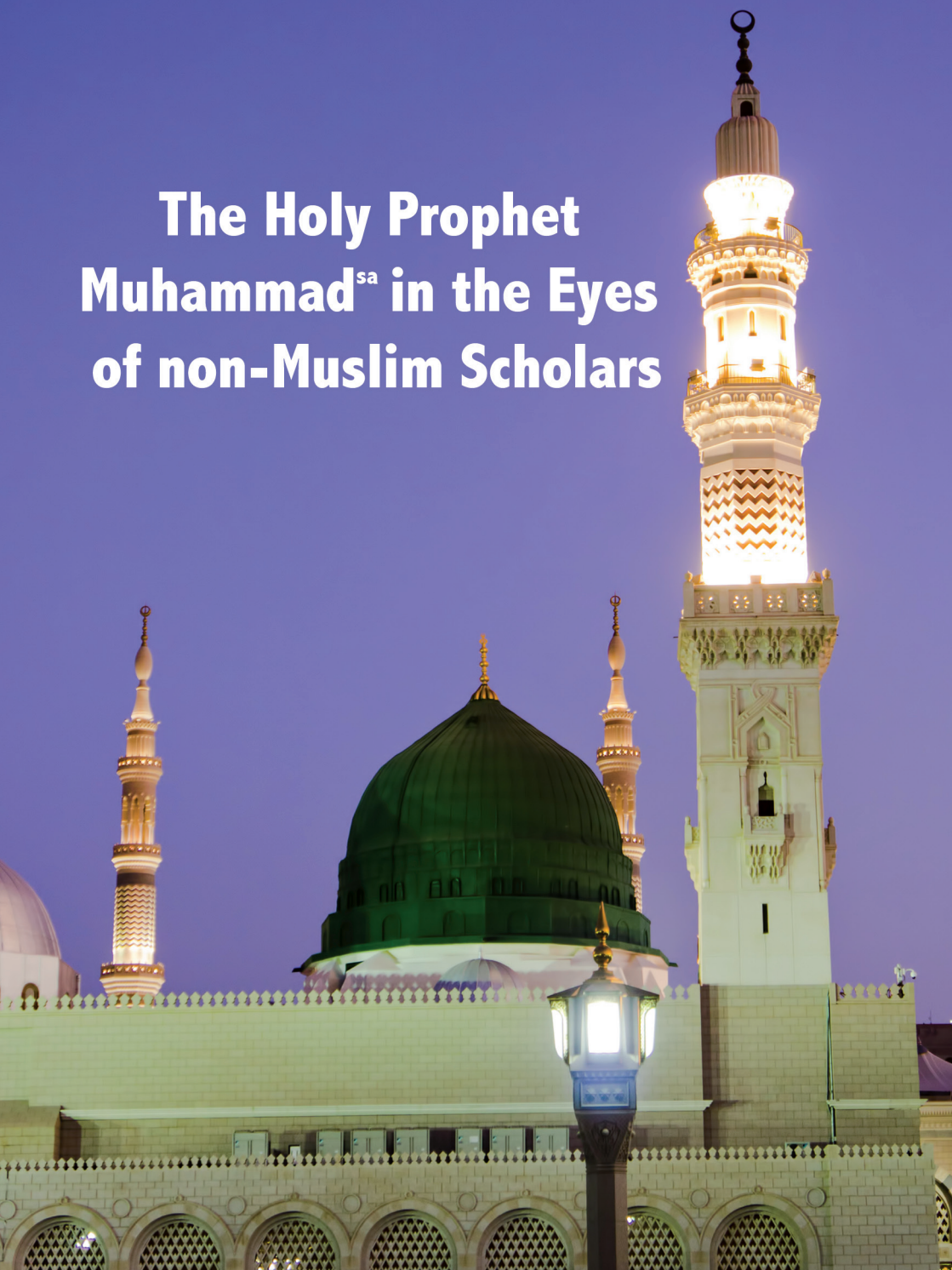


# The Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> in the Eyes of non-Muslim Scholars





**The Holy Prophet  
Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> in the Eyes  
of non-Muslim Scholars**

**AHMADIYYA MUSLIM JAMAAT MALTA**

**The Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>  
in the Eyes of non-Muslim Scholars**

© Islam International Publication Ltd  
Published in Malta (2016)

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ISBN: 978-99957-59-20-9

# FOREWORD

Many charismatic and extraordinary personalities have lived in the history of mankind, but few remain alive in the hearts of people because of their unforgettable and remarkable services to humanity; and of them, even fewer are considered successful.

There never has been, nor shall there be a more significant, charismatic, extraordinary, influential and successful personality than the Holy Prophet of Islam Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>.

Michael H. Hart in his book *'The 100: A Ranking of the Most Influential Persons in History'* admitted the fact by considering him as the most influential person in history. He writes:

*"He [Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>] was the only man in history who was supremely successful on both the religious and secular level."*

The Founder of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian, the Promised Messiah and Imam Mahdi<sup>as</sup> says:

*"I always wonder how high was the status of this Arabian Prophet, whose name was Muhammad (thousands of blessings and peace be upon him). One cannot reach the limit of his high status and it is not given to man to estimate correctly his spiritual effectiveness. It is a pity that his rank has not been recognized, as it should have been. He was the champion who restored to the world the Unity of God which had disappeared from the world; he loved God in the extreme and his soul melted out of sympathy for mankind. Therefore, God, Who knew the secret of his heart, exalted him above all the Prophets and all the first ones and the last ones and bestowed upon him in his lifetime all that he desired." (Haqiqat-ul-Wahi, Ruhani Khaza'in, Vol. 22, pp. 118-119)*

The Supreme Spiritual Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat, Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad<sup>aba</sup> says:

*“The Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> demonstrated the practical illustration of every teaching of Allah the Almighty to us, encompassing all aspects of life. By admonishing us to act in this way, he guided us to the path which leads to God. He has shown us the ways by which to obtain the highest standards of worship of God. He provided to us understanding and realisation of our responsibilities with respect to discharging the rights of creation, through which a believer can obtain the pleasure of God.” (Friday Sermon October 5, 2012)*

In this book we are presenting a collection of extracts from the writings of several non-Muslim authors who were truly impressed by the honourable personality of the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>. It is quite evident a fact that some of these writers have left no chance to raise objections against the person of his holiness Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>. Even they are compelled to write the truth about his noble, impressive and magnanimous self, may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him.

The following abbreviations have been used in this book:

**sa** - *sallallahu ‘alaihi wa sallam*, meaning ‘may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him’.

**as** - *‘alaihi-salam*, meaning ‘on whom be peace’.

**aba** - *ayyadahullahu ta‘ala binasrihil-‘aziz*, meaning ‘may Allah the Almighty help him with his powerful support’.

**Laiq Ahmed Atif**

*President*

*Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat Malta*

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## **MAHATMA GANDHI**

**(1869-1948)**

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*Leader of the Indian Nationalist Movement, the 'Father of India' and renowned spiritual figurehead. One of the most influential and iconic leaders of the 20th century.*

**“I wanted to know the best of the life of one who holds today an undisputed sway over the hearts of millions of mankind... 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 pledges, his intense devotion to his friends and followers, his intrepidity, his fearlessness, his absolute trust in God and in his own mission. These, and not the sword, carried everything before them and surmounted every obstacle. When I closed the second volume, I was sorry there was not more for me to read of that great life.” [1]**

## **WILLIAM MONTGOMERY WATT** **(1909-2006)**

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*Historian, Professor in Arabic and Islamic Studies at the University of Edinburgh; one of the foremost and influential non-Muslim scholars of Islam.*

**“The more one reflects on the history of Muhammad and of early Islam, the more one is amazed at the vastness of his achievement. Circumstances presented him with an opportunity such as few men have had, but the man was fully matched with the hour. Had it not been for his gifts as a seer, statesman, and administrator and, behind these, his trust in God and firm belief that God had sent him, a notable chapter in the history of mankind would have remained unwritten. It is my hope that this study of his life may contribute to a fresh appraisal and appreciation of one of the greatest of the sons of Adam.” [2]**

## **PROFESSOR H. G. WELLS**

**(1866-1946)**

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*Prolific writer, bestselling author and social commentator. His famous books include: “The Time Machine”, “The War of the Worlds” and “The Invisible Man”.*

**“Because those who knew Muhammad best believed in him the most... Muhammad was no impostor at any rate... there can be no denying that Islam possesses many fine and noble attributes... They created a society more free from widespread cruelty and social oppression than any society had ever been in the world before.” [3]**

## **ANNIE BESANT**

**(1847-1933)**

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*A prominent British social reformer; women's rights activist, writer and orator and supporter of Indian nationalism.*

**“It is impossible for anyone who studies the life and character of the great Prophet of Arabia, who knows 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 re-read them, a new way of admiration, a new sense of reverence for that mighty Arabian teacher.” [4]**

## **GEORGE SALE**

**(1697-1736)**

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*Orientalist and practising solicitor. He reputedly spent 25 years in Arabia, thus acquiring knowledge of the Arabic language and customs.*

**“...for how criminal soever Mohammed may have been in imposing a false religion on mankind, the praises due to his real virtues ought not to be denied him; nor can I do otherwise than applaud the candour of the pious and learned Spanhemius, who, though he owned him to have been a wicked imposter, yet acknowledged him to have been richly furnished with natural endowments, beautiful in his person, of a subtle wit, agreeable behaviour, showing liberality to the poor, courtesy to everyone, fortitude against his enemies, and above all a high reverence for the name of God; severe against the perjured, adulterers, murderers, slanderers, prodigals, covetous, false witnesses... a great preacher of patience, charity, mercy, beneficence, gratitude, honouring of parents and superiors, and a frequent celebrator of the divine praises.” [5]**

## **SIR JOHN BAGOT GLUBB** (1897-1986)

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*Lieutenant General, scholar and author, best known for leading Transjordan's Arab Legion.*

**“Whatever opinion the reader may form when he reaches the end of this book, it is difficult to deny that the call of Muhammad seems to bear a striking resemblance to innumerable other accounts of similar visions, both in the Old and New Testaments, and in the experience of Christian saints, possibly also of Hindus and devotees of other religions. Such visions, moreover, have often marked the beginnings of lives of great sanctity and of heroic virtue. To attribute such phenomena to self-delusion scarcely seems an adequate explanation, for they have been experienced by many persons divided from one another by thousands of years of time and by thousands of miles of distance, who cannot conceivably have even heard of each other. Yet the accounts which they give of their visions seem to bear an extraordinary likeness to one another. It scarcely appears reasonable to suggest that all these visionaries ‘imagined’ such strikingly similar experiences, although they were quite ignorant of each other’s existence.” [6]**

**“The list seems to have included very nearly all the persons who had accepted Islam and the Messenger of God must have remained with a much reduced group of adherents, among the generally hostile inhabitants of Makkah, a situation which proves him to have possessed a considerable degree of moral courage and conviction.” [7]**

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## **JOHN WILLIAM DRAPER** (1811-1882)

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*Scientist, philosopher, physician, historian and photographer; credited with producing the first detailed photograph of the moon. He was the first president of the American Chemical Society and a founder of the New York University School of Medicine.*

**“Four years after the death of Justinian, A.D. 569, was born at Mecca, in Arabia the man who, of all others, exercised the greatest influence upon the human race... Mohammed, by Europeans surnamed “the Impostor”... Mohammed possessed that combination of qualities which more than once decided the fate of empires. A preaching soldier, he was eloquent in the pulpit, valiant in the field. His theology was simple: ‘There is but one God.’... Asserting that everlasting truth, he did not engage in vain metaphysics, but applied himself to improving the social condition of his people by regulations respecting personal cleanliness, sobriety, fasting, prayer. Before all other works he esteemed almsgiving and charity.” [8]**

## **STANLEY LANE-POOLE**

**(1854-1931)**

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*Orientalist and Archaeologist. He worked for nearly 20 years in the British Museum as Professor of Arabic Studies at Dublin University.*

**“He freely forgave the Koreysh all the years of sorrow and cruel scorn in which they had afflicted him, and gave an amnesty to the whole population of Mekka... It was thus that Mohammad entered again his native city. Through all the annals of conquest there is no triumphant entry comparable to this one.” [9]**



## REVEREND BOSWORTH SMITH (1839-1908)

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*Schoolmaster and author. “In 1874 he delivered before the Royal Institution in London four lectures on Muhammad and Islam... They were published in the same year (3rd Ed., 1889). He both defended the character and teaching of the Prophet and acknowledged the benefits of Islam to Africa, a positive assessment which drew much criticism from missionary societies. The book was translated into Arabic, and its author was for many years prayed for in the mosques of western Africa.” (Source: Oxford Dictionary of National Biography)*

**“Head of the State as well as of the Church, he was Caesar and Pope in one; but he was Pope without Pope’s pretensions and Caesar without the legions of Caesar: without a standing army, without a bodyguard, without a palace, without a fixed revenue; if ever any man had the right to say that he ruled by the right divine, it was Mohammed, for he had all the power without its instruments and without its supports.” [10]**

**“Those who knew him best, his wife, his eccentric slave, his cousin, his earliest friend – he who, as Mohammed said, alone of his converts, ‘turned not back, neither was perplexed’ – were the first to recognize his mission. The ordinary lot of a prophet was in his case reversed; he was not without honour save among those who did not know him well.” [11]**

**“The practices that Mohammed forbade, and not forbade only, but abolished, human sacrifices and the murder of female infants, and blood feuds, and unlimited polygamy, and wanton cruelty to slaves, and drunkenness, and gambling, would have gone unchecked in Arabia and the adjoining countries.” [12]**

**“Nor could anyone have done what Mohammed did without the most profound faith in the reality and goodness of his cause... there is everything to prove the real enthusiast arriving slowly and painfully at what he believed to be the truth.” [13]**

**“To say that Arabia needed renovation was to say in other words that the time for a new prophet had come, and why might not that prophet be Mohammed himself? Sprenger, the most recent and exhaustive writer on the subject, has shown that for some hundred years before Mohammed the advent of another prophet had been expected and even predicted.” [14]**

**“On the whole, the wonder is to me not how much, but how little, under different circumstances, Mohammed differed from himself. In the shepherd of the desert, in the Syrian trader, in the solitary of Mount Hira, in the reformer in the minority of one, in the exile of Medina, in the acknowledged conqueror, in the equal of the Persian Chosroes and the Greek Heraclius, we can still trace a substantial unity. I doubt whether any other man, whose external conditions changed so much, ever himself changed less to meet them: the accidents are changed, the essence seems to me to be the same in all.” [15]**

## WASHINGTON IRVING (1783-1859)

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*Author, essayist, biographer and historian of the early 19th century. He achieved international fame for his fictional works, and biographies of George Washington, the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>, and others. He also served as the United States Ambassador to Spain.*

**“His military triumphs awakened no pride, nor vain glory, as they would have done had they been effected for selfish purposes. In the time of his greatest power he maintained the same simplicity of manner 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.” [16]**

## **SIR WILLIAM MUIR** **(1819-1905)**

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*Famous oriental historian. Muir was born in Scotland and spent a long period of time in India as an Indian civil servant. He later served as Principal of the University of Edinburgh for nearly twenty years. Muir wrote on Islam and his works include a four-volume biography on the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>. He became President of the Royal Asiatic Society in 1884, receiving their Centennial Gold Medal in 1903.*

**“Thorough and complete in all his actions, he took in hand no work without bringing it to a close. The same habit pervaded his manner in social intercourse. If he turned in a conversation towards a friend, he turned not partially, but with his full face and his whole body. In shaking hands, he was not the first to withdraw his own; nor was he the first to break off in converse with a stranger, nor to turn away his ear. A patriarchal simplicity pervaded his life. His custom was to do everything for himself. If he gave alms he would place it with his own hands in that of the petitioner. He aided his wives in their household duties...**

**He was to all of easy access – even as the river’s bank to him that draweth water from it. Embassies and deputations were received with the utmost courtesy and consideration. In the issue of prescripts bearing on their representations, or in other matters of state, Muhammad displayed all the qualifications of an able and experienced ruler. What renders this the more strange is that he was never known himself to write. A remarkable feature was the**

urbanity and consideration with which Muhammad treated even the most insignificant of his followers. Modesty and kindness, patience, self-denial, and generosity, pervaded his conduct, and riveted the affections of all around him. He disliked to say No. If unable to answer a petitioner in the affirmative, he preferred silence. He was not known ever to refuse an invitation to the house even of the meanest, nor to decline a proffered present however small. He possessed the rare faculty of making each individual in a company think that he was the favoured guest. If he met anyone rejoicing at success he would seize him eagerly and cordially by the hand. With the bereaved and afflicted, he sympathized tenderly. Gentle and unbending towards little children, he would not disdain to accost a group of them at play with the salutation of peace. He shared his food, even in times of scarcity, with others, and was sedulously solicitous for the personal comfort of everyone about him. A kindly and benevolent disposition pervaded all those illustrations of his character.

Muhammad was a faithful friend. He loved Abu Bakr with the close affection of a brother; Ali, with the fond partiality of a father. Zaid, the freedman, was so strongly attached by the kindness of the Prophet that he preferred to remain at Mecca rather than return home with his own father. ‘I will not leave thee,’ he said, clinging to his patron, ‘for thou hast been a father and mother to me.’ The friendship of Muhammad survived the death of Zaid, and his son Usama was treated by him with distinguished favour for the father’s sake. Uthman and Umar were also the objects of a special attachment; and the enthusiasm with which, at Hudaibiyya, the Prophet entered into the Pledge of the Tree and swore that he would defend his beleaguered son-in-law even to the death, was a signal proof of faithful friendship. Numerous other instances of Muhammad’s ardent and unwavering regard

might be adduced. His affections were in no instance misplaced; they were ever reciprocated by a warm and self-sacrificing love. In the exercise of a power absolutely dictatorial, Muhammad was just and temperate. Nor was he wanting in moderation towards his enemies, when once they had cheerfully submitted to his claims. The long and obstinate struggle against his pretensions maintained by the inhabitants of Mecca might have induced its conqueror to mark his indignation in indelible traces of fire and blood. But Muhammad, excepting a few criminals, granted a universal pardon; and, nobly casting into oblivion the memory of the past, with all its mockery, its affronts and persecution, he treated even the foremost of his opponents with a gracious and even friendly consideration. Not less marked was the forbearance shown to Abdullah and the disaffected citizens of Medina, who for so many years persistently thwarted his designs and resisted his authority, nor the clemency with which he received submissive advances of tribes that before had been the most hostile, even in the hour of victory.” [17]

“It is strongly corroborative of Mahomet’s sincerity that the earliest converts to Islam were his bosom friends and the people of his household; who, intimately acquainted with his private life, could not fail otherwise to have detected those discrepancies which, more or less, invariably exist between the professions of the hypocritical deceiver abroad, and his actions at home.” [18]

## SIR THOMAS CARLYLE (1795-1881)

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*Scottish writer, essayist and historian. He was one of the most famous social commentators of his time. "In literature he was the pioneer who explored and made known the work of modern Germany." (Source: British Authors of the Nineteenth Century.)*

**“One other circumstance we must not forget: that he had no school learning; of the thing we call school-learning none at all. The art of writing was but just introduced into Arabia; it seems to be the true opinion that Muhammad never could write! Life in the Desert, with its experiences, was all his education. What of this infinite Universe he, from his dim place, with his own eyes and thoughts, could take in, so much and no more of it was he to know. Curious, if we will reflect on it, this of having no books. Except by what he could see for himself, or hear of by uncertain rumour of speech in the obscure Arabian Desert, he could know nothing. The wisdom that had been before him or at a distance from him in the world, was in a manner as good as not there for him. Of the great brother souls, flame beacons through so many lands and times, no one directly communicates with this great soul. He is alone there, deep down in the bosom of the Wilderness; has to grow up so, alone with Nature and his own Thoughts.” [19]**

**“How he was placed with Kadijah, a rich Widow, as her steward, and travelled in her business, again to the Fairs of Syria; how he managed all, as one can well understand, with fidelity and adroitness; how her gratitude, her regard for him grew: the story of their marriage is altogether a graceful intelligible one, as told us by the Arab authors. He was twenty five; she forty. He seems to have lived in a most affectionate, peaceable, wholesome way, with this wedded benefactress; loving her truly, and her alone. It goes greatly against the impostor theory, the fact that he lived in this entirely unexceptionable, entirely quiet and commonplace way, till the heat of his years, was done.” [20]**

**“Our current hypothesis about Mahomet, that he was a scheming Impostor, a Falsehood incarnate, that his religion is a mere mass of quackery and fatuity, begins really to be now untenable to anyone. The lies, which well-meaning zeal has heaped round this man, are disgraceful to ourselves only...It is really time to dismiss all that. The word this man spoke has been the life-guidance now of a hundred and eighty millions of men these twelve hundred years... A greater number of God’s creatures believe in Mahomet’s word at this hour, than in any other word whatever.” [21]**



## ALPHONSE DE LAMARTINE (1790-1869)

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*French writer, poet and politician. As a poet and author he was “one of the key figures in the Romantic movement in French literature.” (Britannica). As a politician he was instrumental in the foundation of the Second Republic of France.*

**“If the grandeur of the design, the pettiness of the means, the immensity of the results, be the three measures of human genius, who would dare to compare humanly the greatest men of modern times to Mahomet? The most famous of them have agitated but armies, laws, empires; they have founded but physical potencies, often crumbled to the earth before themselves. Mahomet has recast armies, legislations, empires, peoples, dynasties, with millions of men, throughout a third of the inhabited globe. More than this, he recast altars, gods, religions, ideas, creeds, souls. He has founded upon a book, of which every letter is become a law, a spiritual nationality which embraces peoples of every tongue and race...” [22]**

**“Philosopher, orator, apostle, legislator, warrior, conqueror of ideas, restorer of rational dogmas, 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 ask, is there any man greater than he?” [23]**

## **JOHN DAVENPORT**

**(1789-1877)**

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*Writer and biographer.*

**“Is it possible to conceive, we may ask, that the man who directed such great and lasting reforms in his own country by substituting the worship of the one only true God for the gross and debasing idolatry in which his countrymen had been plunged for ages... to have been a mere impostor, or that his whole career was one of sheer hypocrisy? Can we imagine that his divine mission was a mere invention of his own, of whose falsehood he was conscious throughout? No, surely, nothing but a consciousness of really righteous intentions could have carried Mohammed so steadily and constantly, without ever flinching or wavering, without ever betraying himself to his most intimate connections and companions, from his first revelation to Khadijah, to his last.” [24]**

**“Western princes had been lords of Asia instead of the Saracens and Turks, they would not have tolerated Mohammedanism as Mohammedans have tolerated Christianity, since they persecuted, with the most relentless cruelty, those of their own, faith whom they deemed heterodox.” [25]**

**“There is no doubt that amongst all Lawgivers and Conquerors, there is not a single one whose life story is found in more details and authenticity than that of Prophet Muhammad” [26]**

## **MICHAEL H. HART** (1932-)

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*American astrophysicist and author of several books, including “The 100: A Ranking of the Most Influential Persons in History”, which has sold hundreds of thousands of copies and has been translated into 15 languages. He earned his Ph.D. in astrophysics from Princeton University and was a research scientist at NASA.*

**“My choice of Muhammad 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.” [27]**

**“How, then, is one to assess the overall impact of Muhammad on human history? Like all religions, Islam exerts an enormous influence upon the lives of its followers. It is for this reason that the founders of the world’s great religions all figure prominently in this book. Since there are roughly twice as many Christians as Muslims in the world, it may initially seem strange that Muhammad has been ranked higher than Jesus. There are two principal reasons for that decision First, Muhammad played a far more important role in the development of Islam than Jesus did in the development of Christianity. Although Jesus was responsible for the main ethical and moral precepts of Christianity, St. Paul was the main developer of Christian theology, its principal proselytizer, and the author of a large portion of the New Testament.**

**Muhammad, however, was responsible for both the theology of Islam and its main ethical and moral principles. In addition, he played the key role in proselytizing the new faith, and in establishing the religious practices of Islam. Moreover, he is the author of the Muslim holy scriptures, the Quran, a collection of certain of Muhammad's insights that he believed had been directly revealed to him by Allah. Most of these utterances were copied more or less faithfully during Muhammad's lifetime and were collected together in authoritative form not long after his death.**

**The Quran, therefore, closely represents Muhammad's ideas and teachings and to a considerable extent his exact words. No such detailed compilation of the teachings of Christ has survived. Since the Quran is at least as important to Muslims as the Bible is to Christians, the influence of Muhammad through the medium of the Quran has been enormous. It is probable that the relative influence of Muhammad on Islam has been larger than the combined influence of Jesus Christ and St. Paul on Christianity. On the purely religious level, then, it seems likely that Muhammad has been as influential in human history as Jesus.” [28]**

## **KAREN ARMSTRONG** (1944-)

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*One of the most famous writers on religion today. She has authored numerous books including her bestseller, A History of God. She studied at Oxford University and is a former Roman Catholic religious sister. “Armstrong’s achievements as an independent scholar focusing on the three great monotheistic religions, Christianity, Judaism, and Islam, have earned her a reputation as a major contributor to interfaith understanding and respect. Her books on Islam and Muhammad have given many Westerners their first clear and unbiased insight into the history and teachings of this great tradition and its Prophet.” (Source: Enlighten Next Magazine)*

**“Muhammad had to start virtually from scratch and work his way towards the radical monotheistic spirituality of his own. When he began his mission, a dispassionate observer would not have given him a chance. The Arabs, he might have objected, were just not ready for monotheism: they were not sufficiently developed for this sophisticated vision. In fact, to attempt to introduce it on a large scale in this violent, terrifying society, could be extremely dangerous and Muhammad would be lucky to escape with his life.**

**Indeed, Muhammad was frequently in deadly peril and his survival was a near-miracle. But he did succeed. By the end of his life he had laid an axe to the root of the chronic cycle of tribal violence that afflicted the region and paganism was no longer a going concern. The Arabs were ready to embark on a new phase of their history.” [29]**

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**“Finally it was the West, not Islam, which forbade the open discussion of religious matters. At the time of the Crusades, Europe seemed obsessed by a craving for intellectual conformity and punished its deviants with a zeal that has been unique in the history of religion.**

**The witch-hunts of the inquisitors and the persecution of Protestants by the Catholics and vice versa were inspired by abstruse theological opinions, which in both Judaism and Islam were seen as private and optional matters. Neither Judaism nor Islam share the Christian conception of heresy, which raises human ideas about the divine to an unacceptably high level and almost makes them a form of idolatry.” [30]**

**DE LACY O’LEARY**  
(1872-1956)

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*Renowned historian and senior lecturer at the University of Bristol.*

**“History makes it clear, however, that the legend of fanatical Muslims sweeping through the world and forcing Islam at the point of the sword upon conquered races, is one of the most fantastically absurd myths that historians have ever repeated.” [31]**

## **RUTH CRANSTON**

**(1887-1956)**

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*An American author and lecturer on religion and other subjects.*

**“Mohammad never instigated fighting and bloodshed. Every battle he fought was in rebuttal. He fought in order to survive... and he fought with the weapons and in fashion of his time. Certainly no Christian nation of 140,000,000 people who today dispatch 120,000 helpless civilians with a single bomb, can look askance at a leader who at his worst killed a bare five or six hundred.”**

**“The slayings of the Prophet of Arabia in the benighted and bloodthirsty age of the seventh century look positively puerile compared with our own, in this ‘advanced’ and enlightened twentieth. Not to mention the mass slaughter by the Christians during the Inquisition and the Crusades – when, Christian warriors proudly recorded, they ‘waded ankle-deep in the gore of the Muslim infidels.’” [32]**



## **GODFREY HIGGINS**

**(1772-1833)**

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*Archaeologist, humanist, social reformer and author of several books.*

**“Nothing is so common as to hear the Christian priests abuse the religion of Mohamed for its bigotry and intolerance. Wonderful assurance and hypocrisy! Who was it expelled the moriscoes from Spain because they would not turn Christians? Who was it murdered the millions of Mexico and Peru, and gave them all away as slaves because they were not Christians? What a contrast have the Mohamedans exhibited in Greece! For many centuries the Christians have been permitted to live in the peaceable possession of their properties, their religion, their priests, bishops, patriarchs and churches...” [33]**

**“In all the history of the Caliphs, there cannot be shown anything half so infamous as the Inquisition, nor a single instance of an individual burnt for his religious opinion; nor, do I believe, put to death in a time of peace for simply not embracing the religion of Islam.” [34]**

## **EDWARD GIBBON**

**(1737-1794)**

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*English historian and Member of Parliament. His “chief academic work focused on the history of Rome. His most famous publication, Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, appeared between 1776 and 1788 and remains a much cited orthodox study of the Roman world and its achievements.” (Source: Oxford Reference).*

**“It is not the propagation but the permanency of his religion that deserves our wonder, the same pure and perfect impression which he engraved at Mecca and Medina, is preserved after the revolutions of twelve centuries by the Indian, the African and the Turkish proselytes of the Koran...**

**The Mahometans have uniformly withstood the temptation of reducing the object of their faith and devotion to a level with the senses and imagination of man. ‘I believe in One God and Mahomet the Apostle of God’ is the simple and invariable profession of Islam. The intellectual image of the Deity has never been degraded by any visible idol; the honours of the prophet have never transgressed the measure of human virtue, and his living precepts have restrained the gratitude of his disciples within the bounds of reason and religion.”**  
**[35]**

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This book is a collection of extracts from the writings of several non-Muslim authors who were truly impressed by the honourable personality of the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>. It is quite evident a fact that some of these writers have left no chance to raise objections against the person of his holiness Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>. Even they are compelled to write the truth about his noble, impressive and magnanimous self, may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him.

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