

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

The Holy Prophet^{sa} in the Eyes of Non-Muslims

by Mrs. Nazli Khan

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NB: the letters 'SA' stand for – May the Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon him



A Character to be Admired

The Holy Prophet^{sa} was quite simply put, the greatest human being to have walked this earth, the Seal of all Prophets and the exemplar, whose life was at each step devoted to Allah Almighty

- The glad tidings of his coming was foretold by noble Prophets before him (may the peace and blessing of Allah be upon them).
- The ancient scriptures predicted his coming and his significance and status amongst reformers

The Holy Prophet^{sa} was and remains the humblest of people, devoted to the One Creator and Lord of all the Worlds

The Holy Prophet's^{sa} life was consumed by the love of Allah Almighty and service to Him and His creation – humanity. The Holy Prophet^{sa} was the message of unity, selflessness, compassion, justice and fairness for all



The Holy Prophet's^{sa} Characteristics

Righteous

Just

Egalitarian

"And thou dost surely possess high moral excellences."

The Holy Quran 68:5

Upright

Forgiving

Steadfast

Merciful

Compassionate

Trustworthy

"His morals were the embodiment of the Holy Qur'an".

Hazrat Ai'sha ra

Fair

Kind



An Exemplary Life, Admired by Non-Muslims

Ahadith and Sunnah records show, that all the contemporaries of the Holy Prophet^{sa} both friends and foes, acknowledged the sterling qualities, the spotless honesty, the noble virtues, the absolute sincerity and the ever present trustworthiness of the Holy Prophet^{sa} in all walks of life and in every sphere of human activity.

The Jews and those who did not believe in his message, adopted him as the arbiter in their personal disputes, by virtue of his perfect impartiality.

The Encyclopaedia Britannica says simply:

“Mohammad^{sa} is the most successful of all Prophets and religious personalities”.

- There is Muhammad^{sa}, the Prophet;
- There is Muhammad^{sa} the General;
- Muhammad^{sa} the King;
- Muhammad^{sa} the Warrior;
- Muhammad^{sa} the Businessman;
- Muhammad^{sa} the Preacher;
- Muhammad^{sa} the Philosopher;
- Muhammad^{sa} the Statesman;
- Muhammad^{sa} the Orator;
- Muhammad^{sa} the Reformer;
- Muhammad^{sa} the Refuge of Orphans;
- Muhammad^{sa} the Protector of Slaves;
- Muhammad^{sa} the Emancipator of Women;
- Muhammad^{sa} the Law-giver;
- Muhammad^{sa} the Judge;
- Muhammad^{sa} the Saint.

"Muhammad^{sa}, The Prophet of Islam"
Professor Ramakrishna Rao,
Professor of Philosophy



Non-Muslim Admirers

**Diversity of Admiration, Proof of the Holy Prophet's^{sa}
Truthfulness**

“If any religion had the chance of ruling over England, nay Europe within the next hundred years, it could be Islam.”

*“I have always held the religion of Muhammad^{sa} in high estimation because of its **wonderful vitality**. It is the **only religion** which appears to me to possess that assimilating capacity to the **changing phase of existence which can make itself appeal to every age**. I have studied him – the wonderful man and in my opinion far from being an anti-Christ, he must be called the **Saviour of Humanity**.”*

George Bernard Shaw

Influential Anglo-Irish playwright, critic, polemicist and political activist.

*“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^{sa} 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,' Vol. 1, No. 8, 1936



National Lajna Imaillah Ijtema UK 2021

Dr. John William Draper,

English-born American scientist, philosopher,
physician, chemist, historian and photographer

*“Four years after the death of Justinian, A.D. 569, was born in Mecca, in Arabia, the man who, of all men, has exercised the **greatest influence upon the human race**... To be the religious head of many empires, to guide the daily life of one-third of the human race, may perhaps justify the title of a **Messenger of God**”*

‘History of Intellectual Development of Europe’

Sarojini Naidu

Indian Independence Activist
and Poet

*” [Islam] It was the **first religion that preached and practiced democracy** for, in the mosque, when the call for prayers is sounded and worshippers are gathered together, the democracy of Islam is embodied five times a day when the peasant and king kneel side by side and proclaim: "God Alone is Great" I have never been struck over and over again by this indivisible unity of Islam that makes man instinctively a brother."*

S. Naidu, Ideals of Islam, vide speeches and Writings, Madras, 1918, P.169.



Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy (1828-1920)

The most influential and famous Russian writer, novelist, essayist, dramatist, philosopher and educational reformer

*“There is no doubt that Prophet Muhammed^{sa} is one of the **greatest reformers who served the social framework profoundly**. It suffices him that he **led a whole nation to the enlightenment of truth** and made it more inclined **towards tranquillity and peace, prefer modesty and prevented it from shedding blood and giving human sacrifices** (though this was never proved against Arabs before Islam) and widely **opened to it the gate to development and civilization**. This is a great deed that only a **strong man** can do and a man like that deserves to be regarded with **respect and admiration**”*

Leo Tolstoy “The Rule of Prophet Mohammed”



Mahatma Gandhi,
Lawyer, Political Activist
for Indian independence

*"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."*

Statement published in 'Young India', 1924

Reverend R. Bosworth-Smith

A British scholar and author

*"Head of the state as well as the Church, he was Caesar and Pope in one; but, he was pope without the pope's claims, 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 a Right Divine, it was Mohammad^{sa},** for he had all the power without instruments and without its support. He cared not for dressing of power. The simplicity of his private life was in keeping with his public life."*

"Mohammed & Mohammedanism" 1946,



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Alphonse de Lamartine
Famous French writer,
poet and politician

“If greatness of purpose, smallness of means, and astounding results are the three criteria of human genius, who could dare to compare any great man in modern history with Muhammad?^{sa} The most famous men created arms, laws and empires only. They founded, if anything at all, no more than material powers, which often crumbled away before their eyes. This man moved not only armies, legislations, 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....

His forbearance in victory, his ambition which was entirely devoted to one idea and in no manner striving for an empire, his endless prayers, his mystic conversations with God, his death and his triumph after death-all these attest not to an imposture, but to a firm conviction, which gave him the power to restore a dogma. This dogma was two fold: the unity of God and the immateriality of God; the former telling what God is, the latter telling what God is not; the one overthrowing false gods with the sword, the other starting an idea with the words...

Philosopher, orator, apostle, legislator, warrior, conqueror of ideas, restorer of rational beliefs, the founder of twenty terrestrial empires and of one spiritual empire, that is Muhammad^{sa}. 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” (1854)



Michael H. Hart

an American astrophysicist
also a white separatist and
nationalist

"My choice of Muhammad^{sa} 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."

Michael H. Hart, THE 100: A RANKING OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL PERSONS IN HISTORY, New York: Hart Publishing Company, Inc., 1978, page. 33

Thomas Carlyle

British historian, satirical writer,
essayist, translator philosopher,
mathematician, teacher

"[Amazed] How one man single handedly, could weld warring tribes and wandering Bedouins into a most powerful and civilized nation in less than two decades."

Thomas Carlyle in his 'Heroes and Hero Worship'

Professor Snouck Hurgronje

Dutch scholar

"The league of nations founded by the prophet of Islam put the principle of international unity and human brotherhood on such universal foundations as to show candle to other nations.... no nation ... can show a parallel to what Islam has done towards the idea of the League of Nations."

Dutch scholar Professor Snouck Hurgronje - quoted in Encyclopaedic Survey of Islamic Culture (1997), p. 260



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