

Islam claims to be ‘made by God’. Mohammad is presented as the final prophet sent by God. The Quran is presented as the eternal Word of God that, until given through Mohammad, had been kept preserved in heaven.

Rather than being ‘made by God’ it is the contention of this brochure that Islam was instead ‘made by human hands’ in the new Arab empire, using ‘local and imported material’.

Prior to Islam, Arabian tribes were polytheistic. When they conquered the Syria / Palestine area they took over land dominated by Jewish and Christian monotheism, including non-trinitarian Christian belief. Evidence suggests that it was the Arab ruler Abd al-Malik (ruled 685-705) who took hold of this **already existent belief re Jesus being a prophet but not God**, to begin the process of building an Arabic centered faith with its own prophet Mohammad, its own holy book the Quran, its own holy city Mecca, and its own spiritual practices (to oppose both the Byzantine Empire with its trinitarian Christianity, and Persian Zoroastrianism).

Building on a narrow non-trinitarian understanding of the oneness of God (that excluded Jesus from being God), the compilers of the Quran and formers of Islamic practice made use of a lot of other **already existent raw material** around them – Jewish and Christian writings & folklore, Gnostic writings, Zoroastrian belief & practices, and pagan practice. **What is staggering to note here** is that even though the Jewish Torah and Christian Gospel were affirmed by the Quran compilers as God’s Word, they chose to utilize fanciful non-Biblical Christian, Jewish and Gnostic tales, rather than the acknowledged Word of God (the Bible), to construct Islam.

What is fascinating to also note is that the compilers of the Quran mention how Mohammad was accused of:

- Being an **‘ear’**, someone who gullibly accepted orally told tales as divine truth (Sura 9:61).
- Presenting as divine revelation, regurgitated **‘tales of the ancients’** (Sura 25:5).
- Being **‘taught by a man’** (Sura 16:103).

This surely indicates that right from the start Quranic material was recognized as borrowed material, rather than some new divine revelation.

Examples of ‘borrowed’ material in the Quran:

Jesus only appeared to die on the cross (Sura 4:157). This was asserted in the 2nd century Gnostic writing ‘The Second Treatise of the Great Seth’.

Jesus spoke from the cradle (Sura 19:29-33). Well before the Quran, the 2nd century Egyptian writing ‘The First Gospel of the Infancy of Jesus Christ’ reported words the baby Jesus supposedly miraculously spoke from the cradle.

Jesus as a child shapes birds out of clay and makes them fly (Sura 3:49). The Gnostic ‘Infancy gospel of Thomas’ told this story in the 2nd century.

Satan refuses to bow down to Adam (Sura 2:34). The story of this was told in the 2nd century Jewish ‘Talmud’.

A raven shows Cain how to bury Abel (Sura 5:31). This story is in 3 previous Jewish sources including the 2nd century ‘Targum of Jonathan-ben-Uzziah’

When saving a life is as if a whole people are saved (Sura 5:32). Taken from the ‘Mishnah Sanhedrin’ 4:5.

Abraham smashes the idols (Sura 21:51-71). A strikingly similar story is found in the 5th century ‘Midrash Rabbah’.

God lifts up Mt Sinai and holds it over the Jewish people (Sura 7:171). This story is not in the Bible, but comes from the apocryphal Jewish book ‘The Abodah Sarah’ 2nd century.

Solomon, the queen of Sheba and the glass floor (Sura 27:17-44). Many similarities with the story in the ‘2nd Targum of Esther’ which scholars say is pre-Islamic.

The Sleepers in the Cave (Sura 18:9-25). Striking resemblance to ‘The story of Martyrs’ (Gregory of Tours - 6th century).

Alexander the Great builds a mighty wall to protect from Gog and Magog (Sura 18:83-101). The details come straight from the ‘Alexander Romance’, 4th century.

The following particularly highlights Islamic ‘copying’ of prior existent Zoroastrian belief and practice:

The divine names. The Islamic 99 Names of Allah track the Zoroastrian 101 Names of Ahuramazda.

The ascension to heaven. The Muslim heavenly journey story of ‘Miraj’ is very similar to the Zoroastrian heavenly journey story of ‘Viraz’.

Temples for prayer/worship. Zoroastrians are called to fire temples for prayer. Muslims are called to mosques for prayer.

Prayer five times a day. Both Muslims and Zoroastrians are called to pray 5 times a day at the exact same time of day, in accordance with what Ahuramazda commanded Arda Viraz, and Allah commanded Mohammad, during their journeys to heaven.

Following the sun’s movement. Both Muslim and Zoroastrian worshippers precisely follow the course of the sun to determine their times of prayer.

Call to prayer. Muslim worshippers are invited to the mosque for prayer through a ritual call by a caller five times a day, while Zoroastrian devotees are summoned to the prayer by the ringing of a bell in their temple five times a day.

Ritual purification before prayer. Before praying both Muslims and Zoroastrians are required to perform ablution by washing their face and limbs and, in some cases, by taking a bath.

Head cover. Muslims and Zoroastrians will both traditionally cover their heads during prayer.

Facing The direction. Muslims worship facing towards the Kaaba at Mecca. Similarly, Zoroastrians perform their ritual prayer facing a central blazing fire.

Reciting scripture in the original language. During prayer, Muslims are required to recite portions from the Quran in Arabic, in the same way as Zoroastrians are required to

recite portions from the Avesta (Gathas) in its original language, Avesta.

Prayers and intercessions for the dead. In both Islam and Zoroastrianism, while every individual will get absolute justice according to their personal merits, their eternal fate can also be influenced by supplications and intercessions by family and friends acting on their behalf.

The questioning angels and the torture of the grave. The two questioning angels of Islam, Munkar and Nakir, are matched by the two archangels, Vohuman and Mithra in Zoroastrianism.

Eschatological concepts. The similarity between traditional Islam and Zoroastrianism is evident in many eschatological concepts, including beliefs in saviours, and the heavenly maidens.

The bridge over Hell. The Islamic *Pul-Sirat*, or the Bridge over Hell, totally parallels the Zoroastrian Chinawad Bridge, which all the souls will have to cross before entering either Heaven or Hell according to their deeds.

Central to Islamic practice is the **Hajj**, which involves walking around the **Kaaba**, kissing the **Kaaba stone**, and **throwing stones at the 3 pillars**. These were pre-Islamic religious actions undertaken by the polytheistic Arabs, which Islam simply took over and adapted.

Islam asserts that Mohammad received revelation from Allah via the angel Gabriel, and that Islam is therefore God made, not human made. Extensive borrowing and copying from the world around it however shows that Islam has been **'constructed using local and imported materials'**. That Islam is man-made is further confirmed by the following:

1. The Islamic claim that the Quran is a perfectly preserved book from heaven is contradicted by the current existence of 30 different Qurans, with consonantal and at times meaning differences; evidence of erasure and correction in manuscripts; and reports in the Hadith and Tafsir of a significant loss of verses from the Quran.

2. Despite saying that Allah gave the gospel to the Christians and the Torah to the Jews, and despite saying

that Allah is one who preserves his Word, **the Quran massively contradicts what the Bible says** (totally opposing Christian belief). How can this be? How can Allah's preserved Word contradict Allah's preserved Word?

3. The Quran contains significant historical (as well as mathematical and scientific) errors, for example, giving chain mail to King David before chain mail was invented, having Pharaoh talk about crucifixion before people first started to be crucified, and saying that at the time of the golden calf, Aaron was helped by a Samaritan, when Samaritans were yet to exist.

4. The Hadith contain all sorts of contradictory and sometimes ridiculous sayings of Mohammad. For example: *"If a house fly falls in the drink of anyone of you, he should dip it (in the drink) and take it out, for one of its wings has a disease and the other has the cure for the disease."*

5. Archaeological evidence points to serious problems with the historical narrative that Islam speaks about itself. For example, despite Islam saying Mecca is an ancient city going back to Adam and Eve, Mecca is simply unknown in the ancient world before the time of Mohammad, and nothing has been excavated in Mecca that dates before 1400AD. Also, despite Mohammad supposedly living from 570-632 AD, his name is not found on rocks or coins or any outside writings before around 690AD.

6. Islam presents an immoral God who commands extreme violence, and who has no problem with child marriage, cousin marriage, men having multiple wives, slave keeping, and men using their female slaves for sex. Islam very much looks like a religion constructed by males to satisfy ungodly passions of violence and lust.

Dear Muslim Reader, your Islam is not from the true God. Come to God the Son, Jesus Christ, the Lover and Saviour of your soul. He was not constructed by humans but was sent from heaven by God the Father, to die for our sin, and open our way to God. Put your faith in him, and let him be who you submit to (by the power of God, the Holy Spirit).



-Islam- constructed using local and imported materials

