

An Imam's Challenge Islam Under Fire

Preface

This paper was written in response to an Imam's street sign challenge that requested passers-by of his Mosque on Dominion Street in Windsor, Ontario, to examine Islam and the evidence of the Qur'an.

Below are the Islamic claims that will be the central focus of my response to the Imam in this paper. I will also address other claims that support my argument.

Islam's 4 Claims Regarding the Qur'an¹

- 1) The Qur'an has eternally existed on clay tablets in heaven
- 2) The Qur'an was sent down to Muhammad from 610-632 by Jibril (Gabriel Arch Angel)
- 3) The Qur'an was completed in 652 by Uthman
- 4) The Qur'an is unchanged for 1400 years

I have researched the evidence for the Qur'an and the teachings of Islam. This research was completed about five years ago before I became a Christian Apologist and completed my Master's in Apologetics.

Now that I am an apologist, the standards for publication require the mitigation of emotion and personal bias and being fully committed to intellectual honesty. Five years ago, my first writing of this paper was not written to this standard. Thus, you are reading a rewrite written to meet this standard.

There is overwhelming evidence to invalidate Islamic claims, and to my surprise, the greatest invalidations come from Islamic sacred writings.

Other primary claims from the Qur'an will be examined and refuted, further invalidating its authenticity.

If you are a Muslim and are not intellectually or emotionally prepared for evidential criticism, please stop reading.

Introduction

Islam is under attack, and Islamic scholars and apologists are attempting to defend the Qur'an, Islam and Muhammad without success. The history of Islam and its core teachings are under fire.

¹ The Qur'an Has 4 Claims, Yet 6 Problems, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7GrGy-9-fQ4>

The incredible thing is the sacred writing of Islam is the cause of this fire. “Islam has shot themselves in the foot”. This will be proven throughout this paper as Islamic sources are cited.

For non-Muslims, I have provided some baseline information so that you are equipped to understand the arguments.

According to Islamic tradition, Muhammad was born on August 2, 570 A.D., a descendant of Ismael, Abraham’s son from his wife Hagar. Muhammad’s father passed before he was born, and his mother died when he was six years old. His grandfather raised him for two years, who also passed away, and he was left in the care of his son, Muhammad’s uncle, a merchant.

As the story goes, he never learned to read or write, and at 40, he started to receive his revelations from the angel Jibril. The chart below is the Classical Account of Islam.

The Classical Account²

Date (A.D)	The Classical Account
570	Muhammad born
610	Muhammad meets Jibril (Angel Gabriel) in Hira cave
610-622	Received Meccan revelations from Jibril
621	Mi’raj-Muhammad to 7 th heaven negotiates through Moses to get daily prayers down from 50 to 5 times daily.
622	Hi’jra-Muhammad was rejected in Mecca and moved to Medina.
622-632	Muhammad receives Medina’s revelations.
630	Conquers Mecca peacefully. He was poisoned by a Jewish widow and died.
632-634	Abu Bakr-first Caliph (successor to Muslim leadership)
634-644	Umar-second successor
644-656	Uthman-compiler of the Qur’an

The word Islam means submission, and a Muslim is a person who follows the Islamic religion and who submits to the laws of Allah (God).

Islamic Dogmas

Five Pillars of Islam³

1. Shahadah-Sincerely reciting the Muslim profession of faith (There is one God, Allah and his prophet Muhammad)

² Gospel Truth, Muhammad- The Classical Account, <https://gospelofshiva.blogspot.com/2017/06/muhammad-classical-account.html>

³ The Five Pillars of Islam, <https://www.metmuseum.org/learn/educators/curriculum-resources/art-of-the-islamic-world/unit-one/the-five-pillars-of-islam>

2. Salat-Performing ritual prayers in the proper way five times each day
3. Zakat-Paying an alms (or charity) tax to benefit the poor and the needy
4. Sawm-Fasting during the month of Ramadan
5. Haji-Pilgrimage to Mecca

There are 73 denominations, with about 90% of Muslims being Sunni and about 10% Shi'ites. The Shi'ite believe Ali should have been the rightful successor of Muhammad, stating the Calif should have come from the bloodline of Muhammad.

Core Beliefs and Expressions:⁴

- **Allahu Akbar**-Allah is most great
- **Assalaamu Alaikum**-Peace be upon you
- **Ayatollah**-Spiritual leader of Shi'ites
- **Daa'i**-Islamic missionary
- **Denominations or Sects of Islam**-Scholars tell us there are 73 different denominations, such as Sunni, Shia, Suris, Baha'is, Ahmadiyyas, Druze, Alevis, Alawis, etc.
- **Eid**-Feast
- **Fatwa**-Islamic ruling or edict
- **Hadith**-Collection of Muhammad's sayings
- **Heaven & Hell**- Are eternal abodes with Allah or away from him
- **Hijra**-Flight of Muhammad on a winged horse to Jerusalem
- **Hajj**-Pilgrimage to Mecca
- **Iman**-Belief or faith in God, spiritual leader
- **Injil**-Gospel of Jesus, can't be located
- **Jihad**-Struggle or effort in the cause of Allah
- **Jinn**-Spiritual being like an angel
- **Jizya**-Tax imposed on Christians and Jews who live in Muslim lands
- **Ka'ba**-Cubic structure in Mecca that houses the black stone; Muslims say Abraham and Isma'il built it.
- **Kafir**-Person who will not submit to Allah
- **Mahdi**-Islamic messiah who will rule 5, 9, or 19 years before the day of Judgement. Jesus will return to earth and declare allegiance to Islamic Madhi
- **Martyrs**-72 virgin maidens await martyrs in paradise for those who die in the cause of Allah
- **Masjid**-Arabic for mosque
- **Qibla**- A niche facing Mecca, the direction of prayer
- **Ramadan**-Month of fasting, 9th month in the Islamic calendar
- **Salat**-Ritual prayer repeated 5 times daily

⁴ MPEP Glossary of Islamic Terms, <https://mpeb.ie/for-teachers/glossary-of-islamic-terms/>

- **Salvation**-Believe in god and follow his commandments; salvation is at the discretion of Allah. If he deems your works sufficient, you will be granted life
- **Sawm**-Fasting during Ramadan
- **Shahada**-Confession that says I testify that there is no god but Allah, and Muhammad is his profit. A person must say this to convert to Islam.
- **Shirk**-Sin that regards anything as equal to god
- **Sura**- A chapter in the Qur'an, the Muslim holy book
- **Zakat**-Alms equal to 2.5% of annual wealth
- **Islamic Scriptures**

The Qur'an is the holy book of Islam, and it contains 114 surahs (chapter). There are also Hadiths. Hadiths are the six main books of the sayings of the Prophet; the chart below shows the book name, the date written & and the number of the Ahadith. (Ahadith is the plural of hadith.)

#	Hadith	Dating	# of sayings (Ahadith)
1	Sahih Muslim	875 CE	9200
2	Sunan al-Sughra	915 CE	5270
3	Sahih Bukhari	870 CE	7275
4	Sunan Abu Dawood	888 CE	4800
5	Sunan Al-Tirmidhi	892 CE	3956
6	Sunan Ibn Majah	887 CE	4000

I trust this summary was helpful, and now on my response to the Imam.

Scholarly Criticism & Islam's Big Problems

It will be interesting to see how the Imam and Islamic leaders handle the onslaught of scholarly criticism from Western and Muslim scholars.

The onslaught of scholarly criticism follows based on current textual, geographic, and historical evidence.

Special thanks to Dr. Jay Smith,⁵ who compiled the research from various world-renowned scholars, making my research easy. Sources have been provided.

⁵ Jay Smith: The Qur'an- A Historical Critique, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cQ611NSxfCk>

Now, the main challenge to the Qur'an, based on the four claims below that Islam says about the Qur'an:

- 1) The Qur'an has eternally existed on clay tablets in heaven.
- 2) The Qur'an was sent down to Muhammad from 610-632 by Jibril (Gabriel Arch Angel).
- 3) The Qur'an was completed in 652 by Uthman.
- 4) The Qur'an is unchanged for 1400 years.

Muslims are emphatic about these claims, but as you will see, none of these claims can stand up when examined.

Scholars, in an attempt to evaluate the Qur'an, viewed the following 3 Islamic documents:

- 1) 31 different Arabic Qur'ans
- 2) The 6 manuscripts of the Qur'an
- 3) The Hadiths

As I mentioned earlier, the big problem with Islamic claims regarding the validity of the Qur'an comes from their sacred writings. My focus will be on 2 and 3 above, starting with 3.

The following Islamic source writings of Al Bukhari are devastating because Muhammad ibn Isma'il al-Buhari is considered the most important hadith writer in the history of Sunni Islam.

Highlighted and underlined statements are evidence of contradictions between the Hadiths and the Qur'an. This is very problematic since he was a 9th-century Muslim.

- 1) Al Bukhari V 6: Hadith 509-10 says there were **two different compilations of the Qur'an**.
- 2) Bukhari says that much of the Qur'an **may be lost** as many **who had memorized** parts of the Qur'an have died
- 3) Zaid Ibn Thabit Muhammad's secretary felt it was too difficult. He was called in front of Abu Bakr in Hadith 6: 509-510; Thabit agrees **to look for verses** from palm stalks, stones, and memories of surviving warriors. Thabit said only **one person remembers a verse**. (Around 632 A.D.) First attempt at written compilation.
- 4) Al Bukhari says in Hadith 6:509 that the first Caliph, Abu Bakr, **did not have the Qur'an in written form**. There was no Qur'an at Muhammad's death, and the first Caliph's successor did not have a written Qur'an. Abu Bakr **created** & distributed the Qur'an and then sent it to the nine provinces under their control.
- 5) Al Bukhari in Hadith 6:510 says Hudhaifa was afraid Syria and Iraq had **different recitations**, so he asked Uthman to **have the Qur'an written down**. Uthman orders 4 compilers (Thabit, Zubair, Al-as & Hisham write the text) (occurs around 652 A.D). Second attempt at compilation.
- 6) Al Bukhari 6:510 also says Uthman ordered all other **Qur'anic material burnt**, fragmentary or whole copies. (WOW manuscript destruction)

From an intellectual perspective, it appears that Al Bukhari is an apologist against the claims of the Qur'an. Every statement above contradicts the 4 Muslim claims regarding the Qur'an, as evidenced below.

1. If the Qur'an has eternally existed on clay tablets in heaven, why are they desperately trying to make a Qur'an in the 9th century?
2. If the Qur'an was sent down to Muhammad from 610-632 by Jibril (Gabriel Arch Angel), why are there different complications, lost verses, burned manuscripts, different recitations, etc.?
3. If Uthman completed the Qur'an in 652, why is Bukhari in the ninth century saying they still do not have a final version?
4. The Qur'an has been unchanged for 1400 years. Bukhari says it has not been compiled 200 years after Muhammad's death. Why did Abu Bakr create and distribute the Qur'an?

Suppose you are a scholar and have been called into a court of law to present your findings to the court. What will you write?

Here is what I would say, your honour: I intend to show the court that the empirical evidence from Islamic source material proves beyond a reasonable doubt that the 4 claims of Islam regarding the Qur'an are false.

Beyond the direct evidence that the Qur'anic claims are categorically false, none of these copies have been found (Abu Bakr or Uthman). These writings are sacred and would have been guarded, protected, copied and distributed.

Having no copies of these writings is beyond problematic for Islamic claims. For example, Christianity has 5,800 Greek manuscripts and 18,500 early translations. The Jews have 42,000 Old Testament scrolls and codices. Islam has zero.

Now consider point five above: according to Bukhari, Uthman orders the destruction of Qur'anic material. This is very problematic because if the Qur'an was sent down from heaven, why would Uthman destroy Allah's sacred words?

Should we be surprised that scholars have Islam under fire?

- 1) Islam burns their manuscripts?
- 2) The very foundation of the religion of Islam is in question without verifiable source writing of its founder.
- 3) The Qur'an was compiled twice, the second time by 4 appointed compilers hundreds of years after Muhammad received his recitations.
- 4) There are no copies worldwide for the first and second compilations.
- 5) Much of the content was lost or deliberately destroyed.
- 6) Bukhari is Islam's greatest writer of the Hadith, and his writings do not support the claims of Islam; they contradict them.

But it only gets worse from here. Below is more internal evidence from Islamic sacred writings that reveal verses were lost, disappeared, forgotten, cancelled, missing, overlooked, changed, modified, substituted, and eaten by sheep.⁶

Authoritative Hadith	Source Location	Statement
Abu Dawood	Kitab al Masahif, pg. 23	Verses Lost
As Suyuti	Al-itqan fii Ulum al-Qur'an pg.524	Verses Disappeared
Sahih Muslim	Vol 2:2286 pg. 501	Verses Forgotten
Sahih Bukhari	Vol. 5:417, pg. 288	Verses Cancelled
Abu Dawood	Kitab al-Masahif, pg. 11	Verses Overlooked
Sahih Bukhari	Vol 8:817, pg. 539	Verses Missing
Iman Malik	Pg. 64	Verses Changed
Abu Dawood	Kitab al-Masahif, pg. 117	Verses Modified
Sahih Bukhari	Vol. 6:61 # 527	Verses Substituted
Ibn Majah	# 1944	Eaten by Sheep

All of the above Islamic statements from the Hadiths contradict the four claims of the Qur'an. Previously, we talked about testifying in court. This would never happen; there is no way the Qur'anic claims would make it through discovery, and what lawyer would want to take the case?

These Islamic sacred writings prove:

- 1) The tablets did not exist in heaven.
- 2) The Qur'an was not recited from 610-632.
- 3) They did not have a final version of the Qur'an in the ninth century.
- 4) The Qur'an was changed many times over the first 200 to 300 years.

I emphasize again that all the evidence against Islam is from Islamic sacred writings.

But it only gets worse from here!

What about the Qur'anic sources and manuscripts from which the Qur'an was created?

⁶ Ibid. Jay Smith.

Qur'anic Sources

Massive amounts of scholarly research have been completed and published over the last century.

This is likely because Islamic source materials and ancient writings are available for scholars and anyone who wishes to review them. Technology has played a key role in making source material available.

Anyone can read the various ancient sources, read the Qur'an and compare the two. The ancient evidence proves that multiple source documents, legends, and myths made it into the Qur'an. Scholars have identified that approximately 70% of the Quranic stories were borrowed from these sources. This makes the Qur'an a document of plagiarism, but much worse; the authors stole the words of men and ascribed them to God.

Below are a few examples of plagiarism that prove the writers of the Qur'an borrowed stories.⁷

Qur'an	Story	Source
S 2:260, 6:74-84, 30:52-72 + six other locations	Abraham delivered from a fire Nimrod set to destroy him	Midrash Genesis Rabba 5 th century writing
S 19:23	Mother Mary born under Palm Tree	Gospel of Pseudo-Matthew 7 th century
S 19:28	Jesus speaks in the cradle, vindicating the mother's purity	Gospel of Pseudo-Matthew 7 th century
S 27:17-44	Solomon trained Hoopoe Bird to drop stones on his enemies.	Second Targum of Esther
S 3:49, 5:109-110	Jesus creates birds from dust.	Arabic Gospel, the infancy of the Saviour & 2 nd century Gnostic Infancy Gospel of Thomas.
S 2:30,34, 7:11-18, 15:28 + 3 more	Satan and Adam story where God commands Angels to prostrate before Adam, Satan refuses	Pre-Islamic Vita Adae et Evae 13:1-16:1000 BC & Gospel of Bartholomew 4:51-55 3 rd century & The Book of the Cave of Treasure 6 th century
S 18	Alexander the Great/ Dhu'l Qarnayn's legendary story with him being Muslim	Pre-Islamic Syriac source

⁷ Ibid, Jay Smith.

This is devastating to the four claims of the Qur'an. Islam claims the tablets were written in heaven and sent down to the prophet. If this is true, what are myths and legends from Arabia doing in the Qur'an? The evidence is overwhelming that the Qur'an was pieced together from various sources over several hundred years.

Imagine being a scholar who has read hundreds of source documents that pre-existed the Qur'an. What would they conclude?

They will say that based on the empirical evidence from the Islamic sacred and ancient source writings, all four claims regarding the Qur'an are false.

It is impossible to come to any other conclusion.

Qur'anic Manuscripts

Our discussion continues by reviewing the manuscripts of the Qur'an.

Two Muslim Islamic scholars listed below participated in the "al Mushaf al-Sharif" investigation from 2002 to 2007. What did these two Muslim Scholars discover regarding the Qur'an?⁸

Professor Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu-Secretary General of the organization of the Islamic Conference Research Center and Founding Director-General of IRCICA (1980-2004)

Published Statements:

- 1) "We have none of Uthman's Mushafs"
- 2) "Nor do we have any copies from those Mushafs"
- 3) "These Mushafs date from the later "Umayyad period."

A Mushaf is a collection of writings. The Umayyad period was (661-750)

Professor Dr. Tayyar Atikulac is a leading scholar in Qur'anic studies, ex-president of Turkish religious affairs, and deputy in the Turkish parliament.

Published Statements:

- 1) "No serious scholarly work has been done on them."
- 2) "These Mushafs date from the early-mid 8th century."
- 3) "They are not Uthmanic, nor copies sent by him."

⁸ Ibid. Jay Smith.

The Islamic scholars who participated in the investigation have made statements that refute the 4 Qur'anic claims. These men are academics, not traitors to Islam; they, like the other scholars, are not going to publish something contrary to the evidence.

What would happen to them professionally if they published supporting statements that do not reflect the evidence?

Below are the names of the oldest manuscripts of Islam; Muslim and Western scholars reviewed them. The manuscripts were compared to the Fahd Mushaf, and the differences were recorded. Scholars have found over 3000 differences from Fahd Mushaf. (Fahd Mushaf is the authorized version of the Qur'an canonized in 1924).

The chart below is a breakdown of the best six manuscripts, their location, the scholar's dating, and the amount of content.⁹

Manuscript	Location	Scholar Dating	# Sura
Topkapi	Turkey	Early-Mid 8 th	115 Sura
Samarkand	Uzbekistan	Early-Mid 8 th	43 Sura
Ma'il	England	8th	43 Sura
Petropolitanus	France	8th	26% of Qur'an
Al Hussein	Egypt	Early –Mid 8th	43 Sura
Sana'a	Yemen	705 A.D.	About ½ of Qur'an

Their evidence shatters the Muslim claims that Uthman compiled the Qur'an.

These facts cannot be denied. For certain, no unbiased scholar would say the Qur'an has been the same for 1400 years. Such a statement would be intellectually dishonest.

But it gets worse. The manuscripts have over 3000 documented differences from the authorized version and a myriad of technical issues with 2270 differences to the Topkapi alone.

Beyond the two Muslim scholars, other world-renowned scholars also weighed in on the Qur'an, including Dr. Francois Deroche, Dr. Martin Lings, Dr. Karl-Heinz Ohlig, and Dr. Gerd Puin.

The chart below displays the names of the Islamic manuscripts, the scholar who reviewed them and their conclusions.

⁹ Ibid. Jay Smith.

Manuscript	Scholar	Conclusion
Topkapi	Dr. Altikulac	2270 differences from Fahd Mushaf
Samarkand	Dr. Altikulac	They discredited, not Uthmanic, because of undisciplined spelling, different writing styles, scribal mistakes, and copyist mistakes, written by someone with little experience, with later additions only going to Sura 43. Of the 43 surahs, only 1 is complete, 24 are partial, and 18 surahs don't exist.
Ma' il	Dr. Martin Lings	It is only 53% of the Qur'an, with only 43 Sura
Petropolitanus	Dr. F. Deroche	Disagrees in 93 places, with only 26% of the Qur'an. The document was modified with erasers and additions."
Al Hussein	Dr. F. Deroche	Not Uthmanic, hiding, and censoring of original is evident.
Sana'a	Karl-Heinz Ohlig	The compilation was from the last two decades of the 7 th continuing to the 9 th century. There are two layers: one text and then text written over. Lower text 671-705 and upper text 705+.
	Dr. Gerd Puin	More than half of the text is ambiguous, and letters need diacritical marks for understanding. Adding vowels helped correct mistakes. Much is not readable because of damage.

My problem is how did Islam possibly come up with the Fahd Mushaf. Their source material has 3000 differences from the authorized version.

So, who made and authorized these changes in 1924, 1300 years after the tablets were recited to Muhammad?

The evidence says any claim regarding the validity of the Qur'an is unsupported.

What should I say to the Imam based on our discussion so far?

Dear Sir, Thank you for suggesting reviewing and evaluating the Qur'an. I have done as you requested, and here is my conclusion. The evidence that the four claims made by Islam regarding the Qur'an have been determined to be false, and the greatest evidence that discredits such claims comes from Islamic sacred writings. Now, if the claims of Islam were discredited from outside sources, I could understand your confidence, but sir, your claims are from within your sacred writing. I see no way for you to defend your position. The Qur'anic claims about itself do not merit any believability. It appears that you are asking people to believe in evidence you have not investigated for yourself.

I will forward you the paper I have written that substantiates why I have come to this conclusion.

Next up is the historical issues with the Qur'an.

Historical Issues

The historical records show no mention of Muhammad until 60 years after his death. He is first mentioned at the Dome of the Rock in 690 A.D. There is no mention of Muhammad or Islam in any literature from the conquered lands before that. The only reference found pre-690 is that of an Arab invasion. The words Muslim and Islam are not used until 691.

This is not to say that archeology will not uncover something further back, but this is the evidence the world has today on to the Qibla.

The Qibla

Another major challenge to Islam is raging across the academic world: in **Sur 2:143-145**, the Qur'an says the Qibla was pointing towards Mecca since 624.

For non-Muslims, Mosques have a wall niche that indicates the direction of prayer towards Mecca. This is called a Qibla. Dr. Dan Gibson did extensive scientific research using satellite photography regarding this claim.

He reported his findings in his book Qur'anic Geography.¹⁰

Details of his research are shown below.

Satellite imagery of the original Mosque sites confirms the direction of the Qibla.¹¹

Qibla Country	Mosque Name	Date	Qibla Direction
Iraq	Wassit Mosque	670+	Petra
Iraq	Kufa Mosque	670+	Petra
Egypt	Fustat Mosque	670+	Petra
China	Mosque of Guangzhou	630	Petra
Jordan	Humeima Mosque	?	Petra
Lebanon	Great Mosque of Ba'albek	?	Petra
Yemen	Great Mosque of San'a	705	Petra
Israel	Al Aqsa Mosque	?	Petra
Israel	Dome of the Rock	691	Petra
Syria	Damascus Mosque	709	Petra
Lebanon	Anjar Mosque	714	Petra
Syria	Mosque of Umar, Bosra	720	Petra

¹⁰ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fMJRsd8SrhU>

¹¹ Qiblas Face The WRONG Direction! - Sources of Islam with Dr. Jay, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8JXuNzBDKVI>

Pakistan	Banbhore Mosque	727	First to Mecca
Syria	Qasr al-Hayr Al-Sharqui	728	Not Petra or Mecca
Jordan	1st Amman Mosque	700	Petra
Ordan	2 nd Amman Mosque	740	Mecca
Jordan	Mushatta Mosque	743	Petra
Tunisia	Ribat Fortress in Susa	770	Not Petra or Mecca
Spain	Cordoba Spain Mosque	784	Not Petra or Mecca
Tunisia	Great Mosque of Kairoulan	817	Not Petra or Mecca

Satellite imagery is not disputable!

The evidence says the Qiblas faced Petra until 725, and they did not all face Mecca until 822, almost 200 years after Muhammad died. Based on irrefutable satellite photography, Islam's spiritual center was Petra, not Mecca.

This evidence proves the claim of **Sur 2:143-145** is false.

How many Suras have to be wrong to invalidate the Qur'an? I will leave this with you, the reader, now on to the claims about Jesus.

Core Beliefs Regarding Jesus

Jesus, a.k.a. Isa, is an integral part of Islam. They believe Jesus was a prophet, and his name is mentioned 78 times in the Qur'an. Islam does honour Jesus and is respectful to him both in writing and in practice.

Below is one of their core teachings that I would like to address:

- 1) Jesus did not die by crucifixion; Allah substituted someone in his place.
- 2) Jesus was Muslim and had Muslim converts.
- 3) Jesus will return and destroy Christianity and declare Islam the true religion.

If these Islamic claims are correct, then Christianity is a hoax, and the New Testament is a farce.

My focus will be the Islamic teaching regarding the crucifixion. The bad news for Islam is that their claims have been proven to be without merit. They stand alone in their historical claim that Jesus was not crucified.

This Qur'anic claim comes 700 to 900 years after the fact. No unbiased scholar accepts the Qur'anic claims over eyewitness testimony as recorded in the gospel and numerous extra-biblical sources.

The following non-Christian historians would certainly reject this Islamic claim.

Quote 1—Gerd Ludemann-German New Testament Historian Professor University of Gottingen

*"Jesus' death as a consequence of crucifixion is indisputable."*¹²

Quote 2—John Dominic Crossan-Irish New Testament professor and historian

*"That he was crucified is as sure as anything historical **can ever be**, since both Josephus and Tacitus... agree with the Christian accounts on at least that basic fact."*

Did you catch the phrase “can ever be”? This means 100% certainty; nothing in recorded history exceeds this certainty. Historians do not make such claims lightly; they are subject to peer review. If this claim were without merit, he would be discredited.

About 40 extra-biblical ancient sources validate Jesus' existence and his crucifixion. Click [sources](#) to review the counter-evidence.

Dr. Paul Maier, Professor of Ancient History (University of Michigan), presents the historical, geographical, and archeological evidence regarding the real Jesus. Go to the link provided below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XAN3kQHTKWI&t=1448s>

Historical sources written 550 to 700 years before the Qur'an have historical merit over the Qur'an's teaching about Jesus.

The biggest problem for this Islamic claim is they have **zero** historical sources to support their position save the Qur'an, which was written 700 to 900 years after the historical Jesus.

Let me illustrate how incredible this is. Seven hundred years from now, someone will write a book and say that John F. Kennedy was not killed by a gunshot to the head in November/1963. The US government put someone else in the car to deceive the world. The cause of the deception is under investigation.

The hundreds of sources, documents, and eyewitness accounts of his death and burial were part of a national conspiracy that included the highest levels of government and every media outlet in the USA.

¹². "in the resurrection of Christ a historical inquiry, 2004, pg. 50

This story is equivalent to what Islam is asking the world to believe about Jesus. Now, the evidence that Islam teaches this.

Below is Surah An-Nisa 157, which states Jesus was not killed or crucified.

*And for their saying, "Surely we killed the Masih, Isa son of Maryam, (The Messiah, Jesus son of Mary) the Messenger of Allah." And in no way **did they kill him, and in no way did they crucify him, but a resemblance of him was presented to them** (i.e. the matter was made obscure for them through mutual resemblance). And surely the ones who differed about him are indeed in doubt about him. (Or: it, "that") In no way do they have any knowledge about him except the close following of surmise, and in no way did they kill him of a certainty.*

If this is true, then **Allah started Christianity** and is responsible for deceiving billions of people over the last two thousand years, causing them to believe that Jesus rose from the dead.

Islam also says Jesus was a Muslim and had Muslim converts, so this confirms that Jesus was complicit with Allah in deceiving the world.

Tell me if this makes any sense.

- 1) Why would Allah and Jesus conspire to deceive billions of people into believing in a false religion?
- 2) Why did Allah wait 700 years to send Muhammad to set the record straight?
- 3) Should God and his prophet be engaged in deception?

Now, let's ponder the ramifications.

- 1) If Jesus was not crucified, then Christianity is categorically false.
- 2) If Jesus was crucified, Islam is categorically false.

The historical evidence says those responsible for this insertion in the Qur'an were fabricating history. But it gets worse for the Qur'an.

Scientific Declarations

Islam declares the Qur'an to be a scientific marvel because it is said that the truths revealed in the Qur'an cannot be known unless revealed by God.

I have serious reservations about accepting these claims based on the following Islamic declarations.

Human Reproduction & Biology

Scripture	Statement	True/False
Q 86:5-7	Man is created from gushing fluid from between the backbone and breastbone (sperm)	F
Q 22:5, 23:12-14	Human reproduction starts with a small drop, then a clinging clot, then a lump of flesh,	F
Sahih Bukhari V 4, Book 55, 546	If the wife orgasms first- the child resembles her; if the man first, the child resembles him. The man has a white discharge, and the woman has a yellow discharge.	F
Sahih Bukhari 67	Water was declared to be pure by Muhammad, even though the pool had a dead dog, human excrement and female menstrual cloth in the water.	F
Sahih Bukhari 58:82	One fly's wing carries the disease, and the other carries the antidote.	F

Certainly, none of the above is true; Muhammad had the location of sperm wrong, embryo development wrong, child resemblance wrong, and his view on disease is wrong as well. It is safe to say that virtually nothing said regarding biology and human reproduction is correct.

If I am to believe the Qur'an, then I must also believe that the God of biology does not understand the basic principles of biology. Does that seem right to you?

The Qur'an's view on Astronomy and Cosmology is even worse.

Below are a few verses from the Qur'an.

Qur'an 18:86

*“Till, when he reached the setting-place of the sun, he found it setting in a **muddy spring** and found a people thereabout. We said: O Dhu'l-Qarneyn! Either punish or show them kindness.”*
(O Dhu'l-Qarneyn is Alexander the Great.)

What do you think did Alexander the Great discover the Sun in a muddy spring?

Qur'an 37:6-10

*Indeed, We have adorned the nearest heaven with an **adornment of stars** And as **protection against every rebellious devil** [So] they may not listen to the exalted assembly [of angels] and **are pelted from every side**, Repelled; and for them is a constant punishment, Except one who snatches [some words] by theft, but they are pursued by a burning flame, piercing [in brightness].*

What do you think, is Allah shooting stars at devils?

Please review the following statement from the Qur'an and put a tick beside each statement you would consider true.

Cosmology/ Astronomy

Scripture	Statement	T or F
S 13:2, 31:10	Allah is he who raised the heavens without any pillars that you can see	F
S 7:54 13:3, 91:1-4	Brings the night as a cover over the day.	F
QS 15:16-18, 21:32, 33:6-10, 37:10, 41:12, 67:5, 72:8-9	Stars are missiles Allah uses to chase away evil spirits.	F
S-35:41	The earth does not move	F
S-21:33, 14:33, 36:38-40	The sun orbits the earth, and the moon chases the sun	F
S 37:6-8, 41:12	Stars are in the near heavens	F
S 18:84 86, 89-90, 20:53, 71:19	The earth is flat	F
S 18:86-90	Sunsets in a pool of water	F
S 68:12	Allah created 7 heavens and 7 earths stacked on each other	F
S 22:65, 22:65, 41:12	Heavens could fall on the earth, solid object	F
Sunan of Abu Dawood 2205	A sea is above the 7 th heaven, and there are 8 mountain goats	F
Al Tirmidhi 1513	500 years between the seven heavens and 500 years between each of the 7 earths.	F

How many tick marks did you have? I hope you hand none because none of the above statements are true.

- 1) There are not 7 earths stacked one above the other.
- 2) The stars are not in the first heaven.
- 3) Allah does not use stars to chase devils out of heaven.
- 4) The moon does not chase the sun.
- 5) The sun does not set in a muddy spring at the end of the earth.
- 6) There are not 7 heavens.

Our closest star is 4 light-years away, about 25 trillion miles away, so, certainly, stars are not in the first heaven between us and the stratosphere.

The sun is 109 times the diameter of the Earth, so I believe it is safe to say it does not set in a muddy spring. You get the point. It was clear the writers of the Qur'an were not hearing from God because their God could not pass a grade 5 science test today.

I have provided a link to the English Qur'an below to review the cited references.

<https://www.clearquran.com/downloads/quran-english-translation-clearquran-edition-allah.pdf>

In Conclusion

Below is a summary of the overwhelming evidence refuting the 4 claims of Islam and other claims in the Qur'an.

Here Observe:

- 1) Scholars do not believe the Qur'an is Uthmanic, making the Muslim claim that Uthman wrote the Qur'an false.
- 2) It can be proven that upwards of 70% of the Qur'an was borrowed from external sources, so certainly, the Qur'an is not eternal and was not sent down from heaven.
- 3) Many Quranic stories are known to be legends and myths, meaning that God was reciting myths for Muhammad to record. Certainly not true.
- 4) No unbiased scholar accepts Qur'anic claims that Jesus was not crucified; the preponderance of evidence says the Qur'an is wrong.
- 5) The earliest manuscripts are incomplete and date to the 8th & 9th centuries, so Uthman did not write it.
- 6) The Qur'an was changed many times, even up to 1924, so there is no way Islam can claim it has not changed in 1300 years.
- 7) A comparative analysis of the Quranic manuscripts reveals missing, changed, modified, written-over texts, and so forth., so none of the 4 claims can be right.
- 8) There are 3000 differences between the Quranic manuscripts and Fahd Mushaf, the authorized version of 1924, so none of the 4 claims can be right.
- 9) The greatest evidence discrediting the Qur'an comes from Islamic sacred writers of the Hadiths, which are friendly Islamic sources, not opponents.
- 10) The Qur'an is full of scientific errors in Cosmology, Astronomy, and Biology, so it cannot be from God.
- 11) Scholars have identified 31 different Arabic Qur'ans, proving there is still no unified version of the Qur'an even after 1300 years, so none of the 4 claims can be right.
- 12) Research on Sur 2:143-145 claims that the Qibla faced Mecca from the beginning; this has been proven false, so the Qur'an is once again invalidated.

The scholars are right the Qur'an fails intellectual scrutiny on every front, textual, historical and geographical.

My conclusion regarding the Qur'an is that it is a very poor work of man and not the work of God.

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