were will help open up to the reader the fact that there is no one more worthy of following and no one more worthy of our love and loyalty than Mohammad, the final prophet of Allah.

How to Take The Shahadah (Testimony of Faith) – To Join Islam



In the Name of Allah, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful

Overview

This article first discusses how to convert (or revert) to Islam and provides details regarding the performance of ablution and purification acts, and it wraps up with some of the rewards and blessings promised to those who call others to Islam.

Introduction

The word 'Islam' basically means 'submission' and it is derived from the Arabic word for peace. Islam teaches us that to achieve peace of mind and peace in our hearts, we must submit to Allah and live life according to His law. Total submission is all that is required to enter this glorious religion.

Islam is the only religion that Allah will accept on the Day of Judgement, and every other religion will be rejected.

In the Quran, at two different places Allah says:

"Truly, the religion in the sight of Allah is Islam." (Quran, chapter 3, verse 19).

"And whosoever desires a religion other than Islam, never will it be accepted of him, and in the Hereafter, he will be in the ranks of those who are lost." (Quran, chapter 3, verse 85).

Blessed are those who do not fall for the distractions of this world and are in search of the true meaning of life, and have found Islam as their path and have found their heart ready to enter this religion of peace.

The Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him) said: "Every child is born in a state of *fitrah* (a natural inclination to be free of false beliefs and to believe in One True Lord) and then his parents make him into a Jew or a Christian or a Zoroastrian." [1]

It is for this reason that when people accept Islam, we say that they are actually *reverting* to the Islam that they were born into, instead of saying that they are *converting* to something that is new, because it isn't!

The Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him) also said: "If a servant accepts Islam and completes his Islam, Allah will record for him every good deed that he performed before [his Islam] and Allah will erase for him every evil deed that he did before [his Islam]. Then everything after that will be according to retribution. For every good deed, he will be recorded ten-fold up to seven hundred fold. And for every evil deed, he will be recorded similarly, only [one] for it, unless Allah overlooks that for him." [2]

This is a special bounty that Allah has bestows upon whomever He chooses for this blessing.

Before you revert

Before reentering the fold of Islam, you should spend time thoroughly studying the religion so that the decision to revert comes from the heart after knowing the implications of the decision, the importance of taking the step, and understanding what is required of you once you have taken your testimony of faith (the *Shahada*). Your acceptance of the faith and your readiness to submit yourself to Allah should not be taken under any pressure of any kind. Remember that there is no compulsion in religion and that nobody can force someone else to become a Muslim against their own, free will.

To become a Muslim, you should know and believe in your heart that the following (which are called the articles of faith) are true:

1. That there is One Allah (the One True God)
2. That He has created Angels
3. That He has sent down Holy Books (Scriptures) for the guidance of mankind
4. That He sent Prophets and Messengers for the guidance of mankind
5. That the Last Day (the Day of Judgment or the Day of Resurrection) is true and will come to pass
6. That fate or destiny, whether good or bad, is from the decree of Allah

At its core, being a Muslim means believing that these things, all of which are part of the unseen world, are the truth. Everything that follows after that is based on belief in the above.

How to revert to Islam

Embracing Islam is very easy, and anyone can become a Muslim. You can even do it if you are alone. Entering Islam does not require a special ceremony or specific procedures of any kind that have to be performed in front of other people, nor does Islam require the consent of other people. It is a private, personal matter between the person and Allah and does not require the permission or acceptance of family, community, or court.

The steps for reversion are as follows:

1. Make the intention to embrace Islam and say the following terms with faith and belief (these are the words of the *Shahadah*):
 - "*Ash-hadu anna la ilaha illa Allah*" (I bear witness that there is no deity but Allah)
 - "*Wa ash-hadu ana Muhammad Rasulallah*" (And I bear witness that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah)
2. After saying the *Shahadah*, take a shower to purify your body and symbolically cleanse yourself from your past life and wash away the sins you committed before Islam.

Although you can say the *Shahadah* alone, if you need the help of another Muslim for pronouncing the words correctly or for moral support, then there is no harm in asking any Muslim you know to help you. If there is an Islamic center or mosque near where you live, you can go there for additional help. You can also find additional details and materials online, but performing the two basic steps above will suffice for you to re-enter the fold of Islam and formally become a Muslim.

After you enter Islam

Becoming a Muslim is not a single-step process but it is a lifetime commitment. After you have entered Islam, study it slow and gradually, and follow it in your everyday routine according to your own abilities. In every decision you make, first think about what Islam has to say about the matter. The general rule is to ask yourself this: What does Allah want from me now, and what are the teachings of the Prophet (peace be upon him) regarding it?

Do not shy away from asking questions. No one is perfect, everyone learns something new every day, and even if someone is born a Muslim, that does not guarantee that they are perfect or are guaranteed anything. Everyone has their own struggles and tests designed by Allah for that specific person based on the path and story that He wants for them in life, to teach them, to open their eyes to the right thing at the right time, and to slowly yet surely help them make their way through the maze of life. Learn by reading books, and remember that the Quran itself is a complete guide that should be read and studied every day, even if for only a few minutes.

An authentic narration of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) states: "Islam is built upon five [pillars]: The testimony that there is no god but Allah and that Mohammad is the Messenger of Allah; establishing regular prayer (*salat*); paying obligatory charity (*zakat*); performing the pilgrimage to Mecca (*hajj*); and fasting during the month of Ramadan (*sawm*)."

Once you have entered Islam, you need to learn about all these pillars of Islam and how to perform them.

Help others to revert and practice Islam

If you are a Muslim by birth or you reverted at any age, it is a blessing of Allah Almighty. It is a blessing to have your heart opened to the only religion that is acceptable to Him, and it is a blessing to be amongst the nation and followers of the Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him). You should be grateful for it and thank Allah for every breath you take as a Muslim. As a Muslim, it is your duty to make sure others are aware of this divine religion as well.

Remember, however, that in this regard, we are not held to account for outcomes, and we cannot make anyone accept Islam. We can only be a beacon of light and show others the way, and the rest is up to them. As mentioned above, Islam is not a religion of compulsion, and it is a personal choice, so spread the message in the best way you possibly can and pray for the guidance of others and leave the rest to Allah.

Allah says in the Quran:

"You (the true believers in Islamic Monotheism, and the real followers of the Prophet Muhammad and his tradition) are the best of peoples ever raised up for mankind; you enjoin good (i.e. Islamic Monotheism and all that Islam has ordained) and forbid evil (polytheism, disbelief and all that Islam has forbidden), and you believe in Allah." [Quran, chapter 3, verse 110].

If someone embraces Islam or does any good deed as a result of your preaching, you will be rewarded with the same reward that they are given every time they do any good, that too without any reduction in the reward of the one practicing it. This is why the Quran refers to belief and calling to the path of Islam a very profitable 'trade' (Quran, chapter 61, verses 10 and 11). If you can call one person to Islam, and they call five people, and the chain continues, then for every single person in the chain who comes to Islam because of your efforts, you get a full reward for every single one of their actions because they would not have been able to do the good they are doing if it were not for you. What a profitable trade indeed!

The Prophet (peace be upon him) said: "The one who guides others to goodness will have a reward like that of the one who does it." And he (peace be upon him) said to his cousin 'Ali (may Allah be pleased with him), when he sent him to the Jews of Khaybar to call them to Islam: "By Allah, if Allah were to guide one man through you, that would be better for you than having red camels (the best kind)." And he (peace be upon him) said: "Whoever calls others to right guidance will have a reward like that of those who follow him, without that detracting from their reward in the slightest."

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