

The Koran (Qur'an) and Supplemental Hadiths

(other sayings and stories about Muhammad)

Question: Are the Muslim “sacred books” inherently violent?

Note: Sura = Chapters

On Women

Men have authority over women because God has made the one superior to the other . . . Good women are obedient . . . As for those from whom you fear disobedience, admonish them, forsake them in beds apart and beat them.

Sura 4 The Women 82

Prophet, We have made lawful for you the wives to whom you have granted dowries and the slave-girls whom God has given you as booty. The daughters of your paternal and maternal uncles and of your paternal and maternal aunts who fled with you. And any believing women who gives herself to the Prophet and whom the Prophet wishes to take in marriage. This privilege is yours alone, being granted to no other believer.

Sura 33 The Allied Troops 50

Rule by Muhammad's Quresh Tribe

Muhammad built his dynasty by making astute family alliances through marriage. The four caliphs who succeeded Muhammad were related to him by marriage and for centuries after Muhammad all caliphs came from the Quresh family. This was clearly Muhammad's intention, as his sayings make clear:

The prerogative to rule shall remain vested in the Quresh, and whosoever is hostile to them, Allah shall destroy him.

The right to rule shall belong to the Quresh even if only two men existed.

Hadith Sahih Bokhari Vol. 4 Jame Tirmzi Vol. 2

Having exalted his own people and their tribal deity above other Arab tribes and their gods, Muhammad now sets about exalting the Arabs generally above all other peoples. Muhammad has God declare: 'You are the best nation ever brought forth'. Despite the protestations of later Muslims, that this verse of the Qur'an refers to the international community of Muslims, this cannot be true, because when Muhammad received this revelation there was no international community, just Arab Muslims.

Sura 3 The Family of Imran 110

Arabic Spoken in Heaven

Love the Arabs for three reasons, because I am an Arab, the holy Qur'an is in Arabic, and the tongue of the dwellers of paradise shall also be Arabic.

Hadith 5751 Mishkat Vol. 3

Muhammad's Divine Mission

Every Prophet is appointed for his own nation, but I have been appointed the Prophet for all Nations.

Hadith 5500 Mishkat Vol. 3

Muslim Religion

Over a period of twenty years Muhammad led eighty-two attacks against his neighbors in the Arabian Peninsula. That's one attack every six weeks! Other Arabs, Jews and Christians were ruthlessly plundered to build the wealth and power of Muhammad's *umma*. But this was no longer just the usual banditry that was customary for the time. It was now legitimized by Muhammad's revelations from God. It was God himself who now declared, 'Eat of what you have taken as booty'. In a chapter of the Qur'an called 'The Spoils' it is God who prevents Muhammad from showing mercy to his captives by stating:

Sura 8 The Spoils 69

It is not for any prophet to have prisoners until he make wide slaughter in the land.

Sura 8 The Spoils 67

Now he sets out to exalt Islam above all other faiths. The Qur'an boldly asserts:

The true religion of God is Islam.

Sura 3 The Family of Imran 19

It is He [Allah] who has sent his Messenger [Muhammad] with the guidance and the religion of truth, that he may uplift it above every religion.

Sura 48 Victory 28

Heaven and Hell

Fear is the basic tool of Literalist religion and there is no fear greater than the fear of death, except the fear of God's punishment after death. Like so many self-proclaimed prophets, Muhammad uses a crude carrot-and-stick technique to bring people into line, promising a wonderful afterlife if they believe and terrifying them with the horrors of Hell that await all unbelievers. The Qur'an asserts:

Whoever desires a religion other than Islam in the next world he shall be among the losers.

Sura 3 The Family of Imran 77

The unbelievers of the People of the Book [Jews and Christians] and the idolaters shall be in the Fire of Hell, therein dwelling for ever.

Surely those who disbelieve in Our signs – We [Allah] shall certainly roast them at a fire. As often as their skins are wholly burned, We shall give them in exchange other skins, that they may taste the punishment.

Sura 4 The Women 56

Muhammad declares that anyone who has heard of Islam and not converted (which means about four-fifths of humanity as it is now constituted!) will be tortured for eternity in the most horrible ways imaginable:

As for the unbelievers, for them garments of fire shall be cut, and there shall be poured over their heads boiling water whereby whatsoever is in their abdomens and their skins shall be melted. For them await hooked iron rods. As often as they desire in their anguish to come forth from it, they shall be restored into it.

Sura 22 The Pilgrimage 19-22

The dweller of Hell is given to drink oozing pus, which he gulps and can scarce swallow. Death comes upon him from every side, yet he cannot die. And still before him lies harsh chastisement.

Sura 14 Abraham 16-17

In the light of this it is astonishing that all the chapters of the Qur'an except one commence with 'In the name of Allah, the Merciful, the Compassionate'! Yet Allah is compassionate to those who do what they are told and follow Muhammad. They will be admitted to paradise:

Whoso obeys God and his Messenger, He will admit him to the gardens [of paradise].

Sura 8 The Spoils 24

Surely the pious shall be in bliss, upon couches gazing. You find in their faces shining bliss as they are offered to drink of wine sealed with musk.

Sura 83 The Defrander 20-25

Surely for the God-fearing awaits a place of security, gardens and vine-yards and maidens with swelling bosoms.

Sura 78 The Announcement 31-34

Other sayings give details of the ever-young *houris*, or virgins, that will be available to all men in paradise:

A *houris* is a most beautiful young woman with a transparent body. The marrow of her bones is visible like the interior lines of pearls and rubies.

Hadith Tirmzi Vol. 2 35-40

A *houris* is a girl of tender age, having large rising breasts which are round, and not inclined to dangle.

Hadith Mishkat Vol. 3 83-97

Every man who enters paradise will be given seventy-two of these *houris* and, no matter at what age he dies, in paradise he will be a thirty-year-old with the virility of a hundred men. For those of a different sexual persuasion there are also beautiful ever-young boys.

Holy War

Oh ye who believe! The non-Muslim are unclean.

Sura 9 Repentance 17

Surely the worst of beasts in God's sight are the unbelievers.

Sura 8 The Spoils 55

Humiliate the non-Muslims to such an extent that they surrender and pay tribute.

Sura 9 Repentance 29

Oh ye who believe! Murder those of the disbelievers . . . and let them find harshness in you.

Sura 9 Repentance 123

Muhammad creates a divisive world in which Muslims are to be treated one way and unbelievers another. The Qur'an states: 'Muslims are hard against the unbelievers, but merciful to one another'.

To be a Muslim is to be in 'God's party' and to be an unbeliever is to be against God. Indeed just to be friendly with an unbeliever is to be an evildoer. Even if that person is a close relative:

O believers, take not Jews and Christians as friends, they are friends of each other, whoso of you makes them his friends is one of them. God guides not the people of the evil-doers.

Sura 5 The Feast 57

O believers, do not treat your fathers and brothers as your friends, if they prefer unbelief to belief. Whosoever of you takes them for friend they are evil-doers.

Sura 9 Repentance 23

Muslims are the people who do not love anyone who opposes God and his Messenger, not even if they were their father, or their sons, or their brothers or their clan.

Sura 58 The Disputant 22

Consumed with religious mania Muhammad begins to claim that God wants Muslims to wage a *jihad*, or holy war, against all unbelievers:

O Prophet, urge on the believers to fight, if there be twenty of you, patient men, they will overcome two hundred. If there be a hundred of you, they will overcome a thousand unbelievers.

Sura 8 The Spoils 65

Now Muhammad unleashes a savage policy of ethnic cleansing that eventually led to the expulsion of all Jews and Christians from the Arabian Peninsula. Muhammad declares:

O ye assembly of Jews . . . you should know that the earth belongs to God and His Messenger, and I wish that I should expel you from this land.

Hadith 4363

I will expel the Jews and Christians from the Arabian Peninsula and will not leave any but Muslims.

Hadith 4366

Muhammad's vengeance on the Jews for not accepting Islam was particularly brutal. The Jewish Banu Kainuka tribe had once entered into an alliance with Muhammad, but now fell into disfavor with the Prophet. After a long siege of their town by Muhammad's armies they surrendered. Muhammad wanted to execute all seven hundred of their soldiers. One of his companions, however, begged for them to be treated with mercy, so instead the tribe was banished from Arabia. The Jewish Banu Quraiza tribe were not so lucky. The angel Gabriel told Muhammad to destroy them entirely. Eight hundred Jewish men were slaughtered, their women became concubines, and their children slaves.

Hadith 4364

The Banu Quraiza were taken out from their fortress and penned up in separate yards. During the night the Muslims, at the command of the Prophet, dug a long trench. As day broke Muhammad said his prayers to 'Allah the Merciful, the Compassionate' and took a seat by the pit to supervise the operation. The Jewish men were brought in groups of five or six with their hands tied behind their backs. They were ordered to lie down with their heads stretched out over the edge of the pit. Muhammad's companions Ali and Zubair then decapitated them with swords. By dusk the job was completed. Among the Jewish women who fell to the Muslims as spoils of war was an enchanting beauty of twenty-two called Rihana. Her husband, parents, friends and relations had just been massacred at the Prophet's command, but despite her grief Muhammad immediately proposed marriage to her. Rihana refused his offer, so the Prophet simply took her as another concubine.

Muhammad was now the leader of the most vicious gang in Arabia, and all those *kafirs*, or infidels, who dared opposed him met a grisly fate:

The only reward of those who make war on Allah and His Messenger and strive after corruption in the land will be that they will be killed or crucified, or have their hands and feet on alternate sides cut off, or they will be expelled out of the land. Such will be their degradation in the world. And in the Hereafter theirs will be an awful doom.

Sura 5 The Feast 33

Despite the Qur'anic injunction that no one should be associated with Allah, praising Muhammad becomes an integral part of every Muslim's daily prayers. The basic Muslim confession is the *shahada*, which includes the name of Muhammad alongside that of Allah. The Qur'an is unequivocal that obedience to both is required:

It is not for any believer, man or woman, when Allah and His Messenger have decreed a matter, to have the choice in the affair. Whosoever disobeys Allah and his Messenger has gone astray into clear error.

Sura 33 The Allied Troops 36

As Muhammad's megalomania grows, the whole relationship between God and his Prophet is stood on its head with the statement:

One may be negligent towards God but one must be respectful toward Muhammad.

Shakh, A. *Islam: the Arab Imperialism*, p. 72

At the end of his life, we are told, Muhammad miraculously ascended to Heaven, where he now sits on God's right hand waiting to judge us all. With this myth the transition from humble prophet to divine super-being is completed. Muhammad finally usurps God's power altogether, because it is no longer God who holds the keys to Heaven. It is Muhammad.

The Qur'an previously taught that at the time of judgment 'no one shall be able to benefit someone else because the command shall belong to God'. Now we are told that Muhammad can intercede on our behalf and that the prophet's intercessions are binding on God. So it is Muhammad who will decide who is saved and who is damned, because God must be governed by Muhammad's opinion.

Sura 82 The Splitting 19

*All of the above, comes from: ch 5, *Muhammad: From Mystic to Mobster*, pp 82-104, in *The Laughing Jesus: Religious Lies & Gnostic Wisdom*, by Timothy Freke and Peter Grandy

Other books of note:

Karem Armstrong, *Islam: A Short History* (2000)

I. Manji; *The Trouble with Islam: A Wake-up Call for Honesty & Change* (2004)

A. Shaikh, *Faith and Deception* (1996)

T. Ali *The Clash of Fundamentalisms: Crusades, Jihads & Modernity* (2002)

*Book available in Nirvana Bookstore 1 S. Broadway, Nyack 12-6 pm Thur-Sun

Final Comment:

"We can no longer go on pretending that religious terrorists are perverting the "true" message of their sacred texts when the texts themselves create an us-versus-them world and unite their readers to divinely sanctioned violence."