

Prophets in the Qur'an

Islam teaches that there have been many prophets - people specially chosen to receive and share God's message. They have lived in different times and places. Islam teaches that there has been roughly 124,000 prophets. There are TWENTY FIVE prophets named in the Qur'an. These prophets are therefore especially important to Muslims:

	Name in Qur'an	Name in Bible
1	Adam	Adam
2	Idris	Enoch
3	Nuh	Noah
4	Hud	-
5	Salih	Salih
6	Ibrahim	Abraham
7	Isma'il	Ishmael
8	Ishaq	Isaac
9	Lut	Lot
10	Ya'qub	Jacob
11	Yusuf	Joseph
12	Shu'aib	-
13	Ayyub	Job
14	Musa	Moses
15	Harun	Aaron
16	Dhu'l-kifl	Ezekiel
17	Dawud	David
18	Sulaiman	Solomon
19	Ilias	Elias
20	Al-Yasa	Elisha
21	Yunus	Jonah
22	Zakariyya	Zechariah
23	Yahya	John
24	Isa	Jesus
25	Muhammed	-

A prophet who had their message written down is called a RASUL:

	Name in Qur'an	Revealed Book
1	Ibrahim	Scrolls of Ibrahim
2	Musa	Tawrat (Torah)
3	Dawud	Zabur (Psalms)
4	Isa	Injil (Gospels)

These books all contained the same message: worship the one God. However, the words of each book were lost, changed or misunderstood, and so they are no longer the original holy book.

For example, Muslims believe that Isa (Jesus) was born of Mary, who was a virgin and was a great miracle worker. However, Isa was not the Son of God and was not crucified: he was taken directly to heaven instead. Later Christians claimed that Jesus was the Son of God, and in order to prove this, said that he was crucified and came back to life.

Muhammed

"Muhammed is not the father of any of your men, but he is the Messenger of God and the Seal of the Prophets"
surah 33:40

Why do Muslims call Muhammed the Seal of the Prophets?

The word 'seal' (kha'tam) can be understood in many different ways: 'last', 'final', 'seal' (as in a stamped seal that closes a document), and 'seal' (as in seal of authority, a stamp of king).

	Name in Qur'an	Revealed Book
5	Muhammed	Qur'an

The Last Message

Muhammed was given the last ever revelation from God, the Qur'an. The Qur'an is complete - it contains everything a Muslim needs to know about how to worship God, treat other people, and look after the environment. There is no need of any other messages - ever.

The Final Prophet

Muhammed will be the last ever prophet. Muslims should therefore follow his example and listen to his words. He shows Muslims how to best worship God and how to understand the Qur'an.

The Perfected Message

According to most Muslims, the previous messages God had given humans contained the Qur'an. But the message was imperfect in some way: people were able to change or forget it. The Qur'an was revealed to Muhammed in such a way that this could not happen. The Qur'an was therefore the perfect message from God.



A Beautiful Message

Seals are often patterned beautifully. The message of the Qur'an is itself beautiful. The words, when pronounced, sound beautiful.

The Message from God

Muhammed was called the 'trustworthy one' because of his honesty in business. He was also illiterate - he could not read or write. These facts both prove that the Qur'an comes from God. Muhammed would not have lied. And he couldn't have read the words elsewhere. They must have come from God.