

What Non Muslims Say About MUHAMMAD ﷺ

All notes are by Br. Imran, President of the IREF – Islamic Research & Educational Foundation

Allah Says, “**And elevated your Renown for you (O Muahammad ﷺ).**”

Al Qur'an : Sura Nashra'h : 94 Aayat : 04

All Muslims love and praise Muhammad ﷺ more than everyone else on earth, only after Allah. This is but natural to do, being a follower of Muhammad ﷺ, while this is considered by many non Muslims as an exaggeration.

But, what becomes worth noting is, if Non Muslims of high eminence, speak affably and praising Muhammad ﷺ with remarkable ascriptions to him ﷺ. Another notable point is that they spoke so high about Muhammad ﷺ but hardly anyone of them became a Muslim later in their respective lives.

Let us learn about few of the most notable Non Muslims speaking in reverence of Muhammad ﷺ.

➤ **MICHAEL HART** – Mathematician, Professor of Astronomy, Physics, History : My choice of Muhammad ﷺ to lead the list of the world's most influential persons may surprise some readers and may be questioned by others, but he was the only man in history who was supremely successful on both the religious and secular level. *The 100: A Ranking Of The Most Influential Persons In History, New York, 1978, p. 33*

➤ **WILLIAM MONTGOMERY WATT** – Professor {Emeritus} of Arabic & Islamic Studies, University of Edinburgh, Scotland : His readiness to undergo persecutions for his beliefs, the high moral character of the men who believed in him and looked up to him as leader, and the greatness of his ultimate achievement - all argue his fundamental integrity. To suppose Muhammad ﷺ an impostor raises more problems than it solves. Moreover, none of the great figures of history is so poorly appreciated in the West as Muhammad. *Mohammad At Mecca, Oxford, 1953, p. 52*

➤ **ALPHONSE de LAMARTINE** – French poet and Statesman : If greatness of purpose, smallness of means and astounding results are the three criteria to judge any human genius, who could dare to compare any great man in modern history with (Muhammad ﷺ) ? They founded, if anything at all, no more than material powers, which often crumbled away before their eyes. This man moved not only armies, legislation, empires, peoples and dynasties, but millions of men in one-third of the then-inhabited world; and more than that he moved the altars, the gods, the religions, the ideas, the beliefs and souls..... Philosopher, orator, apostle, legislator, warrior, conqueror of ideas, restorer of rational dogmas, of a cult without images; the founder of twenty terrestrial empires and of one spiritual empire, that is Muhammad. As regards all standards by which human greatness may be measured, we may well ask, is there any man greater than he?. *Histoire De La Turquie, Paris, 1854, vol. II, pp. 276-277*

➤ **WASHINGTON IRVING** – Well known as the ‘First American Man of Letters’ : His military triumphs awakened no pride nor vain glory, as they would have done had they been affected for selfish purposes. In the time of his greatest power, he maintained the same simplicity of manners and appearance as in the days of his adversity. So far from affecting regal state, he was displeased if, on entering a room, any unusual testimonial of respect was shown to him. *Life of Mahomet, London, 1889, pp. 192-3, 199*

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- **JOHN WILLIAM DRAPER** – American Scientist, Philosopher and Historian : "Four years after the death of Justinian, C.E. 569, was born at Mecca, in Arabia the man who, of all men exercised the greatest influence upon the human race . . . Muhammad ﷺ". *A History of the Intellectual Development of Europe, London, 1875, vol.1, pp. 329-330*
- **MOHANDAS KARAMCHAND GANDHI** – Father of Nation (Independent India), greatest freedom fighter of Indian Independence : "...I became more than ever convinced that it was not the sword that won a place for Islam in those days in the scheme of life. It was the rigid simplicity, the utter self-effacement of the prophet, the scrupulous regard for his pledges, his intense devotion to his friends and followers, his intrepidity, his fearlessness, his absolute trust in God and his own mission. These, and not the sword carried everything before them and surmounted every trouble". *In an interview to Young India, Madras, 1920*
- **De LACY EVANS O'LEARY** – British Orientalist and writer of many books on the history of Arabs and Coptic Christians and Jews : History makes it clear, however, that the legend of fanatical Muslims sweeping through the world and forcing Islam at the point of sword upon conquered races is one of the most fantastically absurd myths that historians have ever repeated." *Islam at the Crossroads, London, 1923*
- **GEORGE BERNARD SHAW** – Irish Playwright, Critic, British Socialist, Political Activist and Polemicist : If any religion had the chance of ruling over England, nay Europe within the next hundred years, it could be Islam..... I have studied him ﷺ - the wonderful man and in my opinion for from being an anti-Christ, he must be called the Savior of Humanity. I believe that if a man like him were to assume the dictatorship of the modern world, he would succeed in solving its problems in a way that would bring it the much-needed peace and happiness: I have prophesied about the faith of Muhammad ﷺ that it would be acceptable to the Europe of tomorrow as it is beginning to be acceptable to the Europe of today. *The Genuine Islam, Singapore, Vol : 01, No : 08, 1936*
- **LEONARD ARTHUR GLYN** – Soldier, Ethnographer and Rhodesian Pioneer : It was the genius of Muhammad ﷺ, the spirit that he breathed into the Arabs through the soul of Islam that exalted them. That raised them out of the lethargy and low level of tribal stagnation up to the high watermark of national unity and empire. It was in the sublimity of Muhammad's deism, the simplicity, the sobriety and purity it inculcated the fidelity of its founder to his own tenets, that acted on their moral and intellectual fiber with all the magnetism of true inspiration. *Islam her Moral and Spiritual Values*
- **JAMES A MICHENER** – American writer of more than 40 famous books : No other religion in history spread so rapidly as Islam. The West has widely believed that this surge of religion was made possible by the sword. But no modern scholar accepts this idea, and the Qur'an is explicit in the support of the freedom of conscience. Like almost every major prophet before him, Muhammad ﷺ fought shy of serving as the transmitter of God's word sensing his own inadequacy. But the Angel commanded 'Read'. So far as we know, Muhammad ﷺ was unable to read or write, but he began to dictate those inspired words which would soon revolutionize a large segment of the earth: There is one God. In all things

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Muhammad was profoundly practical. When his beloved son Ibrahim died, an eclipse occurred and rumors of God 's personal condolence quickly arose. Whereupon Muhammad ﷺ is said to have announced, 'An eclipse is a phenomenon of nature. It is foolish to attribute such things to the death or birth of a human being'. At Muhammad's ﷺ own death an attempt was made to deify him, but the man who was to become his administrative successor killed the hysteria with one of the noblest speeches in religious history: 'If there are any among you who worshiped Muhammad, he is dead. But if it is God you Worshiped, He lives forever. *Islam The Misunderstood Religion, this article was published in Reader's Digest : May, 1955, pp : 68 – 70*

➤ **ANNIE BASANT** – British Socialist, Freemason, Theosophist, Women's Rights and Home Rule Activist, Educationist, Campaigner for Indian Nationalism, regarded as Champion of human freedom : It is impossible for anyone who studies the life and character of the great Prophet of Arabia, who knew how he taught and how he lived, to feel anything but reverence for that mighty Prophet, one of the great messengers of the Supreme. And although in what I put to you I shall say many things which may be familiar to many, yet I myself feel, whenever I reread them, a new way of admiration, a new sense of reverence for that mighty Arabian teacher. *The Life and Teachings of Muhammad ﷺ*

➤ **CHRISTIAAN SNOUCK HURGRONJE** – Dutch Scholar of Oriental Cultures and Languages and Advisor on Native Affairs to the Colonial Government of Dutch East Indies : The league of nations founded by the Prophet of Islam put the principle of international unity of human brotherhood on such Universal foundations as to show candle to other nations. The fact is that no nation of the world can show a parallel to what Islam has done - the realization of the idea of the League of Nations. *Where Christian and Mohammadan Meet*

➤ **KONERU RAMAKRISHNA RAO** – Chancellor of GITAM, Received Padma Sri, the Civilian Award from Government of India, Psychologist, Parapsychologist, Educationist, Researcher and Administrator : Circumstance changed, but the Prophet of God did not. In victory or in defeat, in power or in adversity, in affluence or in indigence, he is the same man, disclosed the same character. Like all the ways and laws of God, Prophets of God are unchangeable. *Mohammad ﷺ : Islam and Modern Age*

➤ **JOHN MEADOWS RODWELL** – Clergyman of Church of England, friend of Charles Darwin, Translator of Qur'an published in 1861 : Mohammad's ﷺ career is a wonderful instance of the force and life that resides in him who possesses an intense faith in God and in the unseen world. He will always be regarded as one of those who have had that influence over the faith, morals and whole earthly life of their fellow men, which none but a really great man ever did, or can exercise; and whose efforts to propagate a great verity will prosper. *In preface to the Translation Of Qur'an done by John Meadows Rodwell*

➤ **RAM BOOLCHAND JETHMALANI** – Union Minister of Law & Justice in the BJP led Government in coalition with the NDA (former), 6 times Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), Chairman of Indian Bar Council (former), President of Supreme Court Bar Association (former), noted Indian legal fraternity for his forte in Criminal Law and for high profile civil cases in India, Lawyer and a prominent politician : Being a Hindu, I must say that I am a student of religions including Islam. And I must confess to you that

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I am a great admirer of the Prophet of Islam. Tell me another prophet of any religion who told his followers that if you walk in search of knowledge, you are walking in the path of God..... Now the core of Islam is these two lines that I have been talking about. The two lines which are the core as I said when you walk in search of knowledge you walk in the path of God. *Speaking on 16-Feb-2016, at an event at Aligadh Muslim University and with him on stage was then Chief Justice of Delhi High Court :*

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