

ISLAM AND ...



ISLAM AND OTHER DIVINE RELIGIONS



Islam

and other Divine Religions

Islam, acknowledges other divine religions as part of the continuous chain of revelation sent by Allah the One God to guide humanity.

The ultimate goal of each divine message has always been the same: to guide humanity towards God, to make them aware of His presence and to lead them to worship only Him.

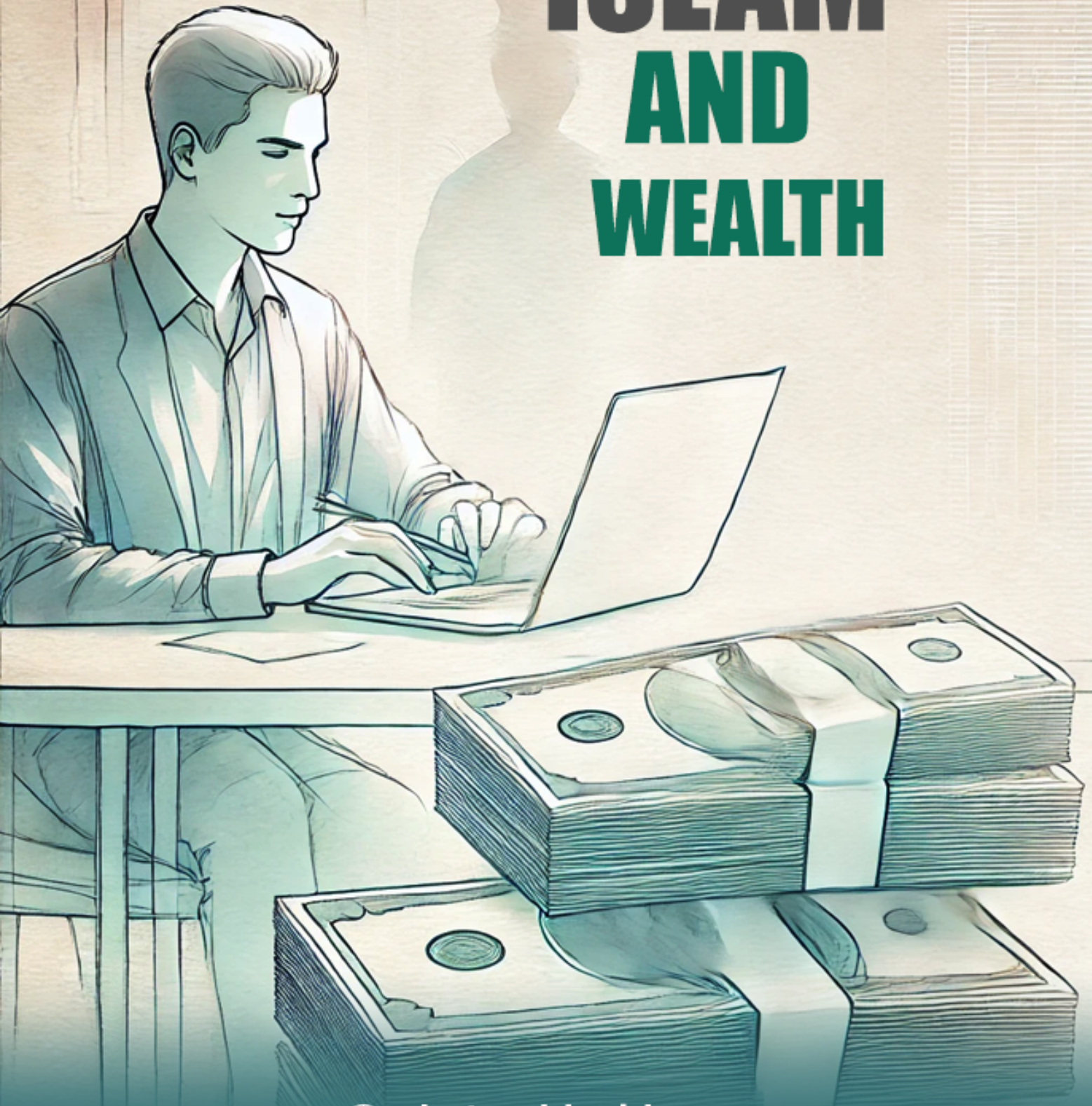
For this reason, Islam is not a new religion, but all prophets came to teach people Islam, all came to call people to believe in one God and obey his commandments, so we regard Jesus, Moses, Abraham (Peace be upon them), etc.. Muslims, including Muhammad (Peace be upon him), who was not the founder of Islam but the final prophet of Islam. He came to teach people the correct pure message after it was altered and modified.

Islam honors prophets such as Moses and Jesus, recognizing them as messengers who conveyed Allah's word to their respective communities. Indeed, belief in them and in prophets of God is one of the pillars of faith in Islam.

Islam teaches that all revealed books, including the Gospel of Jesus, the Torah of Moses, and the Psalms of David (peace be upon them), are from God and must be believed in. However, it distinguishes between their original forms and the changes introduced by later scribes and editors. The Quran is regarded as the final and complete message, sent to correct distortions and unify humanity under one comprehensive path.

Islam promotes mutual respect, dialogue, and coexistence among followers of all faiths while inviting them to worship Allah alone and follow His guidance as conveyed in the Quran.

ISLAM AND WEALTH



Islam and Wealth

In Islam, wealth is regarded as a divine blessing from Allah, a means through which one fulfills their responsibilities to themselves and others. It is not an end in itself but a tool to cultivate virtue, guided by principles of generosity, charity, and compassion for the needy.

Muslims are encouraged to earn wealth through lawful means and to spend it wisely, while being mindful of their obligations to give to charity, particularly through zakat (obligatory almsgiving) and voluntary acts of kindness.

Islam teaches that wealth should not foster arrogance or possessive attachment, and that true prosperity lies in spiritual growth, righteousness, and using one's resources to serve humanity and please Allah.

Allah, the Almighty, says: “You will never attain righteousness^[40] until you spend in charity from what you love. Whatever you spend, Allah is All-Knowing of it.”
(Quran 3:92)

[40] “Al-Birr” is sincere piety which leads to the great bounty and Paradise..

ISLAM AND REASON



Islam and Reason

Islam, values reason and intellect as essential tools for understanding the universe and recognizing the greatness of Allah.

The Quran consistently encourages reflection, critical thinking, and the pursuit of knowledge as pathways to understanding the signs of Allah in the universe.

Reason is viewed as a tool for discerning right from wrong, understanding divine guidance, and making ethical decisions.

Allah, the Almighty, says: [Say, “Look at what is in the heavens and earth.” But the signs and warnings are of no avail to those who do not believe.] (Quran 10:101)

[Indeed, in the creation of the heavens and earth and the alternation of the night and day are signs for people of understanding,] (Quran 3:190)

The first verses of the Quran revealed to the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) enjoined him to read.

By encouraging the pursuit of knowledge and critical thinking, Islam fosters a harmonious balance between spiritual belief and rational thought, empowering individuals to grow intellectually while remaining grounded in moral and spiritual principles. This harmonious relationship between reason and faith has been instrumental in shaping Islamic civilization.

ISLAM AND KNOWLEDGE



Islam and Knowledge

In Islam, the pursuit of knowledge is highly valued and considered a way to grow closer to Allah.

The Quran encourages reflection, learning, and the acquisition of wisdom, highlighting the importance of knowledge in various aspects of life.

Allah commands believers to seek knowledge and understanding, stating that those who know are honored. The first revelation to Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) was “Read!” (Quran 96:1), emphasizing the importance of learning.

The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said : “Whoever treads a path seeking knowledge, Allah will make easy for him a path to Paradise.”[Sahih Muslim - 2699]

Islam regards knowledge as a vital means to deepen faith, make informed decisions, and contribute positively to the well-being of society.

Furthermore, Islam teaches that knowledge should be utilized for the betterment of humanity by promoting justice, compassion, and moral integrity.

Seeking knowledge, whether religious or worldly, is seen as a form of worship when done with the right intentions, and it is an essential means of personal growth and societal advancement.

Islam encourages seeking knowledge in all fields and emphasizes the importance of continuous learning. By seeking knowledge, Muslims are able to deepen their understanding of Allah and his creation, benefit society, and fulfill their duty as Muslims.

ISLAM AND EQUALITY



Islam and Equality

Islam, promotes the concept of equality by emphasizing the inherent dignity and worth of all human beings, regardless of their race, gender, colour, or social status. The Quran teaches that all people are equal in the sight of Allah, and their worth is determined by their faith and good deeds, not by worldly attributes.

Allah, the Almighty, says: “O people, We have created you from a male and a female and made you into nations and tribes so that you may recognize one another. Indeed, the most noble of you before Allah is the most righteous[7] among you. Indeed, Allah is All-Knowing, All-Aware.” (Quran 49:13)

[7] Lit., “the one who has the most taqwā among you,” i.e., consciousness, piety, and fear of Allah.

Islam promotes justice and prohibits all forms of apartheid, class-based discrimination and racism.

Islam urges believers to treat others with fairness, respect and dignity and also advocates for the rights of women, the poor, and the oppressed.

The teachings of Islam call for a society where everyone is granted equal opportunities and treated with compassion, emphasizing that true value lies in one's character and relationship with Allah.

ISLAM AND HUMAN RIGHTS



Islam and Human Rights

Islam, upholds the principles of human rights, emphasizing the inherent dignity and equality of all individuals as creations of Allah.

The Quran and the teachings of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) advocate for justice, fairness, and the protection of basic rights, such as the right to life, equality, freedom of belief, and the protection of personal property and honor.

Allah, the Almighty, says: “O you who believe, stand firm for Allah by bearing true testimony, and do not let the hatred of a people lead you away from justice. Be just; that is closer to righteousness. And fear Allah, for Allah is All-Aware of what you do.” (Quran 5:8)

Islam condemns oppression and exploitation and encourages the defense of the weak and vulnerable, including women, children, and the poor.

The rights to education, fair treatment, and participation in society are fundamental in Islamic teachings.

By promoting accountability and compassion, Islam establishes a framework for a just society where every individual's rights are respected and upheld.

ISLAM AND NON-MUSLIMS



Islam and Non-muslims

Islam, promotes justice, compassion, and peaceful coexistence with non-Muslims, emphasizing respect for their rights and dignity.

The Quran instructs Muslims to engage with others in a manner that is fair and respectful.

Allah, the Almighty, says : “Allah does not forbid you from being kind and just to those who did not fight against you nor did they drive you out of your homes. Indeed, Allah loves those who are just.” (Quran 60:8)

The Quran also upholds the principle of no compulsion in religion, ensuring freedom of belief for all individuals. Allah, the Almighty, says: “There is no compulsion in religion ; the truth has been made distinct from falsehood.” (Quran 2:256)

Non-Muslims living in Muslim societies are guaranteed the protection of their lives, property, and honor, with the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) setting an example by honoring treaties and extending kindness to all.

Islam calls for dialogue and mutual respect, promoting harmony while emphasizing that differences in belief should not lead to injustice or oppression. This framework underscores Islam’s commitment to building bridges of understanding and compassion with people of all faiths.

ISLAM AND JIHAD



Islam and Jihad

In Islam, jihad is a multifaceted concept that encompasses striving or exerting effort in the way of Allah. It is often misunderstood solely as armed struggle, but its primary meaning refers to personal efforts to improve oneself, adhere to Islamic principles, and contribute positively to society.

Allah, the Almighty, says: “As for those who strive in Our cause, We will surely guide them to Our ways[22], for Allah is certainly with those who do good.” (Quran 29:69)

[22] That is, various ways and means of attaining Allah’s pleasure.

Jihad can take many forms, including striving against one’s own inner weaknesses, spreading knowledge, promoting peace, and resisting oppression.

While often associated with physical combat, this is only one aspect of jihad .Armed jihad, as a last resort, is only permissible under strict ethical guidelines, such as defense against aggression and ensuring the safety of communities.

The broader essence of jihad reflects Islam’s emphasis on peace, compassion, and the collective betterment of humanity.

ISLAM AND TRIBULATIONS



Islam and Tribulations

In Islam, recognizing the challenges, hardships, and successes of life as not random occurrences in a chaotic universe is deeply rooted in faith. Believers understand that these events are part of a meticulously planned existence designed by Allah in His infinite wisdom. A true believer realizes that life unfolds according to a divine plan, and every event serves a purpose within this well-ordered system.

Allah informs us in the Quran that we will face trials and tests, and He instructs us to face these challenges with patience and resilience. This understanding becomes clear through belief in the Oneness of Allah and the teachings of Islam, which provide detailed guidance on navigating life's difficulties. By adhering to the principles found in the Quran and the authentic sayings of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), a believer can endure hardships with grace and even find reasons to be grateful amidst trials.

Allah, the Almighty, says: “We will surely test you with something of fear and famine, and loss of property, lives and fruits. But give glad tidings[68] to those who are patient.” (Quran 2:155)

For a believer, every event in life, whether joyous or challenging, is part of Allah's divine decree. Trials serve as opportunities for spiritual growth and often carry hidden blessings, reminding us that this worldly life is temporary—a brief stop on the journey to the eternal Hereafter. By embracing this reality and drawing closer to Allah, we can attain profound inner peace and tranquility.

ISLAM AND EXISTENTIAL QUESTIONS



Islam

and Existential Questions

In Islam, the big questions of life, purpose, and existence are answered with profound clarity. Life is viewed as a temporary test from Allah, where our main purpose is to worship Him and lead righteous lives.

Allah, the Almighty, says: “Who created death and life to test you as to which of you is best in deeds, and He is the All-Mighty, the Most Forgiving.” (Quran 67:2)

While we face challenges and suffering, these are seen as opportunities for spiritual growth and self-improvement.

Islam teaches that every individual has free will to choose their path, but Allah’s knowledge is infinite and encompasses all.

The ultimate goal is to live with integrity, striving for goodness. While our earthly existence is temporary, the soul is eternal, and the choices we make determine our destiny in the afterlife.

Through faith, good deeds, and the pursuit of justice, we seek to fulfill our purpose and earn eternal reward in the Hereafter.

In this framework, Islam provides meaning, direction, and comfort to navigate the complexities of existence.