

Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him) who was the last Prophet chosen by God to give revelations is considered as the most praiseworthy man in the history by Muslims. Quran 33: 21 says that he is an excellent pattern/complete example for anyone who is in the path of Allah. His words constitute many practices followed by Muslims and also considered as a source of Islamic law after the Quran. Not only that western scholars like Thomas Carlyle, Jorge Bernard Show, Mahatma Gandhi, John William Draper have praised him as a great man in the history. But however critics of Islam is trying to portray him as a cruel, wicked, violent, insane and immoral person. If these claims are true he can't be a Prophet chosen by God. We should admit that.

However we should examine how truthful are these claims before come to such a conclusion. Using only authoritative Islamic sources like Sahih Hadeeths and earliest Biographies of Prophet like Sira of Ibn Ishaq and Sira of Ibn Sade we will examine the truthfulness of allegations directed at Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). We do not give conclusions, we will give facts to conclude yourself. You can judge honestly using your consciousness.

Was the prophet Muhammad (PBUH) intolerant and resentful towards other religions?

Narrated Ibn 'Umar:

Allah's Messenger (SA) said: "I have been ordered (by Allah) to fight against the people until they testify that none has the right to be worshiped but Allah and that Muhammad is Allah's Messenger (SA), and offer the prayers perfectly and give the obligatory charity, so if they perform that, then they save their lives and property from me except for Islamic laws and then their reckoning (accounts) will be done by Allah."

Reference : [Sahih al-Bukhari 25](#)

In-book reference : Book 2, Hadith 18

USC-MSA web (English) reference : Vol. 1, Book 2, Hadith 25
(*deprecated numbering scheme*)

The only way to protect the life from one who uttered these words is to convert to Islam as above words clearly states.

When I read this hadith it reminds me the words of erudite Byzantine emperor Manuel II Paleologus, which His Holiness Benedict 16 quoted in his famous "[Regensburge University Lecture](#)."

"Show me just what Mohammed brought that was new, and there you will find things only evil and inhuman, such as his command to spread by the sword the faith he preached. God is not pleased by blood - and not acting reasonably is contrary to God's nature. Faith is born of the soul, not the body. Whoever would lead someone to faith needs the ability to speak well and to reason properly, without violence and threats... To convince a reasonable soul, one does not need a strong arm, or weapons of any kind, or any other means of threatening a person with death..."

Religious Intolerance

Narrated Abdullah:

When the Prophet (SA) entered Mecca on the day of the Conquest, there were 360 idols around the Ka'ba. The Prophet (SA) started striking them with a stick he had in his hand and was saying, "Truth has come and Falsehood will neither start nor will it reappear"

Reference : [Sahih al-Bukhari 4287](#)

In-Book reference : Book 64, Hadith 320

USC-MSA web (English) reference : Vol. 5, Book 59, Hadith 583

(deprecated numbering scheme)

Oxford Dictionary defines religious intolerance as not allowing other religions to follow their religious obligations. However it must be permissible to restrict a certain religious activity if it clearly violates basic human rights. For example "Sathi Puja" (Hindu custom of sacrificing widows to the husband's pyre) can not be allowed under this banner. But worshiping idols (Shirk) is not such a one. It's not a violation of human rights of Muslims. But the Prophet Muhammad wasn't tolerant towards the practice. He destroyed the belongings and sacred objects of other religious groups. What do you feel if someone burned a Quran? I'm pretty sure that pagans of the mecca also felt the very same feeling when your holy prophet was smashing their sacred objects of worship.

[It is obligatory to destroy statues in Islam](#), even if they are part of the legacy of human civilization (including Pyramids etc.), If they casts a shadow and visible to outside. The obligation to destroy them becomes stronger if they are worshiped others instead of Allah. You can clearly see that Buddha Statues of the ancient city of Anuradhapura and other archaeological monuments which is still preserving by the Kuffr government fulfill all these requirements. So, now, it's your religious obligation to destroy them even they are part of the legacy of human civilization. Your obligation becomes stronger since the prophet you are following as a complete example to mankind too has done it.

Killing anyone who leaves Islam

'Ikrimah said:

'Ali burned some people who retreated from Islam. When Ibn 'Abbas was informed of it, he said: If it had been I, I would not have burned them, for the Messenger of Allah (SA) said: Do not inflict Allah's punishment on anyone, but would have had killed them on account of the statement of the Messenger of Allah (SA). The Apostle said: Kill those who change their religion. When 'Ali was informed about it he said: How truly Ibn 'Abbas said!

Grade : Sahih (Al-Albani)

Reference : [Sunan Abi Dawud 4351](#)

In-book reference : Book 40, Hadith 1

English translation : Book 39, Hadith 4337

(deprecated numbering scheme)

When someone converted to his religion he did not allow them to convert to another religion again. It seems like he thought that though it's okay him to gaining converts from other religions, other religions/leaders shouldn't have the right of gaining converts from his religion.

[Killing anyone who leaves Islam](#) have accepted as an infallible law in Sharia by every Sunni Madhab and Jafari Madhab of Shites.

Hatred towards the Jews

It has been narrated by ‘Umar b. al-Khattib that he heard the Messenger of Allah (SA) say

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

Reference : [Sahih Muslim 1767 a](#)

In-book reference : Book 32, Hadith 75

USC-MSA web (English) reference : Book 19, Hadith 4366
(*deprecated numbering scheme*)

This is not due to a crime done by them but because the Allah’s apostle believed that they have no right to live in their lands simply because of they are non-Muslims as shown by Hadith below.

‘Umar bin Al-Khattab expelled all the Jews and Christians from the land of Hijaz. Allah’s Messenger (SA) after conquering Khaiber, thought of expelling the Jews from the land which, after he conquered it belonged to Allah, Allah’s Messenger (SA) and the Muslims. But the Jews requested Allah’s Messenger (SA) to leave them there on the condition that they would do the labor and get half of the fruits (the land would yield). Allah’s Messenger (SA) said, “We shall keep you on these terms as long as we wish.” Thus they stayed till the time of ‘Umar’s Caliphate when he expelled them to Taima and Arha.

Reference : [Sahih al-Bukhari 3152](#)

In-book reference : Book 57, Hadith 60

USC-MSA web (English) reference : Vol. 4, Book 53, Hadith 380
(*deprecated numbering scheme*)

Not only he act himself resentful towards the Jews, he laid the foundation for future holocaust against Jews in the hands of the Muslims.

Abu Huraira reported Allah’s Messenger (SA) as saying:

The last hour would not come unless the Muslims will fight against the Jews and the Muslims would kill them until the Jews would hide themselves behind a stone or a tree and a stone or a tree would say: Muslim, or the servant of Allah, there is a Jew behind me; come and kill him; but the tree Gharqad would not say, for it is the tree of the Jews.

Reference : [Sahih Muslim 2922](#)

In-book reference : Book 54, Hadith 105

USC-MSA web (English) reference : Book 41, Hadith 6985
(*deprecated numbering scheme*)

The prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was greatly [praised by Adolf Hitler](#) for saying these words. Actually [Arab religious leaders joined with Hitler’s holocaust](#) against the Jews in the 2nd world war perhaps to this connection.

To Muslims, Jews are group of people which they had to kill one day, because of this hadith. I was in a facebook group named “Friends who like Anwar Manathunga” which much of members were

Muslims. I was debating with them issues like this over a year or two. And I found that most of them, though they are well nurtured and kind, are hateful towards the Jews. They accused all the crimes done in the name of Islam of being the conspiracies by the Jews. According to them, even the formation of ISIS or 9/11 attack too is done by Jews! It is ironical when these same people criticize Sinhala racists for lying about Muslim conspiracies. I don't think that reason for this hatred is the creation of Israel by expelling some Muslim inhabitants of the area, since there are many historical evidence to prove a long tradition of such hatred even dates back to Prophet Muhammad's time as shown above. And it was before the creation of Israel, Muslims joined with Hitler's anti-Jew campaign.

So I think this hatred towards Jews of Muslims is deeply rooted within their religion. Here's a video which shows how the hateful and racist verses of the [Quran have destroyed the innocent minds of little kids.](#)

Was the prophet Muhammad (PBUH) an assassin who ordered to kill his critics and wasn't able to tolerate criticisms?

Only months after his arrival in Medina, Prophet Muhammad ordered the assassination of a centenarian man who had criticized him. Abu Afak, who was said to be 120 years old, had composed a poem, in which he lamented that people had become followers of Muhammad and have turned against each other. Ibn Sa'd reports this story as follows:

Then occurred the "sariyyah" [raid] of Salim Ibn Umayr al-Amri against Abu Afak, the Jew, in [the month of] Shawwal in the beginning of the twentieth month from the hijrah [immigration from Mecca to Medina in AD 622], of the Apostle of Allah. Abu Afak, was from Banu Amr Ibn Awf, and was an old man who had attained the age of one hundred and twenty years. He was a Jew, and used to instigate the people against the Apostle of Allah, and composed (satirical) verses [about Muhammad]. Salim Ibn Umayr who was one of the great weepers and who had participated in Badr, said, 'I take a vow that I shall either kill Abu Afak or die before him.' He waited for an opportunity until a hot night came, and Abu Afak slept in an open place. Salim Ibn Umayr knew it, so he placed the sword on his liver and pressed it till it reached his bed. The enemy of Allah screamed and the people, who were his followers, rushed to him, took him to his house and interred him.

(The Kitab al Tabaqat al kabir, Vol. 2, p 31)

When Asma bint Marwan, a Jewish mother of five small children heard this, she was so outraged that she composed a poem cursing the men of Medina for letting a stranger divide them and make them assassinate a venerable old man. Again, Muhammad went to his pulpit and cried out: "'Who will rid me of Marwan's daughter?' Umayr bin `Adiy al-Khatmi who was with him heard him, and that very night he went to her house and killed her. In the morning he came to the apostle and told him what he had done and he [Muhammad] said, 'You have helped Allah and His apostle, O `Umayr!' When he asked if he would have to bear any evil consequences, the apostle said, 'Two goats won't butt their heads about her.'"

(From pp. 675-676 of The Life of Muhammad , which is A. Guilaume's translation of Sirat Rasul Allâh by Ibn Ishaq)

After receiving praise from Muhammad for the assassination of Asma, the killer went to her children, bragged about committing the murder, and taunted those

little kids and their clan.

Ibn Sa'd notes:

Now there was a great commotion among Banu Khatma that day about the affair of bint [daughter of] Marwan. She had five sons, and when `Umayr went to them from the apostle he said, 'I have killed bint Marwan, O sons of Khatma. Withstand me if you can; don't keep me waiting.' That was the first day Islam became powerful among B. Khatma; before that those who were Muslims concealed the fact. The first of them to accept Islam was `Umayr b. `Adiy who was called the 'Reader' and `Abdullah b. Aus and Khuzayma b. Thabit. **The day after bint Marwan was killed the men of B. Khatma became Muslims because they saw the power of Islam.**

(Ishaq pp. 675-676)

[above part of this section is taken from "Understanding Muhammad and Muslims" by Ali Sina.]

[He has done or ordered or approved many other such murders](#) more than forty. As I know any other religious leader hasn't killed their critics. Jesus or Buddha or Baha'i hasn't done so. Both Jesus and Buddha discussed religious issues with other contemporary leaders and when anyone criticized them they never become outraged.

composing a poem is a peaceful way of expressing one's disagreement. Only a psychopathic narcissist will respond to it by killing them. Just like Muhammad criticized the religion of Quraish; Just like the Quran is condemning the Jews calling them "apes" and "pigs", they (Asma b. Marwan and Abu Afak) too criticized the Muhammad, who seems to them being misguided. Whether that view is correct or not is not relevant. But they have a right to express their opinions. But the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) or his followers did not admit that others too should have same rights that Muslims had. (Have this mentality changed even the today? They won't give non Muslims to practice their religions in Muslim majority countries. But asks even to be allowed to practice religious laws for their community from their non-Muslim governments. If I were a Muslim I would oppose to build any Mosque in my non-Muslim country until the fellow Muslims in Muslim majority countries give full religious rights to My non-Muslim friends there, even they were not in permanent residency) "We, Muslims can criticize them, their religion/gods and and their leaders, But they can't criticize ours. If they did so they'll lose lives." It seems like that was the mentality of the Prophet Muhammad. And at that time such things were common or there were many other people (Kings/modern day political leaders) who have done such acts is not an excuse. Even in an era which is barbaric, a religious leader must do the correct thing. He can't act immorally. He has the duty to correct the morality of the time. Looking at how Muhammad react idol worshiping, we can't accept that he was afraid to question the currently accepted practices because they were widely practiced. At least he would have not used such tactics. If he did so because everyone of his time act similarly, that means he is a cunning opportunist.

Perhaps the following this example (Sunnah) by Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) Ayathollah Khomeini (May Allah be pleased with him) issued a Fatwa to kill Salmon Rushdie, one of the greatest novelists of the century for writing the novel "[Satanic Verses.](#)" It's translator into Japanese, Hithoshi Thagarishi was assassinated. It's translator into Italian, Eththore Caprioli was severely injured. Wiliam Nygard, one of the Muhammad cartoonists was knifed. Dutch filmmaker Theo Van Gog too was killed for directing the film "[Submission.](#)" It's script writer ex-Muslim [Ayaan Hirsi Ali](#) too has received death threats. But why any catholic didn't try to kill Dam Brown for writing controversial novel Da Vinci Code? According to that novel Jesus had had married and had sex with Maria

Magdalena giving birth to children! Need not to say this is shocking idea for many Christians. But they didn't act like Muslims. Why? Because their religious leader hasn't given an example like this. Only religious leader (?) in the history who had ordered to kill his critics is Muhammad.

Muhammad have condoned killing of a Jewish slave woman, with her unborn child by her master for blaming him (Muhammad).

Narrated Abdullah Ibn Abbas: A blind man had a slave-mother who used to abuse the Prophet (ﷺ) and disparage him. He forbade her but she did not stop. He rebuked her but she did not give up her habit. **One night she began to slander the Prophet (ﷺ) and abuse him. So he took a dagger, placed it on her belly, pressed it, and killed her.** A child who came between her legs was smeared with the blood that was there. [...] He sat before the Prophet (ﷺ) and said: Messenger of Allah! I am her master; she used to abuse you and disparage you. I forbade her, but she did not stop, and I rebuked her, but she did not abandon her habit. I have two sons like pearls from her, and she was my companion. **Last night she began to abuse and disparage you. So I took a dagger, put it on her belly and pressed it till I killed her. Thereupon the Prophet (ﷺ) said: Oh be witness, no retaliation is payable for her blood.**

- [Sunan Abi Dawud 4361](#)

Was the prophet Muhammad (PBUH) a looter?

Muhammad migrated to Medina with his followers, who are not exceeding the hundred. He said his followers that Quraish are conspiring to kill him, and so they must go to Medina. Except a few like Khdija and Abu-Bakr his followers were disaffected youths and slaves. They did no occupation like farming or trading or giving services. After came to Medina, their only income was raiding the caravans which was going to Medina from the Mecca. They ambushed and killed the guards of the caravan and seized the goods. This is what we called as looting.

The first successful raid occurred at the place of Nakhla in a sacred month which was considered by Arabs as unlawful and sacrilege to killing. Muhammad gave instructions to Ibn Jash by a sealed letter telling that letter should be read only after they arrived the place. They camped in the way and waited for a caravan. What happened hereafter has been described as follows in the *Sira*.

A caravan of Quraysh carrying dry raisins and leather and other merchandise of Quraysh passed by them, Amr b. al-Hadarami, Uthman b. Abdullah b. al-Mughira and his brother Naufal the Makhzumites, and al-Hakam b. Kaysan, freedman of Hisham b. al-Mughira being among them. When the caravan saw them they were afraid of them because they had camped near them. Ukkasha, who had shaved his head, looked down on them, and when they saw him, They felt safe and said, They are pilgrims, you have nothing to fear from them. The raiders took council among themselves, for this was the last day of Rajab, and they said, If you leave them alone tonight they will get into the sacred area and will be safe from you; and if you kill them, you will kill them in the sacred month, so they were hesitant and feared to attack them. Then they encouraged each other, and decided to kill as many as they could of them and take what they had. Waqf shot Amr b. al-Hdarami with an arrow and killed him, and Uthman and al-Hakam surrendered. Naufal escaped and eluded them. Abdullah and his companions, took the caravan and the two prisoners and escape to Medina with them.

This crime, which was done in a sacred month bring many criticisms to Muhammad from the Quraish. But fortunately he got a revelation from his God justifying his action, just like in many other such situations.

They ask you about the sacred month – about fighting therein. Say, "Fighting therein is great [sin], but averting [people] from the way of Allah and disbelief in Him and [preventing access to] al-Masjid al-Haram and the expulsion of its people therefrom are greater [evil] in the sight of Allah. And Fitnah is worse than killing." And they will continue to fight you until they turn you back from your religion if they are able. And whoever of you reverts from his religion [to disbelief] and dies while he is a disbeliever – for those, their deeds have become worthless in this world and the Hereafter, and those are the companions of the Fire; they will abide therein eternally.

- Quran 2: 217

If someone read this verse without knowing the context of the revelation he will think that it was revealed in a situation where Muslims were being persecuted because of their belief and they were asking to take arms to protect their lives. But in reality this was revealed to Muhammad by his God, to justify a looting done by Muslims against a trading caravan and have killed two men in a month in which it was prohibited to kill.

This is the truth behind many such Quran verses which ask Muslims to kill the infidels. Whenever we criticize those violent verses Muslim apologetics will say "Or how misguided are you ? This was revealed in a war, which was Muslims were fighting for self defense. You should look at the context of these verses to understand what happened really." of course we should look at the context of the Quran verses to understand what really happened. The verse we examined above, can't be justified saying this was done "because Muslims were not allowed enter into Masjid al-Haram". How can one dare to ask to be allowed to pray in another group's place of worship? And note that this too after their leader has talked disparagingly about their gods. Now, a Muslim will remind me that it wasn't a certain group's place of worship, but was shared by every religious group of Mecca at the time. OK. If so why only Muslims were prohibited to enter there? There were some other Monotheist groups besides Muslims (Hanifs, Jews), But they were not restricted like Muslims. So the reason can't be monotheism of Islam. An apologetic can suggest that reason was the rapid growth of Islam which feared the polytheists of Mecca, But this can't be true since Muhammad was only able to gain around 100 of converts even after 13 years of preaching. It must be noted that if Meccans had done injustice to Muslims even then such act (attacks on trading caravans) will be a terrorist attack not a self defense. Self defense is attacking to an attacker to protect yourself not a retaliating from innocent ones of a group for something done by some of them.

This happened before the [war of Badr](#). In other words Muslims attacked Meccans before Meccans came to a war with them. Badr war too was a caravan raid, not a war wage for protect their lives. Yes. Quraish sent an armed brigade with those caravans. Why? To protect it from a possible attack from Muslims, since Muslims had begun to raid their caravans. They sent an army to defend themselves. But Muslims interpret this as a persecution against them, their religion! Even a protective measure against their violence or a response to their intolerance is "persecution" to them. We see this mentality of Muslims even today.

Prophet Muhammad did 70+ such caravan raids.

Abu Jandal, Suhayl's son, escaped and joined Abu Basir. Nearly seventy Muslim men gathered around them and they harassed the Quraysh. **Whenever they heard of a Meccan caravan setting out for Syria, they intercepted it, and killed everyone they could get a hold of. They tore every caravan to pieces and took the goods.**

Ishaq:508, See Also Al-Tabari, Vol. 8, p. 91

Muhammad's Sources of Income

Note that the following Hadith has been removed from the Internet and that it may be found at the indicated reference.

Narrated Ibn 'Umar that the Prophet (SA) said, **"My livelihood is under the shade of my spear,(1) and he who disobeys my orders will be humiliated by paying Jizya"**^[1]

Sahih Al-Bukhari, Vol. 4, p. 104

Also note the accompanying footnote:

Footnote: (1) **"Under the shade of my spear" means "from war booty".**

See Also

- [Violence Under Muhammad \(Primary Sources\)](#) - A hub page that leads to other articles related to *Violence Under Muhammad (Primary Sources)*

References

1. ↑ The Translation of the Meanings of Sahih Al-Bukhari, Arabic-English, Vol.IV (page 104) by Dr. Muhammad Muhsin Khan, Islamic University—Al-Medina Al-Munawwara

Categories: [QHS](#) | [Muhammad](#)

One fifth of the any wealth acquired by this way, must be given to the Muhammad. See Quran 8:1 and 8: 41.

Was the prophet Muhammad (PBUH) a terrorist?

A terrorist is a person who uses unlawful violence and intimidation, especially against civilians, in the pursuit of political aims. According to Oxford dictionary.

Now look at the following Hadith keeping this definition in the mind.

Narrated Ibn 'Umar:

Allah's Messenger (SA) said: "I have been ordered (by Allah) to fight against the people until they testify that none has the right to be worshiped but Allah and that Muhammad is Allah's Messenger (SA), and offer the prayers perfectly and give the obligatory charity, so if

they perform that, then they save their lives and property from me except for Islamic laws and then their reckoning (accounts) will be done by Allah.”

Reference : [Sahih al-Bukhari 25](#)

In-book reference : Book 2, Hadith 18

USC-MSA web (English) reference : Vol. 1, Book 2, Hadith 25
(*deprecated numbering scheme*)

Ibn ‘Aun reported:

I wrote to Nafi’ inquiring from him whether it was necessary to extend (to the disbelievers) an invitation to accept (Islam) before meeting them in fight. He wrote (in reply) to me that it was necessary in the early days of Islam. The messenger of Allah (SA) made a raid upon Banu Mustaliq while they were unaware and their cattle were having a drink at the water. He killed those who fought and imprisoned others. On that very day, he captured Juwairiya bint al-Harith. Nafi’ said that this tradition was related to him by Abdullah b. Umar who (himself) was among the raiding troops.

Reference: [Sahih Muslim 1720 a](#)

In-book reference : Book 32, Hadith 1

USC-MSA web (English) reference : Book 19, Hadith 4292
(*deprecated numbering scheme*)

It is reported on the authority of Sa’b b. Jaththama that the Prophet of Allah (SA), When asked about the women and children of the polytheists being killed during the night raid, said:

They are of them.

Reference : [Sahih Muslim 1745 a](#)

In-book reference : Book 32, Hadith 30

USC-MSA web (English) reference : Book 19, Hadith 4321
(*deprecated numbering scheme*)

Was the prophet Muhammad (PBUH) allowed the female war captives to be raped by Muslim warriors?

Abu Sa’id Al Khudri said “The Apostle of Allah (SA) sent a military expedition to Awtas on the occasion of the battle of Hunain. They met their enemy and fought with them. They defeated them and took them captives. Some of the companions of Apostle of Allah (SA) were reluctant to have relations with the female captives because of their pagan husbands. So, Allah the exalted sent down the Qura’nic verse “And all married women (are forbidden) unto you save those (captives) whom your right hand posses.” This is to say that they are lawful for them when they complete their waiting period.”

Grade : Sahih (Al-Albani)

Reference : [Sunan Abi Dawud 2155](#)

in-book reference : Book 12, Hadith 110

English translation : Book 11, Hadith 2150

According to 4:24 of the Quran and revelation context of it as shown by this Hadith, Muslim men can have sex with their female captives from the war even their husbands were present with them if they (those captives) are non-Muslims. Those women are taken by Muslims by killing their families. And those women were to be sold in the next slave market Muslims arrived to by weapons for Muslims. Would such women gladly consent to an enemy army who killed their relatives? In the presence of their husbands? And there is no mention about their consent ever in the Quran or in the hadiths mentioning sex with the female war captives. So we can only assume that those women were being raped under the blessings of Allah and his Messenger. Most importantly those captives is too consider as a property like any other goods acquired by war, as explained in the book “ඉස්ලාම්හිනිකාට විවෘත දැසින්” (looking at Islamophobia as an open minded person)” by ACJU. Rape is considered as a variation of [Zina crimes](#) (any illegal sex in Islamic law) and Zina crimes applies only for free Muslims.

After the assault on the Jews of Khayber, Muhammad ordered that a leader of the tribe, Kinana bin al-Rabi, be tortured until he disclosed the location of the group’s treasure. A fire was lit on Kinana’s chest but, as he did not know about a such thing repeatedly, Muhammad had him beheaded. Muhammad had promised Kinana’s young wife, Safiya, to another Muslim, but, after hearing of her beauty, he went back on his word and took her for himself. By some accounts, this occurred only hours after he dispatched her husband. (Ishaq, p. 515; Bukhari 1. 8. 367).

Anas said “Captives were gathered at Khaibar. Diyah came out and said”Apostle of Allah (SA) give me a slave girl from the captives.” He said “Go and take a slave girl.” He took Safiyyah daughter of Hyyayy. A man then came to the Prophet (SA) and said “You gave Safiyyah daughter of Huyayy, chief lady of the Quraizah and Al Nadir to Diyah?” This is according to the version of Ya’qub. Then the agreed version goes “she is worthy of you.” he said “call him along with her.” When the Prophet (SA) looked at her, he said to him “take another slave girl from the captives.” The Prophet (SA) then set her free and married her.”

Grade : Sahih (Al-Albani)

Reference : [Sunan Abi Dawud 2998](#)

In-book reference : Book 20, Hadith 71

English translation : Book 19, Hadith 2992

He married many women like Safiya who had to be widows (after killing their husbands). All of them were at least two or three decades younger than him who was a man of over 50. According to Quran 33: 50 said to be revealed by God to him, he was exempted from the limit of 6 wives which was applied to every other Muslim. The reason for this privilege too given in the verse. Pay attention to words emphasized in the bold.

...[this is] only for you, excluding the [other] believers. We certainly know what We have made obligatory upon them concerning their wives and those their right hands possess, [but this is for you] **in order that there will be upon you no discomfort** [i.e., difficulty].

Allah knew that his prophet had a difficulty of controlling his lust and so gave this privilege.

Muslims say that Muhammad married these women to help them. But he have changed his mind not to marry some women after hearing that though they are beautiful they are not too young or

have children. If his intention was to help them why he reject to marry them on that grounds? One may ask that why these women (whom their families had been killed by Muhammad and his companions) did not reject the Prophet's requests to marry? If they did not marry with him, even then they had to live as a sex slave of a Muslim and had to being raped in all her life. Women like Safiya would have thought that, it's better to being a wife of the man who killed husbands and fathers than becoming a slave. Married Muslim women had fair state despite the restrictions in Islamic law, when compared to a slave who is considered as a property under Islamic law. It's not the frailty or mystery of women's psyche, it's a decision came from miserable and inescapable situation they had to be in. Have any difference of raping a woman (forcing woman to have sex) and benefiting from a woman after degrading her situation into a miserable one?

Something to think...

An article named "[What makes a cult?](#)" which was published in "The Guardian" gives 10 warning signs of a potentially unsafe group or leader. Here are them, which I compare with Islam/Muhammad.

- **Absolute authoritarianism without meaningful accountability.** Muhammad did not bound from morality of the time or even by the laws of his own religion. There are some Quran verses revealed for mere purpose of satisfying his sexual desires. He had special privileges like many other cult leaders. Unlike other Muslims he could marry any number of women as he pleased. He could eat whenever he pleased during fasting. (Tabaqat, Volume 1, page 369) He could do things which breach the morality of the time like cutting down trees in the desert (59:5), killing people in sacred months for his benefit. From the property looted by his followers one fifth must be given to him and whenever in a battle, followers must protect him as they protect their children and women (Sira, p. 203), but they (followers) must fight even sacrificing their lives. He was manipulative like any other cult leader. He never fought in the battlefield. He stayed in a hidden spot looking at the war with his protectors. In that respect Zaharan (Google for Easter Terror Attack Sri Lanka) was a great man than Muhammad. Beside that he did not commit all the crimes committed by his teacher. Muhammad said that Allah said to him that he will forgive any sin he did in the past and any sin he would commit in the rest of his life. (Quran 48: 1-2) The reason why he did so many crimes maybe that belief. Could this revelation from a God who is merciful and wise? Or is this a Satan's plan? Why God (if it was revealed by him) did not take back this privilege at least when his Prophet's criminal behavior goes with no limits?
- **No tolerance for questions or critical inquiry.** yes, he was, to the point of ordering to kill his critics and those who leave his religion. If a Muslim questioned tenets of the religion or hold a different view it will be an apostasy or a blasphemy. For a Muslim punishment for [blasphemy](#) is also death penalty since it constitutes an apostasy also. Any Muslim who criticize or questioning things considered as sacred in Islam (like Prophethood of the Muhammad, Allah etc) is a blasphemmer and hence an apostate and thus must be killed.
- **No meaningful financial disclosure regarding budget or expenses, such as an independently audited financial statement.** applied only in modern times. So this can't be tested regarding Islam. But you can get some idea of Muhammad's income by paying the attention to his caravan raids.
- **Unreasonable fear about the outside world, such as impending catastrophe, evil conspiracies and persecutions.** He persuaded youths and slaves who were gathered with

him to migrate to Medina leaving their own families (separation from the family ties is also a thing done by most cult leaders) by saying Meccans are plotting to kill him. There's no any proof for that except for his own claim that 'His God' told it to him. Quran is full of baseless allegations and warnings about alleged conspiracies by every contemporary religious group against the Muslims and possible future persecutions showing the fear and suspicions they had with the outside world and how the author wanted to persuade them to a war with others.

- **There is no legitimate reason to leave, former followers are always wrong in leaving, negative or even evil.** yes, anyone who left Islam must be killed. When he migrated to Medina he prohibit to those who came there to go again to Mecca, and he said that God ordered him to kill them if they tries to go again to Mecca. (Quran 4: 89)
- **Former members often relate the same stories of abuse and reflect a similar pattern of grievances.** Talk to any ex-Muslim and ask him.
- **There are records, books, news articles, or broadcast reports that document the abuses of the group/leader.** yes we have such accounts given by his own companions (Hadith) and biographers (Sira).
- **Followers feel they can never be "good enough."** can't be tested/shows no such remarkable difference with other religions.
- **The group/leader is always right.** remember how you were (and still) trying to justify these actions, when you were reading/after read this. You may say other faith groups too defend for their leaders and consider them as saints, but any of these leaders haven't done things like these. If you find such atrocities by Jesus, Buddha, Baha'ullah, Guru Nanak or Mahavira etc. please inform me.
- **The group/leader is the exclusive means of knowing "truth" or receiving validation, no other process of discovery is really acceptable or credible.** He (Allah was his alter ego) prohibited to ask more questions. (Quran 5:101-102) But teachers like Buddha encouraged their followers even to question their teacher's views.

“The signs seem clear, But when it's your friends, your faith, your community, it's not so obvious.”

- Boze Herrington (former member of a cult) from [The Seven Signs You're in a Cult - The Atlantic](#)

“But how can ... devout Muslims criticize their prophet without seriously damaging Islam? But Muslims must do this, if they think clearly and critically, and for the good of humanity.”

- James M. Arlandson (from [Slave girls as sex objects](#))

compiled by Sachintha Madushan

PS: If you have anything to make clear about claims of this article please refer to the “[Understanding Muhammad and Muslims](#)” by Dr: Ali Sina which this article owes much. You can download other language copies of the book from [here](#).