

Finality of Prophets

Introduction:

What is religion? Religion is a system of belief to which a social group is committed, in which there is supernatural object of awe, worship, and service. It generally provides a system of ethics and a worldview that supply a stable context, within which each person can relate to others and to the world; and can understand his or her own significance. Religions are found in all societies throughout the world, and different religions are generally dominant (with the exception of modern secularism and atheism) in different countries.

Discussions:

- 1) All of mankind commenced with Adam (*as*) and Eve. Almighty God programmed and maintained a system of human resource balance on planet Earth, so that people will commence materially from birth as babies, live through variable periods as their life cycle compliance, and then all those people must materially end with death. Nobody lives forever. Mankind is born to die.
- 2) These fundamental facts of life and death have been stated in the Holy Qur'an in several places. However, just one quotation will suffice on eminent death of all peoples on Earth. **HQ3:185** "Every soul will taste of death. And you will be paid your reward fully only on the Resurrection day. Then whoever is removed far from the Fire and is made to enter the Garden, he indeed attains the object. And the life of this world is nothing but a provision of vanities." (My underlining)
- 3) It is imperative to understand the "outer protective shell around Islam" and which comprises of three principles, which will never change. Consequently the Islamic Sharia¹ will also not change. They are:
 - a) Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*) is the Seal and the Final Prophet.
 - b) Holy Qur'an is the Seal and the Final of all revealed scriptures ever.
 - c) Islam is the Seal and the Final of all revealed religions in this world.
- 4) The Holy Qur'an stipulates with Divine authority that every nation in this world, since Creation, has been provided with prophets who bring Divine messages. This is stated in the Holy Qur'an at **HQ10:47** "*And for every nation there is a messenger. So when their messenger comes, the matter*

¹ Sharia is Islamic laws and processes, forming part of Islamic tradition, based on the Holy Qur'an and the six top Hadith.

is decided between them with justice, and they are not wronged.” Some prophets have been mentioned by name and linked with historical events, as lessons for case study. This is stated in the Holy Qur’an at **HQ2:136** *“Say: We believe in Allah and (in) what has been revealed to us, and (in) what was revealed to Abraham, and Ishmael and Isaac and Jacob and the tribes, and (in) what was given to Moses and Jesus, and (in) what was given to the prophets from their Lord, we make no distinction between any of them and to Him we submit.”*

- 5) There were evil communities in the world throughout history, who were so obsessed with idolatry and polytheism, that they totally rejected the prophets sent to them to provide correct advisories. The Holy Qur’an warns humanity that such people will be reprimanded. This is stated at **HQ16:36** *“And certainly We raised in every nation a messenger, saying: Serve Allah and shun the devil. Then some of them Allah guided, and for some of them remaining in error was justly due. So travel in the land, then see what was the end of the rejecters.”*
- 6) It is also imperative to understand what a prophet is. Basically, a prophet is a human being, who is an ordained servant of Almighty God to the Prophetic Office.² Any prophet ordained by Divine revelation, gets called to the Prophetic Office of Almighty God and he speaks for Almighty God. He says what Almighty God tells him to say. The prophet foretells the future, only when Almighty God reveals His purposes for the future. This aspect needs to be explained succinctly.

² The Prophetic Office (Spiritual) is a terminology taken to mean all the servants of Almighty God. Servants of Almighty God are taken to mean Prophets and Messengers ordained by divine revelations and all His angels, who deliver revelations and errands to His servants. What constitutes the Prophetic Office? From names of Prophet Adam to Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*), a total of 124,000 Prophets (*Nabi*) were ordained by Divine revelations, but directly delivered to them by Archangel Gabriel, as spiritually contracted. Out of 124,000 Prophets, only 313 are Messengers (*Rasul*). Out of 313 Messengers, only 25 have been mentioned by name in the Holy Qur’an. Note: that every Messenger (*Rasul*) is also a Prophet, but every Prophet (*Nabi*) is not a Messenger. All of these 124,000 prophets were regular human beings who must eat food, drink water, breath air and need atmospheric pressure to stay alive. The figure of 124,000 prophets is quoted in Hadith No 21257 of *Musnad ibn Hanbal*. Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*) was the Last and Final Prophet and after his death in 632AD, that sealed off all prophets of any description whatsoever being ordained by Divine revelations, to serve humanity on earth. This is stated in the Holy Qur’an at **HQ33:40** *“Muhammad is not the father of any of your men, but he is the Messenger of Allah and the Seal of the prophets. And Allah is ever Knower of all things.”* Seal means total shutting off arrival of any prophet of whatsoever description: No new prophet and no re-entry of any of the past 124,000 prophets will eventuate.

- 7) A prophet ordained by Divine revelation, receives revelations from Almighty God but delivered by Archangel Gabriel. These are supernatural revelations of Almighty God and which could not be known by the natural human mind. The prophet also receives supernatural instruction concerning what action is required to solve a problem, for which there seems no natural answer. A prophet has the Divine gift of discerning spirits. By the discerning of spirits, a prophet will know whether a particular manifestation is from Almighty God, or from the ordinary human spirit or from the evil spirit of the accursed devil.
- 8) The Prophetic Office is given by Almighty God and not mankind. This is given with a purpose and plans for his prophetic life, which is different from every other person.
- 9) All previous prophets came with special missions only for their community, commencing with Prophet Adam (*as*). These prophets came as warners to humanity and continued where their predecessors left off, and this is stated in the Holy Qur'an at **HQ2:213** *"Mankind is a single nation. So Allah raised prophets as bearers of good news and as warners, and He revealed with them the Book with truth, that it might judge between people in that in which they differed. And none but the very people who were given it differed about it after clear arguments had come to them, envying one another. So Allah has guided by His will those who believe to the truth about which they differed. And Allah guides whom He pleases to the right path."*
- 10) A point often overlooked by many people in all communities is the basic information, that all prophets shall be principal witnesses against those peoples, who rejected the Oneness of Almighty God and took recourse to idolatry and polytheism. This shall be on the Day of Judgement and stated in the Holy Qur'an at **HQ16:89** *"And on the day when We raise up in every people a witness against them from among themselves, and bring you as a witness against these. And We have revealed the Book to you explaining all things, and a guidance and mercy and good news for those who submit."* (My underlining)
- 11) Having set the above parameters, it is most important to note that Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*) came as the One Prophet for all nations. Reason: to unify the whole of human race to common beliefs and practices about the Oneness of Almighty God. Every prophet recognised and accepted the revelations of the previous prophets who came before him, and then continued the work of Almighty God until the Last and Final

Prophet, who completed the entire work of all the servants of Almighty God. This Last and Final Prophet was Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*). This is stated in the Holy Qur'an at **HQ33:40** "Muhammad is not the father of any of your men, but he is the Messenger of Allah and the Seal of the prophets. And Allah is ever Knower of all things." (My underlining)

- 12)** Without doubt, this was the main mission of Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*): To complete the work and messages of Almighty God as the Last and Final Prophet and then seal off the coming of any other prophet. All previous prophets before Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*) had the same beliefs about the Oneness of Almighty God, but they had to deliver the messages, to different communities, suitably adjusted for the level of those peoples' civilizations of their times.
- 13)** Muslims believe as deemed in the Holy Qur'an, that once Almighty God ordains a prophet by Divine revelation, that person is always a prophet till his death: and then he will retain the title of prophet after his death. Most importantly, no previously served past prophet will ever come again as a prophet.
- 14)** The differences amongst prophets of different eras were not made by the prophets themselves, but actually started by their disciples and followers, after the deaths of those prophets. It has been seen in many instances, before the lifetime of Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*), that the prophets' disciples and followers – in order to win over the political confidence of the officials within the governance of the day - had introduced many pagan beliefs and practices, which included idolatry and polytheism. For example, before Prophet Jesus Christ (*as*) was ordained a prophet by Divine revelation, the most dominant religion at that time in the Middle East was Mithraism.³
- 15)** Although Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*) was totally illiterate, he authored by ear the sacred scripture of Muslims, the Holy Qur'an, by listening to others recite their dictated notes of his recitals, and then rearranging the Chapters and verses under Divine Guidance, exactly the way they were revealed to him by Archangel Gabriel. The Holy Qur'an is the final revealed scripture and there will not be another revealed

³ Mithraism was pre-Christianity but commenced in Persia and spread over east to India, spread over west into Phoenicia, and spread over the entire southern Mediterranean region countries of the northern African continent, and spread over the entire northern Mediterranean region countries and succeeded into becoming the official State Religion of the Government of Rome. When the Romans occupied England, they also built Mithra temples in England. There are close similarities between the life of Mithra and the life of Jesus Christ (*as*) as reported in four Gospels of the New Testament.

scripture. The following verse in the Holy Qur'an completely encapsulates the completion of Islam at **HQ5:3** " *Forbidden to you is what dies of itself, and blood, and flesh of swine, and that on which any other name than that of Allah has been invoked, and the strangled (animal), and that beaten to death, and that killed by a fall, and that killed by goring with the horn, and what wild beasts have eaten — except what you slaughter; and what is sacrificed on stones set up (for idols), and (it is forbidden) that you seek to divide by arrows; that is a transgression. This day have those who disbelieve despaired of your religion, so do not fear them, and fear Me. This day have I perfected for you your religion and completed My favour to you and chosen for you Islam as a religion. But whoever is compelled by hunger, not inclining wilfully to sin, then surely Allah is Forgiving, Merciful."* (My underlining)

- 16)** According to the Holy Qur'an, there will never be any new prophet after the death of Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*) in 632AD. Muslims must also have the same beliefs as the past prophets, regarding the Oneness of Almighty God.
- 17)** The following is further proof of finality of prophets in the paragraph from the Final Sermon by Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*) delivered at Arafat, in the year 632AD, just one week before he died: "All those who listen to me shall pass on my words to others and those to others again; and may the last ones understand my words better than those who listen to me directly. Be my witness, O Allah, that I have conveyed your message to your people". O People, No Prophet or Apostle will come after me and no new Faith will be born. Reason well, therefore, O People, and understand words which I convey to you. I leave behind me two things, the Qur'an and my example, the Sunnah and if you follow these you will never go astray." (My underlining)
- 18)** The prophecy about the coming of Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*) is also quoted in the Bible when Prophet Jesus Christ (*as*) made the announcement and this is given at John 16: vv.12 -14, in King James Version, which reads:
- 19)** "I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of Truth, is come he will guide you all into truth: for he shall not speak of himself, but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak; and he will show you things to come. He shall glorify me."

20) The prophecy by Prophet Jesus Christ (*as*) happened exactly so. Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*) was receiving Divine revelations delivered by Archangel Gabriel and then he was speaking out, and his scribes were quickly writing them all down, as verses of the Holy Qur'an.

21) The Holy Qur'an implores all Muslims and states with authority at Ch. 3: v.103 –

"103. And from you there should be a party who invite to good and enjoin the right and forbid the wrong. And these are they who are successful."

Conclusions:

Muslims whosoever, the world over should memorise and most emphatically and faithfully defend Islam with the following key points:

- a) All past prophets numbering around 124,000 men were normal human beings and ordained of their appointment as prophets with Divine revelations delivered by Archangel Gabriel. This includes from the first originating prophet Adam (*as*) and the Last and Final Prophet, Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*).
- b) After delivery of the final revelation to Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*), Archangel Gabriel will not descend upon any other human being with Divine revelation.
- c) The Holy Qur'an has stated at **HQ33:40** that Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*) is the seal of prophets and no new prophet of any description will be ordained again by Divine revelation. This also means that no prophet of the past 124,000 before Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*) will re-appear again.
- d) After the death of Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*) in 632AD, no other person will receive any Divine revelation delivered by Archangel Gabriel.
- e) Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*) had stated in his final sermon at Mount Arafat in year 632AD that he as Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*) was the Last Prophet and Final Prophet and no other prophet will appear after his death in 632AD.
- f) Islam is the Last and Final revealed religion and no new faith shall be revealed after completion of Islam.
- g) The Holy Qur'an is the last and final revealed scripture and no other scripture will be revealed after the completion of the Holy Qur'an.

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