



Jewish Studies Initiative
of North Texas

Muhammad Through Jewish Eyes

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Connecting Our Faiths – The Impact of Muhammad on
Islam, Christianity and Judaism

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Alfred Guillaume (ed. and trans.), *The Life of Muhammad. A Translation of Ishàq's Sirat Rasùl Allàh*, London 1955, page 516

Zaynab bat al-Hàrith, the wife widow of Sallàm ben Mishkam prepared for him a roast lamb, having first inquired what joint he preferred. When she learned that it was the shoulder she put a lot of poison in it and poisoned the whole lamb. Then she brought it in and placed it before him. He took hold of the shoulder and chewed a morsel of it, but he did not swallow it. Bishr ibn al-Barà who was with him took some of it as the prophet had done, but he swallowed it, while the prophet spat it out, saying, "This bone tells me that it is poisoned." Then he called for the woman and she confessed, and when he asked her what had induced her to do this she answered: "You know what you have done to my people. I said to myself, if he is a (mere) king I shall ease myself of him and if he is a prophet he will be informed (of the presence of the poison, and will save himself)." So the prophet let her off. Bishr died from what he had eaten.

"At this time I feel a deadly pain from what I ate with your brother at Khaybar."

Quran, Sura 2:135

They say: "Be Jews or Christians if you want to do the right thing." Tell them (O Muhammad): No! I follow the religion of Abraham the upright one.

Quran, Sura 3:65

You people of the book: Why do you argue over Abraham? He was the first, before the Torah and the Gospel were revealed. Don't you understand?

Quran, Sura 3: 70

O people of the book, why do you disbelieve in the revelations of Allah, when you yourselves bear witness (to their truth)?

Quran, Sura 3: 78

There is a group among them who distort Scripture with their tongues so that you would think that it is from scripture when it is not from Scripture; and they say it is from Allah when it is not from Allah; and they knowingly tell a lie against Allah.

Quran, Sura 5:32-33

Because of that We ordained for the Children of Israel that if anyone killed a person not in retaliation of murder, but to spread mischief in the land - it would be as if he killed all mankind, and if anyone saved a life, it would be as if he saved the life of all mankind. And indeed, there

came to them Our Messengers with clear proofs, evidences, and signs, even then after that many of them continued to transgress in the land!

The recompense of those who wage war against Allah and His Messenger and do mischief in the land is only that they shall be killed or crucified or their hands and their feet be cut off on the opposite sides, or be exiled from the land. That is their disgrace in this world, and a great torment is theirs in the Hereafter.

Quran Sura 9:29-35

29. Fight against those who do not believe in Allah, nor in the Last Day, and those who do not forbid that which has been forbidden by Allah and His Messenger and against those among the people of the Scripture who do not acknowledge the religion of truth, until they pay tribute with willing submission, and are utterly subdued.

30. And the Jews say: 'Ezra is the son of Allah, and the Christians say: Messiah is the son of Allah. That is a saying from their mouths. They imitate the saying of the disbelievers of old. Allah's curse be on them, how they are deluded away from the truth!

34. O you who believe! Verily, there are many of the Jewish rabbis and the Christian monks who devour the wealth of mankind in falsehood, and hinder them from the Way of Allah. And those who hoard up gold and silver and spend it not in the Way of Allah, announce unto them a painful torment.

35. On the Day when that wealth which has not been spent in the way of Allah will be heated in the Fire of Hell and with it will be branded their foreheads, their flanks, and their backs, (will be said unto them): "This is the treasure which you hoarded for yourselves. Now taste of what you used to hoard."

Sources for further study:

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