

# **SIMILARITIES BETWEEN ISLAM AND CHRISTIANITY**

*by*

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## **Al-Qur'an 3:64**

Say (O Muhammad SAW): "O people of the Scripture (Jews and Christians): Come to a word that is just between us and you, that we worship none but Allah (Alone), and that we associate no partners with Him, and that none of us shall take others as lords besides Allah. Then, if they turn away, say: "Bear witness that we are Muslims."

## Al-Qur'an 20:25-28

Greet you in the same manner as Jesus (pbuh) greeted in Hebrew Luke 24:36

AND AS THEY THUS SPAKE JESUS HIMSELF STOOD IN THE MIDST OF THEM  
AND SAITH UNTO THEM **PEACE BE UNTO YOU.**( **Sholam alay kum'**)

## **Sholam alay kum'**

or Islamic greeting in Arabic Assalaamu alai kum, both meaning 'Peace be on you'.

## INTRODUCTION

**Similarities / Similar Teachings in the Qur'an and the Bible which Muslims follow but Christians don't**

### I ISLAM

#### 1. DEFINITION

A. Meaning of Islam

(i) Islam is derived from the word *salaam* meaning peace.

(ii) Submission to the Will of Allah (swt) i.e. God Almighty.

B. Meaning of 'Muslim' – One who submits his will to Allah.

C. Islam is not a new religion found by Prophet Muhammad (pbuh).

#### 2. MESSENGERS IN ISLAM

A. (i) To every nation was sent a Guide or a Messenger

Al-Qur'an 35:24

Al-Qur'an 13:7

(ii) 25 Prophets mentioned by name in the Qur'an

(iii) Islam is the only non-Christian faith that believes in Jesus (pbuh)

(iv) Stories only of some prophets mentioned in Qur'an

Al-Qur'an 4:164

Al-Qur'an 40:78

(v) More than 1,24,000 Messengers according to Hadith

B.(i) Previous Messengers were only sent for their people and nation and their complete message was meant only for a particular time period.

(ii) Moses (pbuh) was only sent for the Jews.

(iii) Jesus (pbuh) sent only for the Jews i.e. lost sheep of Israel.

Al-Qur'an 3:49

**Mathew 10:5-6** 10-5- THESE TWELVE JESUS SENT FORTH AND COMMANDED THEM SAYING GO NOT INTO THE WAY OF THE GENTILES AND INTO ANY CITY OF THE SAMARITANS ENTER YE NOT-

10-6- BUT GO RATHER TO THE LOST SHEEP OF THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL.

Mathew 15:24 But he answered and said I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of The House of Israel

(iv) Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) is the Last and Final Messenger for the Whole of Mankind.

Al-Qur'an 33:40

Al-Qur'an 21:107

Al-Qur'an 34:28

Sahih Bukhari Vol.1 Book of *Salaah* Chapter 56 Hadith No. 429

(v) Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) prophesized in the Bible.

Al-Qur'an 7:157

Al-Qur'an 61:6

**Deuteronomy 18:18** 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.

**Isaiah 29:12** and the writing is delivered to him that is not learned, saying: 'Read this, I pray thee'; and he saith: 'I am not learned.' {S}

**Song of Solomon 5:16** His mouth is most sweet; yea, he is altogether lovely. This is my beloved, and this is my friend, O daughters of Jerusalem.'

**(John 16:7:** NEVERTHELESS I TELL YOU THE TRUTH IT IS EXPEDIENT FOR YOU THAT I GO AWAY- FOR IF I GO NOT AWAY THE COMFORTER WILL NOT COME UNTO YOU BUT IF I DEPART I WILL SEND HIM UNTO YOU.)

**(John 16:12-14:** I HAVE YET MANY THINGS TO SAY UNTO YOU BUT YE CANNOT BEAR THEM NOW.

16-13- HOWBEIT WHEN HE

THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH IS COME

HE WILL GUIDE YOU INTO ALL TRUTH- FOR HE SHALL NOT SPEAK OF HIMSELF BUT WHATSOEVER HE SHALL HEAR THAT SHALL HE SPEAK- AND HE WILL SHEW YOU THINGS TO COME.

16-14- HE SHALL GLORIFY ME- FOR HE SHALL RECEIVE OF MINE AND SHALL SHEW IT UNTO YOU.

### **3. REVELATIONS OF GOD**

A. Several Revelations sent by Allah – Al-Qur'an 13:38.

By name only four are mentioned in the Qur'an.

B. (i) The Qur'an is the Last and Final Revelation.

(ii) All previous Revelations before Qur'an were only sent for a particular group of people and for a particular time period

(iii) The Qur'an was Revealed for the Whole of Mankind

Al-Qur'an 14:1

Al-Qur'an 14:52

Al-Qur'an 2:185

Al-Qur'an 39:41

## **II PILLARS OF ISLAM:**

### **1. Tauheed: Monotheism**

A. *La ilaha ilallahu, Muhammad-ur-Rasoolullah*

Sahih Bukhari Vol. 1 Hadith No. 7

B. Believe in Allah and the Last Day, and the Angels and the Book and the Messengers.

Al-Qur'an 2:177

C. Come to common terms — Worship of one God

Al-Qur'an 3:64

D. Concept of God

Al-Qur'an 112:1-4

Deuteronomy 6:4 Hear, O Israel: the LORD our God, the LORD is one.

Mark 12:29 AND JESUS ANSWERED HIM THE FIRST OF ALL THE

COMMANDMENTS IS HEAR O ISRAEL THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE LORD-

E. *Shirk* – Biggest Sin

Al-Qur'an 4:48

Al-Qur'an 4:116

Exodus 20:2-5

**2** I am the LORD thy God, who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.

**3** Thou shalt not make unto thee a graven image, nor any manner of likeness, of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth;

**4** thou shalt not bow down unto them, nor serve them; for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me;

**5** and showing mercy unto the thousandth generation of them that love Me and keep My commandments. {S}

Deuteronomy 5:7-9

**7** Thou shalt not make unto thee a graven image, even any manner of likeness, of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

**8** Thou shalt not bow down unto them, nor serve them; for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the third and upon the fourth generation of them that hate Me

**9** and showing mercy unto the thousandth generation of them that love Me and keep My commandments. {S}

F. Jesus (pbuh) not God. He never claimed Divinity

Al-Qur'an 5:72

John 14:28 YE HAVE HEARD HOW I SAID UNTO YOU

I GO AWAY AND COME AGAIN UNTO YOU. IF YE LOVED ME

YE WOULD REJOICE BECAUSE I SAID I GO UNTO THE FATHER- FOR MY FATHER IS GREATER THAN I.

John 10:29 MY FATHER WHICH GAVE THEM ME IS GREATER THAN ALL AND NO MAN IS ABLE TO PLUCK THEM OUT OF MY FATHER'S HAND.

Mathew 12:28 BUT IF I CAST OUT DEVILS BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD THEN THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS COME UNTO YOU.

Luke 11:20 BUT IF I WITH THE FINGER OF GOD CAST OUT DEVILS NO DOUBT THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS COME UPON YOU.

John 5:30 I CAN OF MINE OWN SELF DO NOTHING- AS I HEAR I JUDGE- AND MY JUDGMENT IS JUST BECAUSE I SEEK NOT MINE OWN WILL BUT THE WILL OF THE FATHER WHICH HATH SENT ME.

Acts 2:21 YE MEN OF ISRAEL HEAR THESE WORDS JESUS OF NAZARETH A MAN APPROVED OF GOD AMONG YOU BY MIRACLES AND WONDERS AND SIGNS WHICH GOD DID BY HIM IN THE MIDST OF YOU AS YE YOURSELVES ALSO KNOW-

G. 99 Attributes of Almighty God

Al-Qur'an 17:110

H. Prefer using name 'Allah' rather than the word 'God' as the word 'God' can be played around with. Allah in the Bible – *Eli, Eli, Lama Sabachthani*

Mark 15:34 AND AT THE NINTH HOUR JESUS CRIED WITH A LOUD VOICE SAYING ELOI ELOI LAMA SABACHTHANI?

WHICH IS BEING INTERPRETED MY GOD MY GOD WHY HAST THOU FORSAKEN ME?

Mathew 27:46 AND ABOUT THE NINTH HOUR JESUS CRIED WITH A LOUD VOICE SAYING ELI ELI LAMA SABACHTHANI? THAT IS TO SAY MY GOD MY GOD WHY HAST THOU FORSAKEN ME?

## 2. Salaah

A. Not merely Prayers but Programming

Al-Qur'an 5:90

Al-Qur'an 2:188

B. Prayers restrain you from shameful and unjust deeds

Al-Qur'an 29:45

C. *Salaah* timings – for healthy soul five times a day

Al-Qur'an 17:78

Al-Qur'an 20:130

D. Take off shoes before entering mosque.

(i) Commandment of Allah to Moses

Al-Qur'an 20:11-12

Exodus 3:5 And He said: 'Draw not nigh hither; put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.'

Acts 7:33 THEN SAID THE LORD TO HIM PUT OFF THY SHOES FROM THY FEET- FOR THE PLACE WHERE THOU STANDEST IS HOLY GROUND.

(ii) Can Pray with Shoes.

Sunan Abu Dawood – Vol. 1, Book of Salaah, Chapter 240,

Hadith No. 652-653.

(iii) Hygienic



## E. Ablution

(i) Al-Qur'an 5:6

Exodus 40:31-32

**31** that Moses and Aaron and his sons might wash their hands and their feet thereat;

**32** when they went into the tent of meeting, and when they came near unto the altar, they should wash; as the LORD commanded Moses. {S}

Acts 21:26 THEN PAUL TOOK THE MEN AND THE NEXT DAY PURIFYING HIMSELF WITH THEM ENTERED INTO THE TEMPLE TO SIGNIFY THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE DAYS OF PURIFICATION UNTIL THAT AN OFFERING SHOULD BE OFFERED FOR EVERY ONE OF THEM.

(ii) Hygienic

(iii) Mental Preparation

## F. Stand shoulder to shoulder, while praying –

Sahih Bukhari – Vol. 1, Book of Adhan Chapter 75 Hadith no. 692

Abu Dawood – Vol. 1, Book of Salaah Chapter 245 Hadith No. 666.

## G. Sujud – Prostration

(i) To humble your mind, humble your body

(ii) Sujud mentioned 92 times in the Qur'an

Al-Qur'an 3:43

Al-Qur'an 22:77

(ii) Prostration in the Bible

Genesis 17:3; **3** And Abram fell on his face; and God talked with him, saying:

Numbers 20:6 And Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly unto the door of the tent of meeting, and fell upon their faces; and the glory of the LORD appeared unto them. **{P}**

Joshua 5:14; And he said: 'Nay, but I am captain of the host of the LORD; I am now come.' And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and bowed down, and said unto him: 'What saith my lord unto his servant?'

Mathew 26:39 AND HE WENT A LITTLE FURTHER AND FELL ON HIS FACE AND PRAYED SAYING O MY FATHER IF IT BE POSSIBLE LET THIS CUP PASS FROM ME- NEVERTHELESS NOT AS I WILL BUT AS THOU WILT.

### 3. Zakaah

A. Meaning: Purification and Growth

B. Description: 2.5% of saving every lunar year in charity

Al-Qur'an 9:60

C. If every human being gives *Zakaah*, not a single person will die of hunger.

D. "Wealth does not circulate only amongst the wealthy and the rich"

Al-Qur'an 59:7

E. I Peter 4:8 AND ABOVE ALL THINGS HAVE FERVENT CHARITY AMONG YOURSELVES- FOR CHARITY SHALL COVER THE MULTITUDE OF SINS.

#### **4. SAUM - FASTING**

A. Description – one lunar month i.e. during the month of *Ramadaan* every lunar year, Muslims fast, i.e. abstain from food and drinks from sunrise till sunset.

B. Benefits: learn self-restraint. If you can control your hunger you can control almost all your desires. It enhances spiritual awareness.

Al-Qur'an 2:183

C. Medical Benefits:

(a) Increases absorption capacity of intestines

(b) Lowers cholesterol.

D. Discourages smoking, alcoholism and other addictions.

E. Bible prescribes Fasting

Mathew 17:21 HOWBEIT THIS KIND GOETH NOT OUT BUT BY PRAYER AND FASTING.

Mark 9:29 AND HE SAID UNTO THEM THIS KIND CAN COME FORTH BY NOTHING BUT BY PRAYER AND FASTING.

#### **5. HAJJ**

A. Description – Pilgrimage atleast once in life time if you can afford it

B. Universal Brotherhood – 2.5 million people from all over the world gather, wear two pieces of unsewn cloth, preferably white. Cannot differentiate between rich and poor.

Al-Qur'an 49:13

C. Significance of *Kaaba* – Muslims don't worship it

Psalms 84:4-7

4 Yea, the sparrow hath found a house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young; {N} Thine altars, O LORD of hosts, my King, and my God--.

5 Happy are they that dwell in Thy house, they are ever praising Thee. Selah

6 Happy is the man whose strength is in Thee; in whose heart are the highways.

7 Passing through the valley of Baca they make it a place of springs; {N}

yea, the early rain clotheth it with blessings.

### **III ISLAM IS A COMPLETE WAY OF LIFE**

These five pillars do not constitute complete Islam. Only if the pillars are strong, will the structure be strong.

#### **1. HUMANS CREATED TO WORSHIP ALLAH**

A. *Jinn* and Man created for worship of Allah

Al-Qur'an 51:56

B. Meaning of *Ibadaah* – root word *Abd* meaning 'slave'.

#### **2. OBEYING COMMANDMENTS OF ALLAH IS SUBMITTING YOUR WILL TO ALLAH**

A. Abstaining from alcohol

Al-Qur'an 5:90

Proverbs 20:1

**1** Wine is a mocker, strong drink is riotous; and whosoever reeleth thereby is not wise.  
Ephesians 5:18 **AND BE NOT DRUNK WITH WINE WHEREIN IS EXCESS BUT BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT**

B. Abstaining from prohibited food

Al-Qur'an 5:5

Al-Qur'an 2:173, 5:3, 6:145, 16:115

(i) Dead meat

Leviticus 17:15 And every soul that eateth that which dieth of itself, or that which is torn of beasts, whether he be home-born or a stranger, he shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even; then shall he be clean.

Deuteronomy 14:21 Ye shall not eat of any thing that dieth of itself; thou mayest give it unto the stranger that is within thy gates, that he may eat it; or thou mayest sell it unto a foreigner; for thou art a holy people unto the LORD thy God. Thou shalt not seethe a kid in its mother's milk. **{P}**

(ii) Blood

Genesis 9:4, only flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat.

Leviticus 17:14, For as to the life of all flesh, the blood thereof is all one with the life thereof; therefore I said unto the children of Israel: Ye shall eat the blood of no manner of flesh; for the life of all flesh is the blood thereof; whosoever eateth it shall be cut off.

Deuteronomy 12:16, **16** Only ye shall not eat the blood; thou shalt pour it out upon the earth as water.

I Samuel 14:33 Then they told Saul, saying: 'Behold, the people sin against the LORD, in that they eat with the blood.' And he said: 'Ye have dealt treacherously; roll a great stone unto me this day.'

Acts 15:29 HAT YE ABSTAIN FROM MEATS OFFERED TO IDOLS AND FROM BLOOD AND FROM THINGS STRANGLLED AND FROM FORNICATION- FROM WHICH IF YE KEEP YOURSELVES YE SHALL DO WELL. FARE YE WELL.

(iii)Pork is prohibited

Leviticus 11:7-8

7And the swine, because he parteth the hoof, and is cloven-footed, but cheweth not the cud, he is unclean unto you.

8 Of their flesh ye shall not eat, and their carcasses ye shall not touch; they are unclean unto you.

Deuteronomy 14:8 and the swine, because he parteth the hoof but cheweth not the cud, he is unclean unto you; of their flesh ye shall not eat, and their carcasses ye shall not touch. {S}

Isaiah 65:2 I have spread out My hands all the day unto a rebellious people, that walk in a way that is not good, after their own thoughts;

3 A people that provoke Me to My face continually, that sacrifice in gardens, and burn incense upon bricks;

4 That sit among the graves, and lodge in the vaults; that eat swine's flesh, and broth of abominable things is in their vessels

5 That say: 'Stand by thyself, come not near to me, for I am holier than thou'; these are a smoke in My nose, a fire that burneth all the day.

(iv) Food on which names beside Allah have been invoked

Acts 15:29;

15-29- THAT YE ABSTAIN FROM MEATS OFFERED TO IDOLS  
AND FROM BLOOD AND FROM THINGS STRANGLED AND FROM  
FORNICATION- FROM WHICH IF YE KEEP YOURSELVES YE SHALL DO  
WELL. FARE YE WELL.

Revelation 2:14

2-14- BUT I HAVE A FEW THINGS AGAINST THEE BECAUSE THOU HAST  
THERE THEM THAT HOLD THE DOCTRINE OF BALAAM WHO TAUGHT  
BALAC TO CAST A STUMBLINGBLOCK BEFORE THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL  
TO EAT THINGS SACRIFICED UNTO IDOLS AND TO COMMIT FORNICATION.

C. (i) Being Honest in your Business

(ii) Helping Neighbours

Al-Qur'an 107:1-7

(iii) Abstaining from Backbiting

Al-Qur'an 104:1-3

Al-Qur'an 49:11-12

(iv) Obeying and Respecting Parents

Al-Qur'an 17:23, 24

(v) Celibacy or Monasticism is prohibited in Islam

Sahih Bukhari: Vol. 7 Book of Nikah, Chapter No. 3, Hadith No. 4

(vi) Loving, being Kind and Just to your Wife

Al-Qur'an 4:19

(vii) Abstaining from Adultery

Al-Qur'an 17:32

D. Dressing Modestly

(i) Al-Qur'an 24:30

Mathew 5:27- YE HAVE HEARD THAT IT WAS SAID BY THEM OF OLD TIME  
THOU SHALT NOT COMMIT ADULTERY-

Mathew 5-28- BUT I SAY UNTO YOU THAT WHOSOEVER LOOKETH ON A  
WOMAN TO LUST AFTER HER HATH COMMITTED ADULTERY WITH HER  
ALREADY IN HIS HEART.

(ii) Al-Qur'an 24:31

(iii) Six Criteria for Hijab in Islam

Deuteronomy 22:5 A woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment; for whosoever doeth these things is an abomination unto the LORD thy God. {P}

I Timothy 2:9 e.g. of Mary



2-9- IN LIKE MANNER ALSO THAT WOMEN ADORN THEMSELVES IN  
MODEST APPAREL WITH SHAMEFACEDNESS AND SOBRIETY NOT WITH  
BROIDED HAIR  
OR GOLD OR PEARLS OR COSTLY ARRAY

I Corinthians 11:5 BUT EVERY WOMAN THAT PRAYETH OR PROPHESETH  
WITH HER HEAD UNCOVERED DISHONOURETH HER HEAD- FOR THAT IS  
EVEN ALL ONE AS IF SHE WERE SHAVEN.

**11-6-** FOR IF THE WOMAN BE NOT COVERED LET HER ALSO BE SHORN- BUT  
IF IT BE A SHAME FOR A WOMAN TO BE SHORN OR SHAVEN LET HER BE  
COVERED.

#### E.Circumcision

Acts 7:8 AND HE GAVE HIM THE COVENANT OF CIRCUMCISION- AND SO  
ABRAHAM BEGAT ISAAC AND CIRCUMCISED HIM THE EIGHTH DAY AND  
ISAAC BEGAT JACOB AND JACOB BEGAT THE TWELVE PATRIARCHS.

John 7:22 MOSES THEREFORE GAVE UNTO YOU CIRCUMCISION (NOT  
BECAUSE IT IS OF MOSES BUT OF THE FATHERS) AND YE ON THE SABBATH  
DAY CIRCUMCISE A MAN.

Luke 2:21 AND WHEN EIGHT DAYS WERE ACCOMPLISHED FOR THE  
CIRCUMCISING OF THE CHILD HIS NAME WAS CALLED JESUS WHICH WAS  
SO NAMED OF THE ANGEL BEFORE HE WAS CONCEIVED IN THE WOMB.

F. In short, every Muslim should follow all the Commandments of Allah (swt) and His  
Messenger Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) and abstain from the things they have prohibited.

## CONCLUSION

(a) If Christian is a person who follows the teachings of Christ (pbuh) and not one who worships Christ (pbuh). (We are more Christian than the Christians themselves).

(b) Muslim is a person who submits his will to Allah.

Jesus (pbuh) said, "not my will but thy will be done." i.e. Muslim.

John 5:30 I CAN OF MINE OWN SELF DO NOTHING- AS I HEAR I JUDGE- AND MY JUDGMENT IS JUST BECAUSE I SEEK NOT MINE OWN WILL BUT THE WILL OF THE FATHER WHICH HATH SENT ME.

(c) Al-Qur'an 5:82