

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

The author of this book was born on the 30th day of March 1930 at a place called Mthandeni at the foot of Ewome Mountain in the district of Maphumulo. His parents were Bafana Augustine Joseph Ngwane and his wife Nonkomfe Resta Ngwane who were Christians of the Roman Catholic Denomination. His parents were very poor as his father was a sickly person and the task of maintaining the family fell squarely on the shoulders of his mother, a semi –educated woman who had only passed standard two.

The author did not go to school until he reached the age of eight years because in those days there was no school in Mthandeni. He started schooling at the age of nine years at a Roman Catholic school called Saint Philomenah at Isithundu Mission Station Maphumulo where he was admitted as a boarder. He was the youngest boarder. He immediately got himself interested in church activities and at that early age joined a group of Altar boys serving under Father Lot, a long, white bearded priest who was constantly seen on horseback, with his beard flowing in the wind, visiting the outstations or attending to the management of the college.

Because of his family's financial situation, the author was very poorly dressed and walked bare footed as he had no shoes. The first shoes he put on his foot were a pair of shoes he bought himself when he started working. He served at the Altar barefooted: this was not uncommon in those days.

At the age of eleven when he was supposed to go to standard one (grade three in today's terms) his parents moved from Maphumulo to Inanda, at Amaoti, where he spent the whole of that year without schooling. The Amaoti Government School was nearby but his parents would not dream of sending their child to a non- Catholic school. In the following year he started schooling again, at Saint Michael's School in Red Hill. He had to walk a long distance from Amaoti to Phoenix Railway Station to catch a 5:30 am train to Red Hill daily to be at school on time. After this, he went to Saint Anthony's in Newlands.

In the year 1945 he was compelled by circumstances to go to a non- Catholic school for the first time and he went to Amaoti Government School as a day scholar. He just passed standard five and was registered at Amaoti for standard six. It was in that year that his mother passed away and he was forced to leave school and look for work. The death of his mother did not deter him from engaging in Church activities. He became a youth organizer for Saint Paul's Catholic Church in Greyville at the age of twenty years and formed a Church Choir from his youth organization of which he was Choir Master.

In 1965 he moved from Lamontville to Umlazi he joined the congregation of Saint Alphonse Church in "P" Section under father Reginald Vezi (now deceased), and this is where he spent the next 20 – odd years serving as Church Choirmaster for various churches in the area.

In 1989 he was elected as the chairman of the local council of an organization known as Home and Family Life, at Saint Alphonse; and was then elevated by the Bishop of Mariannhill to the Chairmanship for the Dioceses of Mariannhill. In the following year he was appointed as one of the trustees for Saint Mary's Hospital.

Since the author had only passed standard five he worked first as a gardener, and later as a bicycle delivery boy. He also worked as a labourer at different places doing manual work. Through all this, though, he educated himself through private study, working hard to educate himself and his children at the same time. The end result of his effort was the attainment of a Junior Law Degree (B.Luris) which he obtained in 1979. He passed his Senior law Degree(L.L.B.) in 1982 and his Maters Degree in Law(L.L.M) in 1993 .

He took an early pension from BP petroleum, where he was working as a company representative, to start his legal practice, at the age of 56, and registered a firm of attorneys, Ngwane and Ngwane, with his daughter Lindiwe, who obtained her L.L.B Degree in the same year as her father. At the time he became chairman of Home and family Life and a trustee of Saint Mary's Hospital he was practicing alone, as his daughter Lindwie had seen greener pastures in East London, where she started her practice and her family. Today she is the National Deputy Minister for Trade and Industry and has closed her legal office in East London.

It was during the year 1994 that he began to study religion. He says that at that time, when he had become interested in studying religion, he knew nothing about Islam. He was introduced to Islam accidentally when he came across a little booklet written by Sheikh Ahmed Deedat – founder of the Islamic Propagation Centre International (IPCI) - which led him to study his religion more in order to understand it better. But the more he studied, the more he became convinced that his beliefs were baseless.

After deep soul searching, the author decided to embrace Islam. However, before he declared the *Shahaada* (declaration that God is One and that Muhammad (PBUP) was His messengers), which brings a person into the fold of Islam, he visited all his children (eight of them), who were scattered all over the country, to advise them of his decision , In January 1996 he broke the news to his Bishop at Mariannahill, and because he wanted to be quite sure that he was doing the right thing he allowed the Bishop time to convince him other wise, but the Bishop failed to even try. He finally declared the *Shahaada*, at the IPCI offices in Durban, on 3rd March 1996, fully convinced that Muhammad (PBUH) is the "final prophet" referred to in the Bible, in **Deuteronomy 18 verse 18.**

PREFACE TO THE ENGLISH VERSION

This book was first written in the Zulu language published by the Islamic Propagation Centre International (IPCI) in August 2002. It was officially launched at the Orient Hall, Durban, on the 29th October 2002, where His Majesty King Goodwill Zwelithini was the guest of honor. Even before the launch of the book there were calls for the translation of the book into English, and in answer to these calls I have decided to write an English version of UBHAQA.

This book is not a translation of the original Zulu script but an English version of the book. Each language has its own way of emphasising facts, its own idioms and its own style, and a book translated from one language into another always fails to arouse in the reader the same feeling the original is able to arouse and for this reason I decided to produce an English version of the book. The subject matter is exactly the same but the language and style are different.

I spent many years of my life in darkness. In all those years I was happy and satisfied to be where I was for I knew not the light and therefore did not realize that I was in darkness. I praise God Almighty who led me out of the darkness and into the light. It is this light that I wish to spread, *Insha-Allah* (God Willing), that it may reach the furthest corners of the world. I invite you, dear Reader, to put aside any prejudices and pre-conceived ideas about Islam, which may have been systematically implanted into your mind by those whose only aim is to bedevil Islam.

Please read this book and other books on Islam, and judge for yourself.

Dawood Ngwane
31st December 2002

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INTRODUCTION

In the name of God, most Gracious, most merciful. All Praise is due to God Almighty, the Creator and Sustainer of the heavens and the earth.

I present to you this book, that it may be an instrument of light to you, that the light may shine upon you so that you may acquire knowledge, that the knowledge you acquire may remove from your mind and distorted teachings that may have been fed into your mind so that you may worship the Everlasting God, the Creator of the heavens and the earth, who is the only One worthy of worship and praise.

God spoke those words and said:-

"I am the Lord thy God, thou shalt not have any other Gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in Heaven above, or that which is in the Earth beneath, or that which is in the water under the Earth. Thou shalt not bow down thy self to them nor serve them."

(Exodus 20:1)

The word UNKULUNKULU is not Zulu name of God. It is a word created by the white, Christian preachers who could not say UMKHULUKHULU, a name by which our forefathers called their Creator. They used to say the whole creation belongs to MVELINQANGI, who became without being created, who is the creator of everything. UMKHULUKHULU wawokhokho bethu means he is the Greatest of all our Ancestors, he was not begotten nor does he beget and there is nothing whatsoever like unto him. In the original, Zulu version of Ubhaqa the name UMKHULUKHULU has been used in the place of UNKULUNKULU.

The words I quoted from the Bible (Exodus20:1), above, are well known to all those who read the Bible. There is, however, a difference between knowledge and perception. One may know these words having heard someone say them or having heard someone read them from somewhere, or perhaps because one read them one's self, and yet have no perception or their meaning .

I say this because many people who call themselves" believers" have their idols of different shapes, different makes and different sizes. Some hang their idols on their necks, others place them in their churches and others hang them on the walls of their houses. They will all argue that they do not worship these things hanging on their necks, placed in their churches or hanging on their walls in spite of the fact that those who have statues in their churches kneel before these statues and pray:" *No we do not worship them; they are merely pictures to remind us, if I have my deceased brother's picture on the wall it brings to memory what my brother looked like*" They argue .And the Cross? *"It reminds me of my savior"* They say.

The words in Exodus 20:1 contain the fullness and totality of a true belief in God. A belief in one God, the Creator of the Heavens and the Earth. These words, which God uttered, are directed at all people believers and non-believers alike. And it then turns

out that the meaning of these words will depend on who one considers God to be .Our ancestors called him uMvelinqangi; a Zulu word, meaning:

"He who existed before all else; who came from no where; he begets not nor was he begotten; he is the creator of everything." This was the concept of God in the whole of the African continent prior to the introduction of Christianity. It is a belief similar to the Muslim belief. They also believe on one God who has no Partners; who alone is worthy of all worship and praise.

When the Jews in Medinah wanted Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) to describe to them what God looks like, they questioned him about the likeness of god. The following words were revealed, by God, through him (in Arabic):

"QUL HU WALLA HU AHAD ALLAH HUS SAMAD
LAM YALID WALAM YULAD
WALAM YA KULLA HU KUFUWAN AHAD."

"Say (O Prophet) God is one, God is eternal, he begets not nor is he begotten and there is nothing like unto him."

(Holy Quran: Chapter 112)

You could swear on oath that these words were spoken by a Zulu of ancient times'; for these words are the exact words of our ancestors of describing their creator UMvelinqangi, except that UMvelinqangi in Arabic is "Allah".

We inherit our religion from our parents. Very few people question their parent's religion and each generation passes their religion to the following generation without any thought as to whether it has any basis or, if it does, whether the basic can be supported by reliable authority. That which our parents believed in, we also believe in. If our parents believed in phantoms we believe in phantoms, and do not realize that we believe in phantoms. If those phantoms were called God by our parents we also call those phantoms God; and teach our children to worship those phantoms as that is the belief that was implanted in us in our childhood; a belief that has grown deep roots in our hearts. Phantom beliefs *do* have roots in people's hearts even where there are clear signs warning them about the futility of those beliefs. These phantom beliefs which have grown deep roots will have their phantom foundations or phantom bases, which will be held onto as though they were genuine, in spite of proof to the contrary.

This book has been written, after extensive research, by a man who was a Christian for 65 years and it is aimed at directing its readers through a path that will lead them to the belief in the One God who created the heavens and the earth, a God without mysteries. It is specially directed at those people who wish to know about Islam (the religion of those who are known as Muslims) a religion most people of my country, South Africa, through ignorance, believe to be a religion of "*Indians*" or "*Malays*."

I have obtained much of my inspiration for this book through reading a book by Sheikh Ahmad Deedat called **THE CHOICE**. This book is not a translation of The Choice, but certain arguments in this book are based on the arguments contained therein.

I will, in this book, provide the reader with knowledge gained through research, and give the reader the opportunity to choose his/ her own religion -so that he/she may be

one of those whose belief in God is founded on a genuine, unshakable foundation, and who follow a religion without mysteries.

PART ONE

THAT PROPHET

THAT PROPHET

"I shall raise them up a prophet like you from among their brethren and I shall put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I shall command him."

(Deuteronomy 18:18)

There are three identifying signs that God almighty has placed for us to identify this Prophet:

THE FIRST SIGN

"I shall raise them up a Prophet like you (PBUH)."

The first sign identifying "*that Prophet*" is that he will be like Moses (PBUH). All the people I have asked who *that Prophet* is have answered "*Jesus (PBUH), of course*". Is Jesus (PBUH) a Prophet or a son of God? Or is he both Prophet and son of God?

The most obvious likeness between Jesus (PBUH) and Moses (PBUH) is that Moses (PBUH) was a Jew and Jesus (PBUH) was a Jew. But there are many other Prophets who came after Moses (PBUH) who were Jews, Prophets like Jeremiah, Ezekiel (peace be upon them) and others. Therefore *that prophet* cannot be identified by his nationality.

As a matter of fact there is much dissimilarity between Moses and Jesus (PBUH), which clearly disqualifies Jesus (PBUH) for the position of *that Prophet*. Let us first look at the more apparent dissimilarities: According to Christians

1. Jesus (PBUH) is supposed to be God or Son of God, but Moses (PBUH) is not referred to as Son of God.
2. Jesus (PBUH) died on the cross for their sins but Moses (PBUH) did not die on the cross or anyone's sins.
3. Jesus (PBUH) rose from the dead but Moses (PBUH) died and never rose (he awaits the final rising of the dead, when all mankind will rise).

These are clear dissimilarities. Dissimilarities that even a small child can identify.

There are many other less apparent, but still clear, signs that clearly distinguish Moses from Jesus (Peace be upon them):

HIS BIRTH

Moses (PBUH) had a father and a mother, both of whom were slaves in Egypt. Jesus (PBUH) was conceived and born miraculously without the intervention of any man.

The Bible tells us:

"Now the birth of Jesus Christ (PBUH) was on this wise: When his mother Mary was now espoused to Joseph; before they came together she was found with child of the Holy Spirit."

(Matthew 1:18)

The Gospel of Luke explained how this happened:

*"Then said Mary unto the Angel, 'how shall this be, seeing I know not a man?'
And the angel answered and said unto her, 'The Holy Spirit' shall come upon thee
and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee...."*

(Luke 1:34-35)

The Holy Qur'an says:

*"She (Mary) answered and said 'O My Lord how shall I have a son when no man
has touched me?' He (the Angel) said 'Even so, God created what he willeth.'
When he has decreed a plan, he says to It 'Be 'and it is."*

(Holy Quran 3:47)

It is not necessary for any "Holy Spirit" to come upon her (Mary) or any "overshadowing" to occur before the will of God can be fulfilled. We Muslims believe in the miraculous birth of Jesus (PBUH) because God himself tells us of this miraculous birth on the Holy Quran, as I have quoted above.

We, however, separate ourselves from those who say before the will of God could be fulfilled, there had to be a "coming upon and overshadowing" of Mary and we consider this to be an insult for this "coming upon" is a human act. It is an act necessary for us humans for a woman to conceive, and give birth to a child .God almighty has only to will or to want a thing to happen and it happens.

The Holy Quran bears me out on this point.

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was born in Arabia, in the city of Mecca, on a Monday, the 12th of Rabi-ul- Awwal (3rd month of the Islamic lunar calendar), in the year of the Elephant. He had a father and a mother. Therefore Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is LIKE Moses (PBUH) by virtue of his birth by a father and a mother.

Family

Moses (PBUH) married Zipporah, the daughter of Jethro, and they begot children.

AND

Muhammad (PBUH) married Khadija, a renowned Businesswoman, and they begot children.

Jews (PBUH) on the other hand remained a bachelor to the end of his days on Earth. Therefore Muhammad (PBUH) is LIKE Moses (PBUH) and Jesus (PBUH) is UNLIKE Moses (PBUH).

AN ACCEPTED PROPHET

Moses (PBUH) was accepted by the Jewish Nation as their Prophet. Jesus (PBUH) was denied by his people to the every end; he is still not accepted to this day.

"He came unto his own and his own received him not."

(John 1:11)

Therefore Muhammad (PBUH) is LIKE Moses(PBUH) and Jesus (PBUH) is UNLIKE Moses (PBUH).

Those who have read History books will question me on the battles fought by Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). It is a well –known fact that the Jews revolted against Moses (PBUH) on a number of occasions but, nonetheless, he was accepted by the Jewish nation as a messenger of God. The Arabs, as well, fought many battles against Muhammad (PBUH) during the early years of his Prophethood. After thirteen years of preaching in Mecca he was forced to migrate to Medina with his followers. However, after all the fighting the Arabs ended up accepting him as a messenger of God and he was accepted by the whole of the Arabian world. Today he is accepted by million all over the world as the last messenger of Allah.

POWER TO MAKE AND ENFORCE LAWS.

Besides being prophets, both Moses and Muhammad (PBUH) had power to legislate and powers to enforce their laws.

If you read the Bible (Numbers 15:32) you will read about a man who was found gathering wood on the Sabbath day and Moses (PBUH) ordered that he should be punished . Many such incidents are recorded about Moses (PBUH) in the bible. The prophet Muhammad (PBUH) had such powers as well. Many incidents are recorded about justice being implemented on his command.

In the Bible we read about many prophets who were given the gift of Prophethood by God, but all these prophets did not have powers to make and enforce their laws. Among these prophets we can mention the Prophets Hezekiel, Lot, Daniel, Ezra and Jesus (Peace be upon them) .None of these Prophets made any laws and Jesus (PBUH) is heard saying:

"My kingdom is not of this world, if my kingdom was of this world my servants would fight that I should not be delivered by the Jews..."

(John 18:36)

It becomes clear, again, that therefore Muhammad (PBUH) is LIKE Moses (PBUH) and Jesus (PBUH) is UNLIKE Moses (PBUH).

THEIR LAWS

Besides the Ten Commandments, which the Lord gave to Moses (PBUH) for the guidance of the children of Israel, there are many other laws that were made by Moses (PBUH) .As a messenger of god he always sought Guidance from God and the laws he made were given to him by ?God. Among the laws promulgated by Moses (PBUH) we found laws relating to what should be done if a body of an unknown person is found in the land (**Deuteronomy 21**); punishment for adultery and women prisoners of war (**Deuteronomy 21:10-13**) and many other laws.

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) also promulgated laws that were observed and followed by the Muslims, which are still observed and followed and which will be observed and followed until the end of the world Insha- Allah (God willin).

He was born in a land steeped in barbarism and ignorance and he promulgated laws to extricate the whole of the Arabian Nation form iniquity and barbarism .Arabs in those days were stepped in drunkenness, gambling, adultery and idolatry. For example, a

man would marry his dead father's wife (his step-mother). Also, they buried their newborn baby daughters alive.

By his laws, Muhammad (PBUH) extricated the Arabs from their bespeakable barbarism and molded them into one of the most respected nation in the world. Within a century Arabia became a well known and respected land. The light of civilization shone like a torch in Arabia for the whole world to see.

Jesus (PBUH) declared that he had not come to change any laws. The Jews were fearful that Jesus (PBUH) had come to add to the laws of Moses (PBUH). He says to them:

"Think not that I am come to destroy the law or the prophets: I am come not to destroy but to build."

(Matthew 5:17)

Indeed Jesus (PBUH) did not make or change any law right up to the day of his departure from this world .Again, this proves that Muhammad (PBUH) is LIKE Moses (PBUH) and Jesus (PBUH) is UNLIKE Moses (PBUH).

THEIR ENDS

Moses (PBUH) died at the age of one hundred and twenty years .The Bible tells us that at the time of his death his eyes were neither dim, nor natural force abated. **(Deuteronomy 34:7-8)**.Although it is not clearly stated, it would appear that he died and was buried at a place called Moab. For the Bible states:

"And the children of Israel wept for Moses (PBUH) in the plains of Moab thirty days."

(Deuteronomy 34:8)

Muhammad (PBUH) died at the age of sixty-three years and was laid to rest in Medina.

Therefore, both Moses and Muhammad (peace be upon them) died natural deaths. Christians, however, believe that Jesus (PBUH) was crucified and died on the cross. They believe that he was buried and rose from the dead. Therefore Muhammad (PBUH) is LIKE Moses (PBUH) and Jesus (PBUH) is UNLIKE Moses (PBUH).

LASTLY, both Moses (PBUH) and Muhammad (PBUH) were laid to rest in their graves, and will be lying in their graves until the day of resurrection.

Jesus (PBUH), on the other hand, was taken up to Heaven and will return to this world before the end of the world to complete his human life, when he will rule the world from Jerusalem.

Among all the prophets of god (Peace be upon them all) there is not a single prophet like Moses (PBUH) besides Muhammad (PBUH).

Now, having covered one identifying sign I will follow up by explaining the second sign; for God gave three signs by which to identify the prophet spoken and\bout in Deuteronomy 18 verse 18.

THE SECOND SIGN

"I shall raise them up a prophet like you, from among their brethren."

Here is the second sign:-

That Prophet will come from among their brethren (from the house of Abraham (PBUH)).

The story of Abraham (PBUH) and his generation is found in the Holy Bible as well as in the Holy Quran. The Bible tells us that Abraham (PBUH) 's wife Sarah did not bear children and after many years of waiting and praying Sarah allowed her husband to take Hagar , her handmaid, as a wife, for "it may be that I may obtain children by her."(Genesis 16:2). Hagar bore Abraham (PBUH) a son, who he named Ishmael (PBUH) (**Genesis 16:5**).

Ishmael (PBUH) was the only son of Abraham (PBUH) when the Lord God ordered Abraham (PBUH) to be circumcised; and that every male child of his generation should be circumcised .Abraham (PBUH) was ninety- nine years old and Ishmael (PBUH) was thirteen years when they were circumcised. Abraham (PBUH) took Ishmael, and all that were born in his house , and all that were bought with his money, and every male among the men of Abraham (PBUH) 's house ,and circumcised the flesh if their foreskin in the selfsame day (**Genesis 17:23-26**).

It was after this incident that God gave Abraham (PBUG) another son, born of Abraham (PBUH)'s first wife Sarah. The child was named Isaac (**Genesis 21:3**) .Isaac was circumcised on his eighth day after birth (**Genesis 21:4**) as the Lord God had ordered in (**Genesis 17:12**) .

Ishmael (PBUH) and Isaac being the sons of one man were, therefore, brothers and the children of Ishmael (PBUH) were the brethren of the children of Isaac. And the children of Ishmael (PBUH) are Arabs while the children of Isaac are Jews. The Arabs therefore are the brethren of the Jews.

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was an Arab and the second sign is therefore proven, for Muhammad (PBUH) comes "from among their brethren." Whose brethren? The Jews' brethren.

THE THIRD, AND MOST IMPORTANT, SIGN

*"I shall raise them up a Prophet like you from among their brethren **and I shall put my words in his mouth...**"*

What is meant by putting words into a person's mouth? If someone reads the Bible or when someone is preaching a sermon he may be speaking the word of god but would you say that someone is putting words into his mouth? No, he is saying those words on his own nobody is putting the words into his mouth.

But if I say to you "Say":

"God is one "and you repeat "God is one ";

"God is eternal" and you repeat "God is eternal";

"He begets not nor is he begotten" and you repeat "He begets not nor is he begotten;"

And tell you to repeat the words I put into your mouth and that you have no choice but to repeat my words *exactly* as I tell you; then this is putting words into a person's mouth.

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was forty years old when he received the first revelation from God. We read that he was accustomed to visiting a cave, which was some three miles out of the city of Mecca, where he would spend days praying and fasting . One day while he was in the cave, on the twenty-seventh day of the month of Ramadaan (ninth, and holiest, month of the Islamic lunar calendar), he was commanded by the Archangel Gabriel "Read"(in the Arabic language). Fear and terror seized him and in his bewilderment stuttered "I am not learned". He was commanded for the second time and he gave the same reply shuddering, " I am not learned." The third time the angel commanded:

"Read, in the name of thy Lord who has created (all that exists).

He has created man from a mere clot (of congealed blood).

Read! And thy Lord is most bountiful.

He taught (the use of) the pen;

Taught man that which he knew not."

(Holy Quran 96:1-5)

These are the first words revealed to Muhammad (PBUH).

Before the beginning of the revelations Muhammad (PBUH) lived a pure and wholesome life. He was known by the name "*Al- Amin*" (the trustworthy, the honest, the truthful). After the first revelation words continued to be put into his mouth and he would utter them and they would be recorded by scribes. For the next twenty three years" *words were put into his mouth* "as prophesied in Deuteronomy 18:18 and the words were recorded by those who were learned, for he was unlettered and could neither read nor write. It is amazing that the words which were "*put in his mouth* " were recorded in his heart ; so that he never forgot them all his life. He himself stated after the first revelation, which was brought to him by the Archangel Gabriel in the cave of Hira," *it was as if the words were written in my heart.*"

Many of the stories that are in the Taura (the so-called Old Testament) are in the Quran: the destruction of Sodom and Gomora; Joseph's dream which resulted in him being sold by his brothers; the children of Israel's emancipation from the clutches of Pharaoh and more. Additionally, many stories that are in the New Testament are in the Quran: one example is the story of the miraculous birth of Jesus (PBUH) .And yet, during the period of these revelations there was no Bible written in Arabic nor was Muhammad (PBUH) educated or literate .So what else is the source of these stories besides revelation from God?

The Qurans, as revealed to Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), is the Last Testament and it says of Jesus (PBUH):

"That they said (in boast)" We killed Christ Jesus (PBUH) , the son of Mary, messenger of Allah ,"-But they killed him not, nor crucified him, but it was made to appear to them so; and those who differ therein are full of doubts with no (certain) knowledge, but only conjecture to follow. For surely they killed him not."

(Holy Qur'an 4:157)

These revelations were put into his mouth by the Almighty, as promised in Deuteronomy 18-18. The Holy Qur'an confirms thus:

*"Nor does he say (aught) of his own desire;
It is no less than an inspiration sent down to him
He was taught by one mighty in power."*

(Holy Qur'an 53:3-5)

The three identifying signs to identify the prophet referred to in Deuteronomy 18:18 are all found in Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), and there is no other prophet who qualifies to be *"that prophet."*

God Almighty did not only give us the signs for the identification of *that prophet* but he follows up with a dire warning:

*"... and it shall come to pass that whosoever will not
hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of
him."*

(Deuteronomy 5-19)

In the original Zulu book the words are recorded as "I will punish him ", taken from the Roman Catholic Bible which says , "I will be the revenge". The Zulu Bible says "Mina ngikufune kuyes." The Kind James Bible says, " I will require it of him."

Looking at all these words though expressed in different forms they have one meaning. They express a warning of a grave punishment to those who will listen to the words of God uttered through the mouth of *that prophet* .

Do you know that every chapter of the Holy Qur'an begins with the words: " *In the name of God, most gracious, most merciful*"? Can you be so careless as to ignore the word that he speaks in God's name?

A Muslim at all times begins whatever he does with the words "*Bismillahir Rahmanir Raheem*", meaning "*In the name of God , most gracious, most merciful*". We begin in the name of God Almighty, who is the only one worthy of worship and praise: **HE BEGETS NOT NOR IS HE BEGOTTEN.**

Christians begin " *In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost*". **IT IS ONLY HE WHOL WILL BE THE JUDGE AT THE END.**

All that I have said so far proves without any shadow of doubt that the prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is "**THAT PROPHET**". But let me also show that Jesus himself (Peace be upon him) confirms this.

THE NEW TESTAMENT CONFIRMS IT

When Jesus (PBUH) was born the Jews were awaiting the fulfillment of the prophecy in **Deuteronomy 18:18**- The arrival of the prophet like Moses (PBUH). They asked John the Baptist if he was *that Prophet* and John the Baptist denied that he was. John the Baptist was a great prophet but he was not *that Prophet*. Jesus (PBUH) himself confirms this; he says the following in the Gospel of Matthew:

"Verily I say unto you, among them that are born of woman there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist".

(Matthew 11: 11)

When Jesus (PBUH) called himself the Messiah the Jews asked him "*But where is Elias?*" They asked this question because they expected Elias to come before the Messiah and Jesus (PBUH) himself confirms this where he says.

*"Elias truly shall first come and restore all things
But I say unto you that Elias is come already, and ye knew him not."*

(Matthew 17: 11-12)

His disciples thought that he was talking about John the Baptist (**Matthew 17: 11-13**). But John the Baptist denies that he is Elias:

He is asked
Are you Christ? He says *No*
Are you Elias? He says *No*
*Are you **that prophet**?* He says *No*

John the Baptist is known by Muslims as Prophet Yahya Alai- his- Salaam; and Jesus (PBUH) is known as Prophet Esa Alai-his- Salaam. Both are respected as great prophets of god.

The words "Alai-his Salaam" are Arabic for "peace be upon him", and are added whenever we mention the name of a prophet or an angel as a sign of respect.

We Muslims know Jesus (PBUH) as a powerful prophet who was endowed with the blessing of performing miracles, by the power of God.

We take note of the conflicting statements in the Bible where, in one place, Jesus (PBUH) says John the Baptist is Elias and in another place John the Baptist denies this. Either John the Baptist was Elias or he was not. However we as Muslims cannot enter into this debate, for we do not believe that either Jesus (PBUH) or John the Baptist could tell an untruth, for they were truly men of God.

All that concerns us is to look at the answer to the question

"Are you that prophet?" He says "*I am Not*".

Three questions were asked of John the Baptist to all of which he replied in the negative:

Are you Christ?
Are you Elias?
*Are you **that Prophet**?*

(John 1:19-23)

They then asked

"Why baptizest thou then if be thou neither Christ nor Elias neither that prophet."

(John 1:25)

The Jews were awaiting the fulfillment of three prophecies:

1. The prophecy of the coming of Christ.
2. The prophecy of the return of Elias.
3. The coming of *that prophet*.

We Muslims do not deny that Jesus (PBUH) is the Messiah, we do not deny any of the prophecies predicting his coming but we say **Deuteronomy 18:18** does not predict the coming of Jesus but the coming of Muhammad (peace be upon him).

WHO WAS PROPHET MUHAMMAD (PBUH)?

HIS BIRTH

He was born in the city of Mecca, in Arabia, on Monday the 12th of the month of Rabi-ul –awal , in the Year of the elephant.

At the time of his birth the Arabs worshiped self-made idols. The people were generally illiterate. They were drunkards and were addicted to gambling and had no morals. They married their widowed stepmothers and buried their newborn daughters alive. Women were not respected, the powerful trampled upon the weak and there was darkness and anarchy in the whole of Arabia.

His father was Abdullah, the son of Abdul Muttalib, and his mother was Aminah, the daughter of Walib Ibn Manaf. His father Abdullah went to Syria on business , after his marriage to Aminah, but died on his way back and was buried in Medina. His mother became a young widow, expecting the birth of her first child. His grand father Abdul Muttalib was overjoyed at the birth of his grandson and took him to the Holy Ka'ba (first mosque built on earth, situated in Mecca) to express his thanks and invoke blessings for the child.

He was given the name "*Muhammad (PBUH)*", which means "*highly praised.*"

HIS FOSTER MOTHER

The climate in the city of Mecca was extremely hot (it is still extremely hot to this day) and the heat was considered to be injurious to infants. It was a custom for well – to – do families to give their newborn babies to Bedouin nurses who would bring up their babies in the countryside, away from the extremely hot climate and unwholesome air of the city. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was also sent to a Bedouin nurse, to be brought up by her. The woman who had the good fortune of becoming Muhammad (PBUH)'s nurse was called Halima. She narrates the story of how she became Muhammad (PBUH) 's nurse thus:

"It was a barren year. My husband and I had no food in the house. So we decided to go to Mecca to seek a foster-child so that we could get financial assistance from the child's parents. We journeyed to Mecca in a caravan along with other women of our tribe who were on a similar errand as

ourselves. Our ass was thin and weak and it lagged behind causing us to reach Mecca when all the newborn babies had been taken by the other women. There was only one child left, Muhammad (PBUH) was his name. It was said that he is an orphan and belong to a poor family .Like all the other woman, we also wanted to leave him but I became ashamed that I should return home without a foster baby. I also pitied the innocent infant who would be subjected to the heat and unwholesome air of the city and I decided to adopt the baby."

Muhammad (PBUH) was brought up by Halima, who suckled this baby for two years. After two years she took the child back, as it was the custom that foster babies were given back to their parents when they completed the second year of their lives. However Halima did not wish to part with this very blessed child. She requested that she be allowed to go back with the child to save him from the heat and filthy air of the city.

The prophet remained with Halima until he was six years old, until his mother Aminah took him to visit his grandfather in Yathrib (Medina today) .She had also intended to visit her husband's grave but she suddenly died in their way to Mecca. She was buried in a graveyard near a village known as Al Abwa.

He became a complete orphan at the age of six, having lost both his parents. He arrived home in the company of Umm Aiman , a slave girl , and lived with his grandfather Abdul Muttalib, who treated his grandson very affectionately, Abdul Muttalib passed away at the age of ninety-five leaving the boy with his uncle, Abu Talib .

Abu Talib became very attached to Muhammad (BUH), whom he showered with his affection and kindness. The boy became very devoted to his uncle. He was a good boy and liked cleanliness. He never complained of hunger or thirst. He was sincere and truthful despite the evil habits of the people around him. He earned himself the title Al Amin (the faithful).

BAHIRA'S PREDICTION

Bahira was a learned Christian monk. Once he met the boy, Muhammad(PBUH) , and said, "*Come here young man; I have some questions to ask*". When Muhammad (PBUH) came close the monk asked: "*If I ask you questions by Laat and Uzza will you answer them?*"Bahira wanted to hear what his answer would be, because Laat and Uzza were two of the many idols worshipped in Arabia in those days. Muhammad (PBUH) answered" *I beg of you ask me no question in the names of Laat and Uzza, for there is nothing in this world that I detest more than those.*" And the monk asked," *By Allah will you answer me?*" Whereupon Muhammad (PBUH) replied: "*Now ask any question of me and I shall answer you.*"

There followed a long interrogation of the prophet by the monk at the end of which the young man turned to go. As he turned the collar of his cloak moved aside slightly and Bahira caught sight of the "*seal of prophethood*" imprinted on the young man's back, on the spot where the Holy Scriptures indicated it would be. Bahira informed Abu Talib that the young man was a prophet of Allah and warned Abu Talib to watch carefully over him.

The prophet grew up in the watchful eye of his devoted uncle. He was never educated and he could neither read nor write. In the writer's own view this was a plan of God Almighty. For he knows that which no human mind can comprehend. If the prophet had been an educated person the amazing things which were revealed through him could have been mistaken for things he knew by virtue of his knowledge as an educated person. God Almighty, the knower of everything put into the mouth of the unlettered prophet amazing words; he made him say things unknown even to the learned of the time.

"I shall put my words into his mouth."

He revealed to him the message of all the books revealed before. In the Quran we find all the stories of the Old Testament; we find the sermons of Jesus (PBUH) . Read what Jesus (PBUH) says in the holy Quran:

"(I have come to you) to attest the law which was before me and to make lawful to you part of what was (before) forbidden to you. I have come to you with a sign from your Lord. So fear God and obey me.

It is God who is my Lord and your Lord, so worship him (alone). This is the straight path."

(Holy Quran 3:50-51)

As an uneducated person it was impossible for Muhammad (PBUH) to have known this.

THE FIRST REVELATION

Details of the first revelation have been narrated under the section "*The third, and most important sign*", above. It is important to note that at the time of the first revelation the prophet was already forty years old.

At the age of twenty –five he had married a wealthy widow by the name of Khadija and they were blessed with three sons and four daughters. However, all his sons died in infancy.

On the first revelation Muhammad (PBUH) did not know what was happening to him. The Archangel Gabriel had brought glittering light into the cave, which sent its rays out far and wide. When the Archangel left, Muhammad (PBUH) was still in a state of bewilderment. He left the cave and started waking home; as he walked he heard a voice saying repeatedly "*O Muhammad (PBUH), you are a messenger of Allah and I am Jibrael(Gabriel).*"

When he reached home he was still bewildered and lay down to recover. When he had recovered he related the whole story to his wife Khadija. Khadija had a cousin who was a renowned scholar of sacred books; whose name was Waraqua bin Naufal. She took her husband to the renowned scholar and asked her husband to relate the whole story to him. When Waraqua bin Naufal had heard the story he said "*Jibrael has visited you; he visited Musa(Moses(PBUH)) and Esa (Jesus(PBUH)) as well – You are the promised one. Allah has bestowed prophethood upon you.*"

When Muhammad (PBUH) heard these words he said in a loud voice:

"There is one Allah, besides whom there is no God.

*Allah is everlasting;
He begetteth not nor is he begotten.
He knows visible things and invisible things.
He causes one to die and makes one alive.
Allah is the master of the East and the West.
He is all powerful
But the Gods they invoke besides him have no power.
Even over the husk of a date-stone."*

THE COMFORTER

Jesus (PBUH) spoke repeatedly about the prophet to come after him, referring to him as "*The Comforter*". Christians, however, deny that he was referring to a person. They say he was talking about the Holy spirit (who they say is the third component of the Trinity God).

Listen to the words of Jesus (PBUH) :

*"But the comforter; which is the Holy Spirit,
Whom the Father will send in my name.
He shall reach you all things and bring all things to your
remembrance; whatever I have said to you."*

One cannot complain if English –speaking person says the Holy Spirit that Jesus (PBUH) is referring to is the same Holy Spirit which descended upon the Apostles in Jerusalem and they began to speak in different tongues. The same Holy Spirit which causes some people to shout as if they are insane.

Listen to the words of Jesus (PBUH), again, talking to his disciples:

*"I have yet many things to say to you but ye cannot bear them now.
Howbeit **when he, the spirit of truth is come** he will guide you into all truth
for **he shall not speak of himself.**
But whatever he shall hear shall he speak, and he will show you things to
come."*

(John16:12-13)

Having read these two verses it must now be clear to you that the "Spirit of truth" is not the same Spirit which descended upon the disciples. Let me remind you that Jesus(PBUH) did not speak English or Zulu or Xhosa. The words HOLY GHOST/ HOLY SPIRIT/ UMOYA ONGCWELE is translated from the language Jesus (PBUH) spoke. The words actually used by Jesus(PBUH) were probably recorded in the books which were destroyed in the year 325 AD by order of the Emperor Constantine who ordered that all Bibles and books which were used by those who believed in One God and denied the Trinity God be destroyed.

If we follow carefully the utterances of Jesus(peace be upon him) when he referred to the comforter it will be clear that he does not talk about the Holy Spirit referred to by Christians. For he says:

*"Believe not every Spirit but try the spirit whether they are of God.
Because Many False Prophets are gone out into the world."*

It becomes clear that the Spirit referred to is a prophet. You must agree with me that Jesus (PBUH) speaks of a **live person** and not a spirit. A man with flesh and blood. If Jesus (PBUH) was referring to the Holy Spirit he would not be heard saying:

*"Nevertheless I tell you the truth; it is expedient for you that I go away; for if I go not away **The Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart I will send him unto you.**"*

(John16:7)

When Jesus (PBUH) uttered these words; the Holy Spirit was there; the Holy Spirit was there before Jesus(PBUH) was born and we read about the Holy Spirit before the birth of Christ in the following verses:-

*"For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord; and shall drink Neither wine nor strong drink and **he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost** even from his mother's womb."*

(Luke 1:15)

"And it came to pass that when Elizabeth heard the Salutation of Mary; the baby leaped in her womb and Elizabeth **was filled with the Holy Ghost.**"

(Luke1:41)

"And his father Zachariah was filled with the Holy Ghost..."

(Luke1:67)

At the time of the birth of Jesus(PBUH)and during his lifetime the Holy Spirit **was already there** as the following verses will confirm:

*"And it was revealed unto him **by the Holy Ghost** that he shall not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ."*

(Luke 3:26)

*"And the **Holy Spirit descended** in a bodily shape like a dove upon him."*

(Luke 3:22)

*"Wherefore I say unto you all manners of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men; but the blasphemy **against the Holy Ghost** shall not be forgiven unto them".*

(Matthews 12:31)

Jesus (PBUH) did not have to go away in order for the Holy Spirit to come; for Jesus (PBUH) gave his disciples the Holy spirit when he sent them out to Preach.

*"And when he had said this he breathed on them and said unto them; **receive ye the Holy Spirit.**"*

(John 20:22)

Having given the them the Holy Spirit; Jesus (PBUH) promised that he will send them another comforter:

*"If ye love me; keep my commandments, and I will pray the father and he shall give you **another comforter**; that he may abide with you forever."*

(John 14:16)

Jesus (PBUH) says "another comforter" because he himself is *the comforter*, and he promised them *another comforter* ("like me").

And indeed Jesus (PBUH) was truthful, for God did send *the comforter* hundred and thirty one years after the departure of Jesus (PBUH). He was born in the City of Mecca, in Arabia.

SIGNS

Jesus (PBUH) has also given signs by which the other comforter can be identified for he has said:

"Many false prophets are gone out into the world."

And he declares:

"Howbeit when he; the Spirit of truth is come; he will guide you into all truth; for he shall not speak of himself but whatever he shall hear, that shall he speak and he shall show you things to come.

He shall glorify me; for he shall receive of mine and shall show it unto you."

(John16:13-14)

THE FIRST SIGN

Jesus (PBUH) repeats what was said in Deuteronomy 18 verse 18 where it is written:

"I shall put my words into his mouth and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him."

and says:

For he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear; that shall he speak".

(John16:13)

It has already been explained how words were put into the mouth of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) from the day he received the first revelation in the Cave of Hira and for twenty three years thereafter. Words were put in his mouth and he spoke that which he was commanded to speak.

THE SECOND SIGN

"He shall glorify me; for he shall receive of mine and shall show it unto you."

If you lay your hands on the Holy Quran read all the things that are written about Jesus (PBUH) in the Quran you will be amazed. Starting from the story of his miraculous birth, and going through all the miracles performed by Jesus (PBUH) throughout his life, by leave of God Almighty. More miracles of Jesus (PBUH) are recorded in the Quran than in the Bible. All the miracles Jesus (PBUH) performed were performed by him through the power of God as he himself declares:

"I can of mine own self do nothing"

(John 5:30)

*"But if I; with the finger of god cast out devils;
No doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you."*

(Luke 11:20)

We read in the Holy Quran that Jesus (PBUH) spoke when he was an infant in his mother arms. We read also that God said to Jesus (PBUH):

"O Jesus (PBUH); I will take thee and raise thee to myself and clear thee (of the falsehood) of those who blaspheme; I will make those who follow thee superior to those who reject faith."

(Holy Quran 3:55)

Will you not at least agree that God *does* glorify Jesus through the prophet Muhammad (peace be upon them), through the Holy Quran?

Listen to what he says about Mary; the mother of Jesus (PBUH):

*"Behold the Angel said
O Mary; God hath chosen thee and purified thee.
Chosen thee above the women of all nations"*

(Holy Quran 3:42)

He does not say that Muhammad (PBUH)'s mother; or his wife; or his daughter is chosen above the women of all nations. He says the mother of Jesus (PBUH) is chosen above the women of all nations; including Muhammad (PBUH)'s own mother. If these verses do not show the glorification of Jesus (PBUH); I do not know what does.

We know that Jesus (PBUH) will come back before the end of the world because the Holy Quran tells us so; Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) will not come back but Jesus (PBUH) will.

THE THIRD SIGN

"Howbeit when he; the spirit of truth is come; he will guide you into all truth..."

Remember Jesus (PBUH) said;

*'I have yet many things to say unto you; but ye cannot bear them now.
Howbeit when he; the spirit of truth is come; he will guide you into all truth.'*

(John 16:12-13)

The spirit of truth; the comforter would teach the people about things Jesus (PBUH) had not taught disciples –**WHY?** Because "**YE CANNOT BEAR THEM NOW.**"

Since the time Jesus (PBUH) left this world has the Holy Spirit taught the world anything? The world is plunging down, down, down into an abyss of self – destruction. Look at the problems facing the world today:

- The problem of Alcoholism
- The problem of Idolatry
- The problem of Illegitimate children
- The problem of Immorality
- Witchcraft, Gambling, Excess of women over men.

The list goes on and on .

We have not received any guidance from the Holy Ghost to solve these problems.

THE PROBLEM OF ALCOHOLISM

In Western countries and in all those countries which have accepted Western customs, the drinking of alcohol is considered as a normal way of life. If you dinner table is not adorned by bottles of wine your social class is questionable.

How can we prevent alcoholism? The children starve while their parents waste their money in alcohol. Families break-up; children go without food.

ALCOHOL IS BAD

ALCOHOL SHOULD BE DESPISED AND SHUNNED

But in Western civilization alcohol is the source of enjoyment and a sign of affluence. Jimmy Swaggart, in his book called "*Alcoholism*" records that in the

United States of America there are eleven million Alcoholics and forty four million heavy drinkers. Altogether the United States has fifty five thousand drunkards, for an alcoholic and a heavy drinker are both drunkards.

But the problem is worldwide and as old as life itself. In Arabia, Muhammad (PBUH), by inspiration from God, announced the abolition, in stages, of alcohol and led Arabia out of alcoholism, drunkenness and all the iniquities that go with it over fourteen hundred years ago. One man was sufficient for the whole of Arabia to be rod of the cursed substance. There was no attempt to limit the intake of the stuff, as is suggested in Western Civilization; for the prophet of Islam, the spirit of truth, had declared:

"Whatever intoxicates in greater quantity is forbidden even in smaller quantity."

Therefore in the house of Islam neither a nip nor a tot may be taken. In the house of Islam alcohol may not even be used in cooking or baking as it is commonly used in Christendom. The Holy Quran refers to alcohol as "*the handiwork of Satan*" in the following verse:

*"O ye who believe: Most certainly
Intoxicants
And gambling
And (dedication of) stones
And (divination) by arrows
Are an abomination of Satan's handiwork
Shun such (abomination) that ye may prosper."*

(Holy Quran 5:93)

A question may be asked as to how was this man able to successfully outlaw alcohol when prohibitions and limitations have failed in Western Societies? Christendom knows no prohibition of alcohol for the masters and leaders have spoken favorably of alcohol:

"Give strong drink unto him that is ready to perish and wine unto those that be of heavy hearts. Let him drink and forge his poverty, and remember his nursery no more."

(Holy Bible Proverb 31:6-7)

Paul Says:

*"Drink no longer water
But use a little wine for thy stomach's sake
And thine often infirmities"*

(Timothy 51:23)

If Alcohol is a sin, they ask, then why did Jesus (PBUH) turn water into wine? It is stated in the Bible:

*"Jesus (PBUH) saith unto them: "Fill the water pots with water.
They filled them up to the brim. And he saith unto them "Draw out own now and bear to the governor of the feast." When the ruler of the feast had tested the water that was made wine and knew not whence it was saith 'thou hast kept the good wine until now."*

(John 2:7-10)

The time was not right for the abolition of alcohol as Jesus (PBUH) had told his disciples

*"I have yet many things to say unto you
But ye cannot bear them now"*

(John16:12)

THE PROBLEM OF RACISM

This problem is worldwide. There is a lot being said about the brotherhood of men but in practice it is everyone to himself and God for us all.

It was not until I embraced Islam that I saw the true brotherhood of man as practiced by the followers of Muhammad(PBUH). Before I embraced Islam I was a member of a Christian Church; but the Church was divided into smaller groups distinguished by their various uniforms: Some belonging to the Society of saint Joseph; others to the Society of Saint Francis; others to the Society of the Sacred Heart; others to the Society of saint Anne; others to the Children of Mary and so on and so on. Any Christians will tell you that even though he belongs to one of these societies he is a Catholic because these are Catholic societies. Other denominations have their own different divisions and sub divisions within their churches, such as: amavolontiya Amagosa, Umanyano, abakhokheli, isililo; Abashumayeli; and the like. You easily distinguish a person by his uniform and know immediately to what church denomination he belongs and to what group or sub group he /she belongs .Some people do not want to join any group and remain ordinary members of the church but they, then ,become a group in themselves.

When I embraced Islam, for the first time in my life I became a member of one body-The Muslim *Ummah* (Nation). They are easily distinguishable, the men by their beards and by their headgear; and the ladies by their long cloaks and head coverings.

Everyday, five times a day, they assemble together in their local mosque to pray. In the mosque there are no places reserved for certain people; they all stand in sarfs(lines) shoulder to shoulder. There is no distinction; rich or poor; position or no position in society; educated or uneducated. They all stand together as brothers before Allah, who is our Creator and Sustainer.

"O mankind, indeed We have Created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another. Indeed the most noble in the sight of Allah of the most righteous of you. Indeed Allah is Knowing and Acquainted."

(Holy Quran9:13)

But my real fulfillment came about when I saw nations of the whole world gathered together at the Haj Pilgrimage (to Mecca) all wearing a similar garb, made of two seamless pieces of cloth. All gathered together for one purpose. I was one of them in the year 1998 and I shall never forget the sight as long as I live, Millions of men and women of all nationalities milling together around the Holy Ka'ba every minute of the day and night; standing shoulder to shoulder five times a day in prayer. People from all walks of life speaking different tongues but showing brotherly love in speech and action even though they do not understand each other; they are brothers in Islam.

The true brotherhood of man; devised and implemented by the prophet of Islam, the spirit of truth (may the choicest blessings of Allah be upon him) to bring mankind into a single brotherhood.

*"For he; the spirit of truth
Will guide you into all truth."*

(John 16:13)

EXCESS OF WOMEN OVER MEN

It is natural that a woman will want to get married. This desire is in every young woman's heart. She silently plans her contemplated future home and waits for a proposal to come her way. For some the proposal will come at an early age and for others at a later stage and yet for others it never comes. Hence the idea of finding a husband for one's daughter becomes commendable, for sometimes a young woman due to her lack of experience and insight will find herself swimming in hot water and her childhood dream shattered, or she may find herself waiting for a proposal forever.

Men may be physically strong but nature has it that they often die and leave the woman they had married stranded. Even in childhood more males than females die. These are some of the factors which may be responsible for the existence of an excess of women over men all over the world. In the book by Sheikh Ahmad Deedat "*The choice*" we find statistics showing that Great Britain has a surplus of four million ,Germany five million ,Russia seven million and the Untied States seven million eight hundred thousand women over men . It is said that New York alone has a surplus of one million. This means that if , in new York City , every man were to marry one wife one million women would be left without a husband .Nowadays ,the problem is much more serous as the law permits men to find solace in other men , thus adding to the number of women who cannot find a husband.

THIS IS A SERIOUS PROBLEM

During the eighties in South Africa, there were five women to one man.

The powers that be and the churches are turning a blind eye to the problem. The Church says "Marry one wife and forsake all the others." Our marriage laws are, to a great extent, Christian laws , which bind all South Africans, Christian and non-Christian .

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE SURPLUS WOMEN?

Nature has it that a woman who has reached the age of adulthood will want to have a man for companionship and solace. The men who are already married to "*one wife*" will be the companions of these unfortunate ones who have not found themselves single partners" this is the Western Civilization's way of life. It is not something that is spoken about openly. Women get into this kind of relationship knowing that the man is already married but hoping that the man will divorce his wife and marry them.

Sooner or later the woman will be nursing a baby.... and the next... and the next from different "*married men.*" Once a woman conceives she is dumped by her male companion who does not want to be saddled with the maintenance of a child and he goes to the next woman, whose fate will be the same as the previous woman.

WHERE WILL THIS END?

They are given funny names because they cannot share the title of "*wife*": they are called "*mistresses/ concubines/studs*".

Islam says "DO NOT ABUSE THEM, MARRY THEM."

Let them share the title of wife. First, second, third or fourth, so that you are held responsible for their maintenance and the maintenance of all your children, not some of your children .**THIS IS A SOUND SOLUTION.**

It was after the battle of Uhud (the second battle of Islam, since Muhammad (PBUH)'s prophethood), when many men were killed, that the Muslims were faced with the problem of many orphans and widows, when the following verse was revealed to the prophet;

*"If ye fear that ye shall not be able to deal justly with the orphans,
Marry women of your choice;
two, three or four;
but if ye fear that ye shall not be able to deal justly (with them)
Then only one,
Or (a captive) that your right hand possesses.
That will be more suitable **TO PREVENT YOU FROM DOING
INJUSTICE.**"*

(Holy Quran 4:3)

Are men doing justice if they abandon women and their children for the reason that they are "married" to one woman already? These women have no security or protection for their children.

It is true that not all women will agree to share their man but it is also true that some women prefer to be in a polygamous marriage. Why are they prevented by law?

Polygamy is not new to the world; it did not start on the announcement of the Quranic verse quoted above. Many prophets of God were polygamists: we are told that Davie and Solomon (peace be upon them) had several wives each. Even Abraham (PBUH) married another wife on being persuaded by his wife Sarah to take Haggar as his second wife. Our forefathers in this land of South Africa had several wives(heir polygamy, though , was an uncontrolled one). My own great grandfather Sgaga ka Lukazi had three wives and my grand father Mbonwankulu was his second wife's son. I shudder to think what my position would have been if my great grandfather. In those days there were no street children nor were there many divorces.

*"When he, the Spirit of truth is come,
He will guide you into all truth."*

(John 16:13)

PART TWO

THE TRINITY

THE TRINITY

“O’ People of the Book!

Commit no excesses in your religion ; nor say of God aught but the truth. Christ Jesus (PBUH) The Son of Mary was (no more than) an apostle of God and his word, which he bestowed on Mary and a spirit created by him.

So believe in God and his Apostle.

Say not “Trinity: Desist.

It will be better for you. For God is one God. Glory be to Him; (Far exalted is he) above having a son. To Him belongs all things in the heavens and on earth. And enough is God as a disposer of affairs.”

(Holy Quran 4:171)

Jews and Christians are respectfully called “ People of the Book” in the Holy Quran because they received revealed books from God, the Taura and the Injeel, respectively, before the Holy Quran was revealed.

In the above verse God almighty warns them against setting up partners to Him. He warns “say no Trinity”; for God is one God.

God requires us to worship Him and only Him; for only He is the creator of the Heavens and the Earth and all creation in the heavens and on this Earth; visible and invisible; known and unknown. Messages of this nature abound in the Holy Quran; they are repeated time and time again in different constructions which clearly indicate the seriousness of the message.

According to Christians Jesus (PBUH) is the son of God (“*the only begotten son*”). He is the second part of the Trinity and therefore He is God. The first part is “*The Father*” and the third is “*The Holy spirit*”. The three parts make “*one*” **(Christian) God**. While each of the three parts is God yet they are not three Gods; they are “*one*” *God*.

This means that God the father having begotten the son is not the son and the son is not the father. The Holy Spirit also stands independently for he is neither the father nor the son. The Holy spirit is equal to the father and the son, the three of them are equal **(See what is Christianity?- page 3)**.

The above extract was taken from Saint Augustine’s Book on the Trinity. Saint Augustine was a Roman Catholic Bishop who wrote during the third century A.D., explaining the mystery of the Trinity. It is said that Saint Augustine was troubled by the inexplicability of the concept. He wrote a book trying to explain what was the Trinity but the book is more confusing than the elucidating. For he fails to explain very pertinent questions such as how a son can be equal to his father, and why is there a son since it is said that the father did not come into being before the son.

We Muslims believe in **One God**.

He begets not nor was He begotten, He has no partners. Only He created the Heavens and Earth and only He will bring the earth to its end and judge us according to our actions in this world; rewarding us or punishing us:

“Whoever has done an atom’s weight of good will see it and whoever has done an atom’s weight of evil will see it.”

(Holy Quran 99:7-8)

All the prophets of God came with the same message: **“Believe in one God”**. Even Jesus (PBUH) repeatedly warned his listeners to worship one God:

*“Hear O Israel,
The Lord Our God
Is one God”*

(Mark 12:29)

Jesus (PBUH) having placed his hands on some children and prayed for them, a man went up to him and said:

“Good Master,

What good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?”

Jesus (PBUH) answered and said,

*“Why callest thou me good?
There is non good but one, that is God.
But if thou wilt enter into life*

KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS.”

The man asked

“Which?”

And Jesus (PBUH) answered

*“Thou shalt do not murder
Thou shalt not commit adultery
Thou shalt not steal
Thou shalt not bear false witness
Honour thy Father and thy mother
And thou shalt love they neighbour
As thy self say”*

(Matthew 19:13-19)

Here Jesus (PBUH) explains clearly that he may not be addressed as “Good Master” for no one is good besides God and he, a mere mortal may not be addressed as “Good”.

I can almost predict what the “born-again” Christian will say; I have stayed with them and I know their mentality:

“Of course” , they will say; “Jesus (PBUH) lived his life on Earth not as God but as human. Jesus (PBUH) was God incarnate and in his human form he did not want to equate himself to God”.

What a lame excuse!!

They will quickly refer me to **John 10 verse 30** where Jesus (PBUH) is alleged to have said “I and my father are one”. But let us see what Jesus (PBUH) meant when he said these words i.e. what were the surrounding circumstances?

On that day Jesus (PBUH) was speaking in parables and the entire day those around him had not understood what he had meant. This caused a division among the Jews, some saying he was possessed (he had a devil) and others saying that no devil can open the eyes of the blind. The Jews came around him and said

“How long will you make us doubt if you are Christ; tell us plainly”

Jesus (PBUH) answered:

*“I told you and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness for me but you do not believe because you are not my sheep, as I said to you. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. And I give them eternal life and they shall never perish, **neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. I and my father are one.**”*

(John 10: 19-30)

Jesus (PBUH) is saying that his sheep (the believers) are in his “hand” and therefore they are protected from the influence of the non-believers because “his father”, who gave them to him, is greater than everything. They are under the protection of his father and nobody will be able to pluck them out of his hand because “**...I and my father are one.**”

It is clear that Jesus (PBUH) is not saying

“I and my father are one in the Kingdom of Heavens”;

And he is saying

“I and my father are at one (in purpose) in the protection of the believers”.

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

From experience I know that the born-again will not accept any statement which bears proof that Jesus (PBUH) is neither God nor son of God. They will quickly refer me to the words found in the Bible, which they claim prove that Jesus (PBUH) is God. The words are found in John 1:1 and they read:

*“In the beginning was the word
and the word was with God;
and the word was God.
The same was in the beginning with God; things were made by
him,
and without him was not anything made that was made.”*

It is alleged that these words were written by a “John”, who was a disciple of Jesus (PBUH).

Who was this John?

Was he John the son of Zebedee?

There is proof in the Bible that John the son of Zebedee was **uneducated (see Acts 4:13).**

It stands to reason, therefore, that the writer of the fourth Gospel was not John the son of Zebedee but someone else. There is nothing in the Bible to suggest that at the time of Jesus (PBUH) there was another John among his disciples besides John the son of Zebedee; which, therefore, shows that the Gospel of John was not written by a disciple of Jesus (PBUH).

The authenticity of this Gospel has been challenged by the Christians themselves as early as in the second century A.D. In the year 254 AD a group of Christians refused to accept that John wrote the fourth Gospel (see **What is Christianity? – page 42**).

Who then was the author of the fourth Gospel? Observers suggest that **the fourth Gospel was written by “John the elder”**. **John the elder was not a disciple of Jesus (PBUH) as during the time of John the elder was only a boy. Professor Streeter is quoted to have written the following:**

“...John the elder is described by Papeas as a ‘disciple of the Lord’ and by Polyscrarp as one ‘who had seen the Lord’. We need not suppose that he had done much more than “seen him” –brought perhaps as a boy of twelve years old to Jerusalem by his father on pilgrimage to the Passover. And he may have been among the crowd that looked on at the crucifixion – people in those days were not careful to keep such sight from children. In that case by AD95 he would have reached the age of seventy-seven. The first Epistle of John was obviously written by a man of advanced years who can pass quite naturally from ‘brethren’ to my little children in the same paragraph (John 1:13 and 18). This last phrase would hardly have been written by a man under seventy.”

It becomes clear therefore, that John the Elder was the author of the fourth gospel. First of all he was not a discple of Jesus (PBUH); secondly, when he wrote the Gospel he would have been seventy years old or more.

How then would he know the things that he has written about? Are you going to say that he was inspired by the Holy Spirit? Well let us see how far the Holy Spirit inspires him:

John describes how Jesus (PBUH) found the two brothers Simon Peter and Andrew, who became his disciples. He writes in his Gospel:

*“And the tow disciples heard him speak and they followed Jesus (PBUH). Then Jesus (PBUH) turned and saw them following and said unto them ‘What do you want?’ They said to him ‘Rabbi (master) where do you live? He said to them ‘Come and see’. They came and saw where he dwelt and stayed with him that day for it was the tenth hour. One or two who heard Jesus (PBUH) speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. **He went to look for his brother Simon** and said to him, ‘We have found the Messiah’ and he brought him to Jesus (PBUH) and when Jesus (PBUH) saw them he said “Thou art Simon the son of Jona, thou shalt be called Cephas (which means stone).”*

However, Mathew describes the incident very differently; he says in his Gospel:

*“And Jesus (PBUH) walking by the Sea of Galilee saw two brothers. **Simon called Peter Andrew**, his brother casting a net into the sea – for they were fishermen- and he said to them ‘Follow me and I will make you fishers of men’; and they immediately left their nets and followed him”*

What do you say!?

Was John inspired to tell us that it was Andrew who went to look for his brother Simon and brought him to see the Messiah? Is Mathew deceiving us!? Where lies the truth?

In Christendom not much is said about John’s “*come and see the Messiah*”, but much is said about “*I will make you fishers of men*”. They happily sing in churches and Sunday schools:

*“I will make you fishers of men-
Fishers of men ——— fishers of men
I will make you fishers of men
If you fol————lo————w me
If you fol-ol-w me-If you fol-lo-w me
I will make you fishers of men
If you fol————lo————w me”*

Beautiful song! But which is the truth? John’s narration or Mathew’s? The two are irreconcilable and cannot both be correct. How then are we to accept what is recorded in **John 1:1** “*In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God... ”???*

BELIEVE IT OR NOT...

A well learned Christian theologian and philosopher of the 3rd century(A.D), St. Augustine, in his famous book on the Trinity admits that there is no basis for the belief in the Trinity but he accepts it because it is the Catholic belief. I quote verbatim from **Augustine Vol. 2 Page 672:**

“All those Catholic expounders of the divine scriptures, both old and new, whom I have been able to read who have written before me concerning the Trinity, who is God have purposed to teach, according to the scriptures, this doctrine, that the father , and the son and the Holy Spirit intimate a divine unity of one and the same substance in an indivisible equality, and therefore that they are not three Gods, but one God, although the father hath begotten the son, and so he who is the father is not the son, and the son is begotten by the father, and so he who is the son is not the father, and the Holy Spirit is neither the father nor the son, but only the spirit of the father and the son, himself also co-equal with the father and the son and pertaining to the unity of the Trinity.

Yet not that this Trinity was born of the Virgin Mary, and crucified under Pontius Pilate, and buried and rose again the third day and ascended into Heaven , but only the son. Nor again that this Trinity descended in the form of a dove upon Jesus (PBUH) when he was baptized, Nor that on that day of Pentecost, after the ascension of the Lord, when there came a sound from Heaven, as of a rushing wind the same trinity “sat

upon each of them with cloven tongues like as of the fire” but only the Holy Spirit . Nor yet that this Trinity said from Heaven “ *Thou art my Son*”, whether when he was baptised by John, or when the three disciples were with him in the mount, or when the voice sounded, saying “*I have both Glorified it and will glorify it again*” but that it was the word of the father only, spoken to the son, although the father and the son and the Holy Spirit as they are indivisible so work indivisibly. **“THIS IS ALSO MY FAITH,SINCE IT IS THE CATHOLIC FAITH”** (my own emphasis)

To me, what this great theologian is trying to explain does not make sense. But what is clear, is that the only basis of his belief in the Trinity is that it is the belief of his Church.

JESUS (PBUH) , THE MESSENGER OF GOD

“In blasphemy indeed are those that say that God is Christ the son of Mary.

Say who then hath the least power against God if His will were to destroy Christ the son of Mary, his mother and all –everyone that is on the Earth?

For to God belongeth the dominion of the Heavens and the Earth and all that is between. He createth what he pleaseth. For God hath power over all things”

(Holy Quran 5:19)

PROPHET FOR THE JEWS

Jesus (PBUH) was the last prophet sent by God Almighty to the Jews. He was born in an unusual way, his mother Mary having mysteriously conceived without any union with a man. It is god who creates, and his ways are a mystery to a human mind. He created the Heavens and the Earth, animals of different kinds, fruits, rocks of different shapes and sizes and the vast oceans of the world by his word; and he created this last prophet of the Jews by his word. He was born by a virgin woman chosen and honoured by God to be the mother of his last Jewish messenger.

From the time Jesus (PBUH) started preaching he preached about repentance and about worship of one God. He made it abundantly clear that he was a prophet of God sent to the Jews and he selected his disciples from among the Jews. He said to his disciples:

“The harvest truly is plentiful but the labourers are few, pray ye therefore to the Lord of the harvest; that he will send forth labourer into his harvest.”

(Mathew 9:37-38)

“*The harvest*” was “*The Jews*” who had deviated from the straight path and who had to be brought back to keeping the laws and worshiping God Almighty. Jesus (PBUH) was

not concerned about the Gentiles, the Samaritans or any other group of people. His mission was clear. He sends his disciples to preach and he warns them:

“Go not into the way of the Gentiles,

And into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not.

But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

And as ye go preach saying The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.”

(Mathew 10:5-7)

The “*lost sheep of the house of Israel*” are the Jews, of course. The Jews are the descendants of Jacob, who was called Israel. It is to this nation that Jesus (PBUH) was sent; for they had forsaken the Lord God and were no longer faithful to the laws of Moses (PBUH). Even during the days of Moses (PBUH) the Jews were often deviating from the straight path and Moses (PBUH) would reprimand them. He says:

*“When the Lord sent you from Kadesh-Barnea, saying, ‘Go up and possess the land which I have Given you’, then ye rebelled against the commandment of the Lord your God and ye believed Him not, nor hearkened to His voice. **Ye have been rebellious against the Lord from the day that knew you”.***

(Deuteronomy 9:23-24)

Moses (PBUH) the prophet of God, chosen for the task of freeing the Jews from slavery in Egypt, found himself with the task of leading a nation whose faith in God was often shaken by incidents, a nation whose morals had been affected by their subjugation as slaves in Egypt. Despite the many miracles performed by their leader by the power of God, they deviated from the straight path time and time again.

Towards the end of his life, Moses (PBUH) spoke these words to the “*stiff-necked*” Jews:

“Take this book of the law and put it in the side of the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, that it may be there for a witness against you. For I know your rebellion and your stiff neck. Behold while I am yet alive with you this day you have been rebellious against the Lord; and how much more after my death?”

(Deuteronomy 31:26-27)

This was the nation to which Jesus (PBUH) was sent and our Holy book, the illustrious Quran says:

“Remember Jesus (PBUH), the son of Mary, said ‘O, children of Israel, I am a messenger of God sent to you...’”

Jesus (PBUH) could not perform this demanding task all by himself; he therefore got together a group of men, the Twelve Apostles, who he sent out to preach, advising them “*to preach to the Jews only*”

(Mathews 10:5)

As if he wanted to emphasise his position he repeats that “*he is sent to the Jews only*”, in this incident:

“...and behold a woman of Canaan came out of the coasts and cried out to him saying: ‘Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou son of David, my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil.’ But he answered her

*not a word and his disciples came out and besought him saying: 'Send her away, for she crieth after us.' (Meaning please help her that she may leave us). **But he answered and said: 'I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.'** Then she came and worshiped him saying Lord help me, But he answered and said 'It is not meet (it is not right) to take the children's bread and cast it to the dogs.'*

What does he mean by “*the children*”? The Jews of course.
And who are “*the dogs*”? Those who are not Jews, like you and me.

READ ON! Do you still argue? Read further:

“For a certain woman whose young daughter had an unclean spirit, heard of him and came and fell at his feet. The woman was a Greek, a syrophenician by nation; and she besought him that he would cast forth the devil out of her daughter but Jesus (PBUH) said to her ‘Let the children first be filled; for it is not meet to take the children’s bread and to cast it unto the dogs’.” **(Mark 7:27)**

Again who are the children and who are the dogs?
You know the answer; or must I repeat that the children are the children of Israel (the Jews); and that the dogs are all those who are not the children?

Indeed this Jewish prophet performed his task as a prophet for the Jews and was only disappointed by the Jews who denied him to the end and to this very day they still deny him. All his disciples were Jews and he promised:

“Verily I say unto you that you who have followed me, in the generation when the son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, you also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.”

(Mathew 19:28)

Those who read the Bible know that Jacob (Israel) had twelve sons from whom came forth the twelve tribes of Judah. These are the twelve tribes Jesus (PBUH) is referring to in this verse and upon whom each one of his disciples shall sit as a judge. Even Judas Iscariot is not excluded from his honour; he also shall sit on his throne to judge one of the tribes for it seems to me that it is meant that each disciple will be responsible for one tribe.

In Christendom Judas Iscariot is despised as a traitor who sold his master for thirty lousy pieces of silver. According to Christians it was greed for money which enticed Judas Iscariot to betray “their Lord”. But if you realise that Judas was the group’s treasurer and had endless opportunities to pinch small sums every now and then without getting caught, why would he jeopardise this position for thirty lousy pieces of silver? **(see Crucifixion or Crucifiction, by Ahmed Deedat, Page 11)**

As I write this I am asking myself this question:
Why is Judas despised by the Christians?

According to them Jesus (PBUH) came to this world to die for their sins and Judas had a hand in their salvation; so why despise him? If Judas had not done what they allege he did, then Jesus (PBUH) would not have died for their sins which means that he would not have fulfilled the task for which he had been sent to the world.

Who then is going to judge the tribe assigned to Judas to judge? It is not my intention to appear as Advocate in defence of Judas in this case of Christianity versus Judas Iscariot. All I intend to show is that Jesus (PBUH) was sent to the Jews. God almighty had sent him to come and warn the Jews of their impending doom; that his coming had nothing to do with anybody's salvation.

Jesus (PBUH) said this over and over again.

One day Jesus (PBUH) was speaking to a woman of Samaria:

“Our fathers worshipped in this mountain and you say that Jerusalem is the place where men should worship.’ And Jesus (PBUH) said to her ‘Woman, believe me, the hour will come when you shall neither worship the father on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. Ye worship ye know not what. We know what we worship for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh and now is when the true worshippers shall worship the father in spirit and in truth; for the father seeketh such to worship him.”

(John 4:20-23)

Is this not enough proof?

I should be ending my argument here, but knowing the Christians as I do, having been one of them and well aware of their mentality, I know the teachings of many years, and the indoctrination enforced from childhood, in Sunday Schools, cannot be erased easily from one's mind even by clear evidence.

ONLY GOD ALMIGHTY WILL BE THE JUDGE on that day when we shall be called upon to answer before him.

My responsibility is to inform all those with whom I worshipped the *“Trinity God”* that what we worshipped was a god fabricated by men and that **“THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD, WHO CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH”** Only He is the worthy of worship and praise.

Those who have ears to hear, let them hear; those who have eyes to see, let them see and take heed, as those who have read this book will have no excuse on the Day of Judgement.

DID JESUS (PBUH) COME TO DIE FOR OUR SINS?

Jesus (PBUH) had many opportunities to explain who he was. If he was a part of a Trinity God he would have said so.

Just think carefully!

Here is a man who seeks guidance from Jesus (PBUH) . He approaches him and says:

“Good master, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?”

This man has heard Jesus (PBUH) preaching, and believing that if he asks this question from him he will get reliable advice; advice which if followed will enable him to obtain eternal life. If I were to ask this same question today from those who call themselves Christians, especially the “*born-again*” ones, the answer I would be sure to get is the following:

“You must receive Jesus (PBUH) as your personal Lord and saviour”.

For them this is a passport to eternal life but Jesus (PBUH) says to the man:

***“IF YOU WANT ETERNAL LIFE
KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS”***

(Mathew 19:17)

You want the Eternal life?

Keep the commandments!

He gives this advice to the man, having rebuked him for calling him “*good*”, for only God is good. He does not think of himself “*Well I am also God the son and I can be called ‘Good Master’*”; but he says “*None is good but one, that is God*”.

This is an opportunity which Jesus (PBUH) could have used to explain to this man that besides keeping the laws you also have to receive me as your personal lord and saviour. If eternal life is attained by receiving Jesus (PBUH) as Lord and Saviour then are you saying that Jesus (PBUH) deceived this man? Jesus (PBUH) was a prophet of God and as such it was not his mission to deceive people and as a man of God he never told an untruth. His specific mission was to bring the people back to the straight path so that they may attain eternal life and that is what he was doing as he continued talking to this man.

This man knew the Law of Moses (PBUH) but he wanted assurance from Jesus (PBUH) and asked:

“Which laws?” and Jesus (PBUH) said:

*“Thou shalt commit no murder
Thou shalt not commit adultery
Thou shalt not steal
Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself”*

(Mathew 19:18-19)

Jesus (PBUH), having spoken to the multitude, and having answered questions put to him by the Sadducees, was quizzed further by a group of Pharisees gathered together – a Pharisee who was a lawyer asked him:

“Master which is the great commandment in the law?”

Jesus (PBUH) answered and said:

“Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment and the second is like unto it. Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.”

(Mathew 22:37-40)

This is another opportunity where Jesus (PBUH) could have said something about receiving him as Lord and saviour and all he says is:

Love the Lord thy God.

Love thy neighbour as thyself.

The Bible abounds with **JESUS (PBUH)’ UTTERANCES WHERE HE CLEARLY SAYS THAT HE IS NOTHING OTHER THAN A MESSENGER OF GOD**, given power by his creator to perform miracles:

“I can of mine own self do nothing; as I hear I judge; and my judgement is just because I seek not my own will but the will of the father who has sent me.”

“If I bear witness of myself my witness is not true”

(John 5:30-31)

“But if I cast out devil with the finger of God; no doubt the Kingdom of God is come.”

(Luke 11:20)

“And Jesus (PBUH) lifted up his eyes and said ‘Father I thank thee that thou hast heard me; and I knew that thou hearest me always; but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me”.

(John 11:41-42)

“My doctrine is not mine but His that sent me. If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God or whether I speaketh of himself. He that speaketh of himself seeketh his own glory but he that seeketh the glory of him that sent him; the same is true and no unrighteousness is him.”

(John 7:16-18)

THE FIRST CHRISTIAN BELIEVERS

The first Christians were the disciples of Jesus (PBUH); but besides the disciples there were others like Joseph of Arimathea, Nichodemus, Mary Magdalene and others whose names are not mentioned. All these people believed in Jesus (PBUH) and had complete confidence in him and the truthfulness of what he said. They loved and respected him

as their leader calling him “Master” but they never worshipped him. They accepted him as a prophet of God but never as God or son of God. Listen to what Peter says to his people –the Jews:

“Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus (PBUH) of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs which God did by him in the midst of You, as ye yourselves also know”

(Acts 2:22)

Christians Ministers, priests and preachers have taught their followers that in order to get the true meaning of the words written in the Bible you have to know how to interpret the Bible. If your home language is English you have to know how to interpret words written in English, the same with Zulu or any other language. You may read English words and understand the meaning but they will argue that the words do not mean what you as an English speaker understand them to mean. Absurd! Words will always mean what they are intended to mean but preachers will assign new meanings to passages in the Bible to suit their fancy.

I quoted **Mathew 10 verse 5** to my Bishop when he questioned me on my argument that Jesus (PBUH) came to this world for the Jews and his coming had nothing to do with dying on the cross for the redemption of sins.

“No!” said the Bishop,

“you do not read the Bible ipsissima verba (meaning word for word);

“you have to learn how to interpret the Bible.”

The words in **Mathew 10 verse 5** are very clear like all the other words in the Bible:

“These twelve Jesus (PBUH) sent forth, and commanded them saying ‘Go not into the way of the gentiles and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not; but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”

Why do you want this paragraph to mean what it does not mean? It simply means that they (the disciples) are not to preach to any person who is not a Jew. FULL STOP. Why? Because he (Jesus(PBUH)) is not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Who said so? Jesus (PBUH). He said this to the woman of Canaan who was asking him to help her bedevilled daughter; he said it to the Greek woman who besought him to cast out the devil from her daughter (**See Mathew 15:22-27 and Mark7:27**). Jesus (PBUH) also said this to the woman who was questioning him regarding what he had apparently said about praying in Jerusalem. In this instance the Bible says that Jesus (PBUH) spelt it out *“you worship that which you do not know; we know what we worship, for the kingdom is for the Jews.” (John 4:21-23)*

Is this not clean enough? It is amazing how some people will always try to find excuses to deny that a case has been made against this belief. Who can deny that what I have quoted above gives clear evidence that Jesus (PBUH) was sent to this world to redeem the Jews, and that there is no suggestion of his alleged mission to die for the sins of the world? They will stop at nothing in trying to convince you.

WAS JESUS (PBUH) CRUCIFIED?

Recently I heard of a new theory that Jesus (PBUH) came with two Gospels; a Gospel for the Jews and a Gospel for the gentiles.

I heard this new theory for the first time when a white man and woman came to see me in my office after reading about the launch of the Zulu edition of this book, which took place on the 29th October 2002 at the Orient School Hall. The launch was attended by his Majesty King Goodwill Zwelithini Ka Bhekuzulu. A photo of the king receiving a copy of this book from me was published in a Sunday Newspaper and these two white people had seen my picture in the newspaper.

It was the white woman who telephoned me to tell me that she had a message for me from God. Of course I was very eager to hear the message and I cancelled all my appointments to see her at three in the afternoon of the same day. To my disappointment she told me the same old story –I need not repeat it here, for the Christian belief is the same but a member of each denomination or sect will try to give it to you in his or her own way trying to make it sound different. But the belief is the same – a Christian is a Christian, no matter to which denomination he or she belongs to. He believes in the “*Lord*” Jesus (PBUH) who died for his sins.

I let this woman speak for twenty minutes and then interrupted her in order to present my argument. It was not long before the man who accompanied the woman agreed with me that Jesus (PBUH) came to the Jews. His theory was, however, different in that he said “*Yes, Jesus (PBUH) originally came for the Jews but latter he brought a Gospel for the gentiles*”. This was News to me. We Muslims believe in the Gospel of Jesus (PBUH) (the Injeel) as being the only Gospel of Jesus (PBUH). We do not believe that Jesus (PBUH) brought another Gospel beside the Gospel he preached, which was “*The Lord our God is one God*”.

Some of them will ask you questions –valid questions– considering the basis of their belief. Questions such as:

Why was Jesus (PBUH) crucified?

Why did he say he will rise on the third day?

These are reasonable questions and we need to answer them.

THE GOSPELS

But first let us look at the Gospels, which are the basis for the story of the crucifixion: Who were the authors of these Gospels? Were they Mathew, Mark, Luke and John? There is agreement among Christian theologians that these Gospels were written long after Jesus (PBUH)’ departure from this Earth, but we are not told who wrote the Gospels.

If you read the Bible you will notice that the four Gospels are written “*according to*” Mathew, “*according to*” Mark, “*according to*” Luke and “*according to*” John. Why “*according to*”, “*according to*”, “*according to*”? The authors of these Gospels were not Mathew, Mark, Luke and John but some other people who are relating to us incidents they never witnessed and saying things they never heard Jesus (PBUH) say,

but what they say must be accepted as “*the Gospel truth*” because Christian theologians want us to believe so.

I discussed the Gospel according to John earlier on and mentioned that this Gospel must have been written between the years 90 and 95 AD, about sixty years after the departure of Jesus (PBUH) from the Earth. How then can we accept them as an unbiased truth?

THE SIGN OF JONAH

In order that we may find some common ground, let me agree with you that Jesus (PBUH) did say to the Pharisees and scribes, who wanted him to show them a sign (to prove his credentials):

*"An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it , but the sign of the prophet Jonah for as Jonah was **three days and three nights** in the whales belly so shall the son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."*

(Matthew 12:39-40)

Note that the emphasis is on **THREE** days and **THREE** nights.

All Christians (worth their salt) and those who read the Bible know the story of Jonah the prophet who was sent by God to Nineveh to preach; but he tried to evade the journey to Nineveh by boarding a ship sailing to Tarshish . While sailing in the sea the ship began to toss about as a result of a great tempest which had risen, causing great fear in the hearts of the sailors. Johan realized that he was the cause of the tempest and said to the sailors:

"Take me up and cast me forth into the sea so shall the sea be calm unto you, for I know that for my sake this great tempest is upon you."

(Jonah 1:12)

They then lifted him up and threw him into the sea, and the sea became calm.

When Jonah was thrown into the sea he was **ALIVE**. For he had requested them to throw him into the sea, he was not assaulted or hurt in anyway. **HE WAS ALIVE**. Still alive Jonah was swallowed by a great fish. Why does the fish swallow him? Does it not have teeth to tear its food to pieces? No! The fish was not eating Jonah for food; it was God's plan. Jonah had to be alive so God ordered the great fish to swallow him and swim with him **ALIVE** in order to vomit him **ALIVE** upon dry land.

Jonah was in the belly of the great fish for three days and three nights **ALIVE**. He prayed to the Lord God almighty while the great fish swam about with him in the sea.

For **THREE** days and **THREE** nights he did not suffocate and die. This is the miracle Jesus (PBUH) is talking about, that Jonah was thrown into the sea and he did not die. He was swallowed by the fish and he did not die. He survived for three days and three nights in the stomach if the great fish when an ordinary person would die of suffocation within minutes.

YES! THIS IS THE SIGN OF JONAH

Jesus (PBUH) said:

"For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the whale's belly so shall the son man be three days and three nights in the heart of the Earth."

"For as Jonah was"

How was Jonah?

ALIVE!

"Three days and three nights in the whales' belly"

AND

"So shall the son of man be"

Be what?

ALIVE!

Three days and three nights in the heart of the Earth."

We Muslims deny that Jesus (PBUH) died and rose again on the third day. But to satisfy those who believe this let me agree with them. According to Christian Scriptures Jesus (PBUH) died on Friday, they call this particular Friday "**GOOD FRIDAY**". Say he died at three o'clock on Good Friday. Now count with me; use any method of counting:

1. He died on Friday afternoon and was buried and spent the first night in the Tomb (in the heart of the Earth.)
2. Saturday was his first day in the tomb.
3. Saturday night was his second night.
4. On Sunday morning he was no longer in the Tomb.

According to my counting Jesus (PBUH) is supposed to have spent two nights and one day in the tomb. No matter how you count you will not make the three days and three nights unless you change the resurrection day to Tuesday.

This is so simple but those who believe that somebody had to shed his blood to cleans their sins will not agree with me; they will argue against any fact that tends to place their salvation at risk for it Jesus (PBUH) did not die on the cross and rise on the third day then their sins are not forgiven.

I once heard a preacher on a Sunday television program, packed full of the usual so called "spiritual excitement", shouting "If Christ did not rise from the dead our preaching is in vain mos!"

He was quoting his leader Paul, in 1 Corinthians, where he says:

"But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen, then is our preaching vain and your faith vain."

(1 Corinthians 15:13-14)

But did Jesus (PBUH) rise from the dead??? We Muslims say a big **NO!** Jesus (PBUH), the son of Mary did not rise from the dead for he never died on the cross. But as a lawyer I know that you have to produce evidence to prove your

case and that you require witnesses to support your evidence. Now let us see if we can prove that Jesus (PBUH) did not die on the cross using **the Bible**.

"EASTER" WEEKEND

Good Friday is a great day for all Christians-except the Jehovah's Witnesses(they have their own belief which I do not propose to deal with in this book).In Zulu it is not called "*Good Friday*" for I have never heard any Zulu speaker say **Olwesihlanu Oluhle**- They say **Olwesihlanu Olukhulu** (great Friday) or **Olwesihlanu Olumnyama**(Black Friday).

We Muslims call Fridays *Yawm ul Jumu'a* . For us all Friday are the same: we gather together and fill all Mosques in every town and city , in every country all over the world to worship our creator who ordered us:

"O, ye who believe! When the call is proclaimed to prayer on Friday (the day of Assembly) hasten earnestly to the remembrance of God and leave off business, That is best for you if ye but knew."

(Holy Quran 62:9-10)

Good Friday is the day on which Christians say "*Jesus (PBUH) died*", before he "*rose again*" on Sunday. I as a Muslim do not believe this statement, but let us look at the evidence. Our witness on the witness stands is the Holy Bible. We start from Thursday, the day before Good Friday.

JESUS (PBUH) ARMS HIS SOLDIERS

It was after supper (it is known as the last supper) when Jesus (PBUH) spoke to his disciple thus:

"When I sent you without purse, and script, and shoes, lacked ye anything?" And they said nothing and then he said unto them:' but now he that hath a purse let him take it, and like wise his script, and he that hath no sword, let him sell his garment and buy one".... And they said,' Lord behold here are two swords, and he said unto them 'it is enough'."

(Luke22:35-38)

1. Why does he want them to buy Swords?

Because he wants them to defend him from his enemies- the Jews.

2. But why does he say that only two swords are enough?

Because his enemies are the priests from the temples and he expects them and a few of their helpers to come and seize him. You see he had no quarrel with the Romans and he knew that his disciples would defend him successfully against a group of poorly armed priests and their helpers. Two swords and stones would be enough.

If you deny that Jesus (PBUH) wanted his disciples to defend him then explain why he would want them to arm themselves?

Now let us look at his defense strategy:

He leads his "*soldiers*" into a place called Gethsemane-Gethsemane was a garden enclosed within a stone wall with a gate. He leaves eight of his "*soldiers*" at the gate and orders them thus:

"Sit ye here while I go and pray yonder "; and he takes with him Peter (the rock) and the two sons of Zebedee. Having gone into the garden with the three he says to them "stay here and watch with me"; and he goes further to pray.

(Matthew 26:36-39)

1. Why does he leave the eight disciples at the gate?

Because he wants them to defend the entrance so that nobody comes in.

2. Why does he take the other three with him into the garden?

So that the three body guards deal with anyone who manages to go through the gate defense.

He prays:

"O, my father; if it be possible let this cup pass from me, nevertheless not as I will but as thou wilt."

(Matthew 26:39)

Great fear is portrayed; he is so frightened that:

"His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground."

(Luke 22:44)

If his mission on Earth is to die for the redemption of sins why is he so frightened? Not so long ago in South Africa we saw men and women of purpose who died going forward shouting "**AMANDLA!**" They were willing to die for the liberation of their land...were they made of a different mould? Is the redemption of sins not a greater service than the liberation of one's land?

Where have you ever seen "*blood sweat*"? After all it was in the night and it was a dark night...how could anyone see the "*blood sweat*"? Who, besides the three disciples could have seen the "*blood sweat*?" Count the three disciples out; for they were fast asleep during this whole incident and had to be woken by Jesus (PBUH) twice.

CAN'T YOU SEE THAT THIS IS ALL MADE UP? Such extraordinary exaggeration? **THINK!** Do not allow yourself to be deceived by those who make money out of it.

Let us for a little while look at the sleeping disciples: why are they so sleepy? Their master is in such great pain and they are sleeping?

Why!? Twice Jesus(PBUH) goes to them and both times he finds them fast asleep! Luke suggests that : "*they were sleeping for sorrow*"(**Luke 22:45**) .Very comforting sorrow indeed , which lulls the disciples into slumber.

There is no doubt that the eight left by their master to guard the entrance were also fast asleep. Were they not with the other three at supper, where they all partook of food and drink? Drink is known to have a lulling effect on its partaker which, incidentally, has caused modern man to ignore the woman living with him, resulting in thousands of divorces by frustrated wives.

On the other hand, stress and fear are known to cause sleeplessness. Sheikh Ahmed Deedat in his book **Crucifixion or Crucifiction?** states that:

"Professors of physiology opine that under shock, stress and fear , the adrenal gland secretes a hormone into the bloodstream-natures own injection-which chases away all sleep"(Page 18)

Why this contradiction in the behavior of the disciples?

THE CAPTURE

It is the second time that Jesus (PBUH) finds his disciples sleeping that he says to them *"sleep on now and take you rest"*. But he suddenly notices that a multitude has easily gone past the entrance and he says *"rise, let us be going: behold, he is at hand that doth betray me."*

(Matthew26:45-46)

Voices of the invading multitude, composed of (inter alia) the chief priests and elders of the people, fill the air and the sleepy disciples are confused. Peter , remembering that Jesus (PBUH) said two swords are enough and full of hope that Jesus (PBUH) will perform one of his miracles suddenly strikes and a servant of the High Priest finds himself without an ear. Then Jesus (PBUH) says:

"Put up again thy sword into its place, for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword."

(Matthew26:52)

When he told them to sell their garments and buy swords had he forgotten that "they that take the sword shall die with the sword"! No! When he told them to buy swords he expected only a small party of priests and their servants. He did not anticipate that a great multitude would gather to capture him, as they did.

When the disciples saw that their master had been captured by the enemy.

"They all forsook him and fled."

(Mark 14:50)

I am puzzled by this statement *"They all forsook him and fled."*

How then were they able to see what happened thereafter! That the story of the crucifixion is so confidently narrated? The Bible does not tell us that any of the disciples witnessed the crucifixion. How could they when they had fled fearing for their lives? Even Peter, who had sworn that he was ready to go both to prison and to death with Jesus (PBUH), had fled at the crowing of the cock.

(Luke 22:23and 60-62)

Therefore at the time when they led him to Calvary not one of his disciples was present. Only his ordinary followers, such as Joseph of Arimathea , Nicodemus and Maria Magdalena were present.

CRUCIFIXION

Under the Roman Government crucifixion was a punishment for criminals found guilty of serious crimes. There were two methods of crucifixion-the *"slow*

dying", and the *"fast dying"*, methods. In the former method leather thongs were used to bind the arms to the crossbar, with a platform support for the feet; while in the latter method nails were used to pin the arms and feet to the cross.

In all Christian paintings of the scene the two robbers crucified with Jesus (PBUH) are portrayed as undergoing the leather thong method while Jesus (PBUH) is portrayed as undergoing the nailing method. There is no reason why Jesus (PBUH) would undergo a different method from the method used for the two robbers. The executioners were merely carrying out their duty of crucifying those who had been found guilty and sentenced to death .Why would they differentiate between criminals?

If Jesus (PBUH) was crucified by the Jews, the argument that they wanted to torture him would sound true. But why would the Romans want to torture him only, and not the two robbers?

The Jews were the accusers but the executioners were the Romans; that is why you find the Jews rushing Jesus (PBUH) to Pilate. From Pilate to Herod and from Herod back to Pilate , and at the crucifixion you hear of Roman soldiers (the executioners). It is clear, therefore, that (if Jesus (PBUH) was crucified at all) his hands would have been tied to the cross bar with rubber thongs like the other two who were being crucified .

Our Holy Book, the Quran , denies this . We read:

"That they said (in boast) we killed Christ Jesus (PBUH) the son of Mary, the Apostle of God , but they killed him not; not crucified him...."

(Holy Quran 4:157)

This is what I and all Muslims believe; but I continue with the Biblical evidence to prove my case to you, non believers in the Holy Quran:

We read in the Gospel of Matthew that while Jesus (PBUH) was on the cross he cried out with a loud voice saying:

"Eli, Eli; lama Sabakthani?"

Which means *"My God, My God why have you forsaken me?"* Then, after he had received the vinegar he said it was finished and he bowed his head and yielded up the ghost.

(Matthew 27:45-50 and John 19:30)

To all those who were at the scene it appeared as if he was dying; that is the reason why the soldiers did not break his legs when they broke the legs of his two crossmates .

"But when they came to Jesus (PBUH) and saw that he was already dead they broke not his legs."

(John 19:33)

The two robbers crucified with him had to be killed by having their legs broken, to expedite death by suffocation. How is it that he died without having his legs broken?

The Lord is nigh unto saveth such as be of a contrite spirit .Many are afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivereth him out of them all . He keepeth all his bones, not one of them is broken.

(Psalms 34:18-20)

He was hanging on the cross for only three hours, why would he die in such a short time? Even Pilate was surprised to hear that Jesus (PBUH) was already dead when Joseph of Arimathea came to request permission to bury him:

"And Pilate marveled if he were already dead; and calling unto him the centurion, he asked him whether he had been any while dead. And when he knew it of the centurion, he gave the body to Joseph."

(Mark 15:44-45)

Pilate knew how long it takes for a crucified person to die, therefore he marvels at the speedy death of Jesus (PBUH).

Do you need to remind me that he was pierced with a spear on his side? No! I have not forgotten that. Do you agree with me that "*the piercing with a spear*" incident is as significant as the "*sponge and vinegar*" incident? Of course : Jesus (PBUH) is said to have been thirsty and called for something to drink and a centurion gave him a sponge dipped in vinegar... This is a significant incident and all those who witnessed it will include it in their narration of the story of the crucifixion.

The Jews were in a hurry to have the bodies of the three crucified criminals removed from the cross and they requested Pilate to give them permission to break their legs to expedite their deaths. They broke the legs of the two robbers but when they came to Jesus (PBUH), they saw that he was already dead, so they did not break his legs. But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side and forthwith came out blood and water. Surely all those who witnessed this incident would not exclude mention of it, if they were narrating the story of the crucifixion?

You know what?!

All four Gospel writers have mentioned the incident of the sponge and vinegar but **ONLY JOHN TELLS US ABOUT THE SPEAR INCIDENT**.

Did Matthew, Mark and Luke forget such a significant incident? John himself declares the significance of this incident in the following paragraph:

"... and he that saw it bare record and his record is true, and he knoweth that he saith true that ye might believe. For these things were done that the scriptures should be fulfilled....."

(John 19:35-36)

Yet Matthew, Mark and Luke do not the significance! So did it really happen? **Support your Statement.**

Well, suppose it did happen :

I quote verbatim from Deedat (**Crucifixion or Crucifixion ? page 39**):

"It us a blessing of God that when the human body cannot endure further pain or agony, unconsciousness supervenes. But immobility, fatigue and the un-natural stance on the cross must have slowed down the blood circulation. The lancing came to the rescue: By "blood-letting" the circulation could regain its rhythm."

The author quoted the encyclopedia Biblical under the article "Cross", column 960, where it is written " *Jesus (PBUH) was alive when the spear was thrust.* "

Many stories have been told in our newspapers of men and women who had been certified dead while they were still alive. Again I quote from **Crucifixion or Crucifixion?- Page 39:**

"Little girl who "died" tells how she came back to life (after 4 days).

(Daily News 15/11/55)

Man died for two hours still lives," Miracle" Amazes Doctor

(Sunday Tribune 27/3/60)

He died 4 minutes, man's heart stops but he lives on.

(Sunday Express 23/7/61)

He does not know that he died for 90 seconds.

(Cape Argus 16/3/61)

Dr. Hitge returned for the dead

(Cape Argus 4/5/62)

The coffin moved- young man narrowly escaped being buried alive.

(Sunday Tribune 13/5/02)

Back from the dead after being thought dead for 2 days.

(Post 25/7/65)

Corpse winks at undertakers doctors wrote out death certificate.

(Daily News 25/3/75)

"Clinically dead" Toddler alive after hour- long revival battle.

(Natal Mercury 5/12/82)

HELP FROM ABOVE.

Matthew records in detail the incident thus:

"Jesus (PBUH) when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost and behold the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom- and the earth did quake and- the rocks rent and the graves were opened ..."

(Mark 27:50-52)

Would you stand to watch the crucifixion and ignore the frightening things happening around you? No, you would leave the scene immediately to find shelter for yourself because it is the nature of humans to seek to protect themselves against an impending danger. Jesus(PBUH)" followers , however; people like Joseph of Arimathe, Nicodemus, Mary Magdalene , Mary the mother of Jesus(PBUH) and the mother of the sons of Zebedee remained, for they could not leave their Master hanging on the cross(The sons of Zebedee had fled with the other disciples) but their mother was still there).

Those who remained noticed a flicker of life at the time when they brought the body down from the cross but pretended that they were burying a dead man to

deceive the Jews. When all was quite they removed their master to a safer place. But not all of them were there to remove him. That is why Mary Magdalene goes to the grave on the morning of Sunday, to see if she can take him with her to her home to be nursed. She finds two angels seated in the sepulcher and in answer to their question she says:

"(I weep) because they have taken away my Lord and I know not where they have laid him?"

In that instant she turns and sees Jesus (PBUH) standing behind her (disguised) and she does not recognize him. He says to her:

"Woman, why weepest thou? Whom seekest thou?"

And she, supposing him to be a gardener said,

"Sir, if thou have borne him hence (meaning if you have removed him) tell me where thou hast laid him and I will take him away."

Can you tell me why he is disguised? If rose in Majesty and Glory why is he now disguised as a gardener?

Those whose sins can only be washed away by "the lamb's blood" can make up answers to suit themselves but the obvious reason is that he had not died and was afraid that if the Jews got to know it they will make sure that they kill him.

Listen to what Mary Magdalene says:

"Tell me where you have laid him and I will take him away."

Why would she want to take a corpse away? Where is she taking the corpse to? We do not hear that Mary Magdalene had prepared another grave and came with some men to help her carry the corpse. But she "will take him away." How?

Mary Magdalene was present when he was brought down from the cross and she knew that he had not died:

"And there was Mary Magdalene and the other Mary sitting over against the Sepulcher (after the burial)".

(Matthew 27:61)

"And Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus (PBUH) beheld where he was buried".

(Mark 15:47)

Let us continue with the story of Mary Magdalene at the sepulcher: Jesus (PBUH) (disguised as he saw) is amused that Mary Magdalene does not recognize him and he calls her by her name "Mary"! She recognizes his voice and in delight she says "Master!", running towards him in great joy; and Jesus (PBUH) knowing that she will throw herself upon him in delight says:

"Touch me not; for I have not yet ascended to my father but go to my brethren..."

(John 20:17)

Why does he prevent her from touching him?

Because his body is painful from all the flogging on Friday.

"For I have not yet ascended to my father"

Is that the reason? If that is the reason why does he say to his disciples?
"It is me myself touch me and see; for a spirit has no flesh and bones"
(Luke 24:39)?

CHIEF PRIESTS

You may be wondering how Jesus (PBUH) (was removed by his followers from the grave since the chief priests requested that the grave be guarded "*lest his disciples come by night and steal him away*"
(Matthew 27:64)

The chief priests' mentality baffles me. If they wanted the grave guarded they should have seen to the guarding on Friday night; in fact a guard should have been left guarding immediately after the body was placed in the grave. I do not believe that the chief priests were as stupid as they are made out to be-I question the veracity of the statement itself ... did they ask for a guard and was a guard placed to guard?

It does not make sense; the Bible says:

"Now the next day (Saturday) that followed the day of the preparation , the chief priests and Pharisees came together unto pirate, saying 'Sir , we remember that deceiver said, while he was not alive , after three days I will rise again' .Command therefore that the sepulcher be made sure until the third day, lest his disciples come by night and steal him away and say to the people he is risen from the dead, so the last error shall be worse than the first."

Read the other three Gospels and you will not find this statement. Why? did Mark , Luke and John consider this incident unimportant? No! The incident did no occur at all-otherwise the other Gospel writers would have included it in their narration. The Chief priests and Pharisees were not all stupid.

MARY MAGDALENE

Let us look more closely at Mary Magdalene's action on the supposed "*day of resurrection.*" Mary Magdalene is the most important person in that she is supposed to be the first person to discover that Jesus (PBUH) was no longer in the grave on Sunday morning.

According to the Gospel of John, Mary Magdalene came to the sepulcher on Sunday, very early in the morning , and discovered that the stone had been taken away form the sepulcher . She was alone and we are not told that she brought something with her or the purpose of her visit so early in the morning "*while it was still dark.*" Having observed that the stone had been removed she went to report the incident to Simon Peter and the other disciple whom "*Jesus (PBUH) loved*"(the name of that disciple is not mentioned).Peter and the other disciple then went to see for themselves and they discovered that "the linen clothes were lying on the floor but their napkin that had been tied around his head was not with the linen clothes" but was wrapped and placed by itself apart from the linen clothes. After their observation the two disciples went away to their homes. But Mary Magdalene stood outside the sepulcher weeping .As she stood there weeping, she observed tow angels in white sitting in the sepulcher

and they asked her why she was weeping. Her answer is very important-for she said:

"Because they have taken away my Lord and I know not where they have laid him."

After that she noticed Jesus (PBUH) standing behind her but she could not recognize him because he was dressed as a gardener, to disguise his identity **(John20:1-17)**.

I have given my reasons why he would be disguised (if at all) and will not repeat what I have said on this point.

The story of Mary Magdalene is related in detail in the Gospel of John. It is so details that he even mentions that when Peter and the other disciple (*whom" Jesus (PBUH) loved"*) were going to the sepulcher after receiving a report about the stone.

"They ran together and the other disciple outran Peter and came first to the sepulcher "

(John20:4)

This is minute detail of the incident, but there is no record of *"thunder and earthquake"* in the Gospel of Matthew. However we read that:

"In the end of the Sabbath day, as it began to dawn towards the first day of the week came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulcher and behold , there was a great earthquake for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone from the door and sat upon it."

(Matthew 28:1-2)

You cannot defend this glaring discrepancy: John's Gospel says Mary Magdalene came alone and discovered that the stone had been removed. Matthew's Gospel says Mary Magdalene was accompanied by another woman *"and behold, there was a great Earthquake..."*

You must agree with me that if there was a *"great earthquake"* it would have been reported by all the Gospel writers. Let us see what the other Gospel writers say about this very important incident. In Mark we read:

"...and when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Salome, had brought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him. And very early in the morning, the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulcher at the rising of the sun, and they said among themselves, who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulcher? And when they looked they saw that the stone was rolled away; for it was a very great stone, and entering into the sepulcher, they saw a young man sitting on the right side clothed in a long white garment; and they were frightened. And he said unto them, be not afraid, ye seek Jesus (PBUH) of Nazareth, which was crucified; he is risen; he is not here..."

(Mark16:1-6)

What does the Gospel of Matthew tell us?

It gives the reason for Mary Magdalene's visit to the sepulcher as a mere visit *"to see the sepulcher."*

What do we read in Mark's Gospel?

That Mary Magdalene and the other Mary *"had bought spices that they might come and anoint him."*

What a joke! Do Jews anoint the bodies of their dead after three days? When death occurs rigor mortis begins within three hours. By the third day the body is already fermenting from within and the skin without falls upon being touched (he was not in a modern mortuary where bodies are preserved for weeks and months).

In the Gospel again we are missing something: did the writer of this Gospel forget which an important incident! Or was it made up? Surely an earthquake is an incident that is not easily forgotten, especially to emphasise the seriousness of the happenings. Did he forget? Perhaps Luke helps us confirm. What do we find in the Gospel "according to" Luke?

"Now upon the first day of the week very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulcher bringing the spice which they had prepared, and certain others with them, and they found the stone rolled away from the sepulcher. And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus (PBUH). And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed. Thereabout behold two men stood by them in shining garments. And as they were afraid and bowed down their faces to the earth (as Muslims do in their prayer) they said unto them, "Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen...."

(Luke 24:1-6).

No Earthquake!!!!...Spices yes. But does this Gospel writer not know the name of Mary Magdalene or any of the "women" he is referring to? We have to assume that one of those women had to be Mary Magdalene because the other three writers have given us the name. But here reference is made to "women"; not one or two but a number of "women":

*"And the **women** also, Which came with him Jesus(PBUH) from Galilee followed after, and beheld the sepulcher and how his body was laid and they returned and prepared spices and ointments and rested the Sabbath day according to the commandment."*

(Luke 23:55-56).

To conclude this Mary Magdalene saga I submit that:

1. Mary Magdalene, as one of those who attended the burial, knows that Jesus (PBUH) had not died .That is the reason why she goes to the Sepulcher on Sunday very early in the morning (she could not do this on the Sabbath day as all Jews were celebrating the pass-over).
2. She is looking for a person *who can walk* so that she can take him away to be nursed by her-if she was looking for a corpse she would have come with men to help her carry the body.
3. She is delighted at seeing him and she runs towards him to embrace him. His disciples who believed that he had died are afraid of him and he begs them to come and touch him to feel his flesh.

A lot has been said about the removal of his rock from the entrance and I am asking why was it necessary to remove the rock for Jesus (PBUH) to get out? If the rock had to be moved away from the entrance to the sepulcher for Jesus (PBUH) (to get out, how was he able to enter the room where his disciples were assembled when the door was locked?

"... When the doors were shut, where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus (PBUH) and stood in the midst and said unto them" peace be unto you (ASSALAMU ALAIKUM , THE Muslim Greeting)".

(John20:19)

One must, therefore, ask where lies the truth? It is common knowledge that where a number of people have witnessed a scene, each one of those people will relate the story in his/her own *style* but the story will be the *same story* told by each of the observers in their different styles. In all the other Gospels, we are missing a very important incident recorded in the Gospel according to Matthew (*"Behold there was a great earthquake "*). So I leave it to you: look at all the evidence, and then make up your mind.

My own conclusion is that the **STORIES OF THE CRUCIFIXION RECORDED IN THE FOUR GOSPELS ARE JUST MADE UP STORIES** told with one aim: to **instil fear and sympathy** in the minds of people. Fear that if you do not believe in the death and resurrection of Jesus (PBUH) you are doomed. Sympathy for the innocent man who had to die on the cross for your sins.

And the Gospels have succeeded in doing that. Doctors, professors, lawyers, academics and learned people all over the world have all been so gripped by this fear and sympathy that they are prepared to accept what they are told without questioning. It is this unfounded fear and misplaced sympathy that this book intends to remove from the minds of people, and to open their eyes to the truth.

PART THREE

BELIEF OR RELIGION?

BELIEF OR RELIGION?

Christianity is supposed to be the religion founded by Jesus (PBUH). And the four Gospels are supposed to be a record of his teaching and the basis of Christianity. However, research undertaken by various scholars, including Christian scholars, clearly reveal that the religion established by Jesus (PBUH) disappeared a short while after him, and was dealt a final blow by the Edict of the Emperor Constantine in the year 325AD, which entrenched the doctrine of the Trinity God.

In the four Gospels, which form the basis of Christian theology, allegedly made by Jesus (PBUH), there is not a single statement by Jesus (PBUH) explaining the doctrine of Trinity. Nor do we find any statement by any of his disciples expounding this doctrine. Christianity is the only religion which does not have its cardinal beliefs and doctrines clearly explained in its books. And its champions, who try to explain the doctrines, will always say *“it is a mystery of God”*. They say this because they themselves do not understand the doctrine of their faith.

Before I embraced Islam in 1996 I visited a Roman Catholic priest, Reverend Father Doncabe, who had offered to assist me understand Christianity in order to stop me from embracing Islam. I found the priest seated behind a huge desk with three Bibles opened in different places. He stood up as I entered and came forward to shake my hand. As he held my hand he said: *“Mr NGWANE, before we begin our talk we must agree on something.”* I asked, still holding his hand, *“and what is that?”* He said *“that we as a Christians believe in the Bible as the word of God and we also believe in the Doctrine of the Church”*.

I was puzzled because I thought the Doctrine of the Church would be based on the Bible. I did not know that the doctrine of the church was something apart from the Bible and I asked: *“Is the doctrine of the church different from what is in the Bible?”* *“Yes”*, confessed the priest. *“There are matters which are not in the Bible which we believe in because the church tells us to believe in , which are the doctrine of the church”*. *“Like what for example?”* I prodded. *“Like the doctrine of the Trinity”* said the priest? *“This doctrine you cannot find anywhere in the Bible but we believe in it because it is the doctrine of the Church”*.

I was actually shocked to hear this; I began to think of the millions of people, clever people all over the world, doctors in the various academic professions, professors, lawyers and academics who are clinging onto something that does not exist. The priest could see the shock on my face and he emphasized *“you can read your Bible from the first to the last page and you will not find that God is a Trinity”*. *“Then where do you get it from?”* I asked. *“As I told you, it is the Doctrine of the Church”* responded the priest. *“Where does the Church get it from?”* I insisted. *“We do not ask where the Church gets its doctrine from; as Christians we believe in what the Church teaches without asking such questions.”* I actually said *“but that is stupid”*. These words escaped from my lips and I quickly checked myself and without apologizing said: *“Well you have admitted defeat before we have even started because I have come to*

argue that God is not a Trinity. If your doctrine has no basis how are you going to convince me that God is a Trinity?"

I do not believe that any priest or Bishop could have done better than Father Doncabe, for no priest or Bishop will be able to show where in the Bible Jesus (PBUH) said that God is a trinity and that He himself was part of that Trinity. The best any priest or Bishop will do is to quote from Paul, who is called *'the apostle'*; for it is Paul who is the architect of present day Christianity and is therefore their source of reference.

WHO WAS PAUL?

Paul was a Jew born in Tarsus, a city in Cecilia. He was a Roman citizen. His original name was Saul and he was an avowed enemy of the disciples and followers of Jesus (PBUH) and persecuted the Christians.

One day, on his way to Damascus, something happened to him which changed his life and attitude towards the Christians. From the day of that incident Saul changed his name to Paul and he, without informing the disciples of his new faith, began to preach the Gospel, for he says in his letter to the **Galatians**:

"But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mothers womb and called me by his Grace to reveal his son in me, that I might preach him among the heathens immediately, I conferred not with flesh and blood; neither went I up to Jerusalem to them which were apostles before me, but I went into Arabia, and returned again into Damascus. Then after three years, I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter and abode with him fifteen days."

We read in the Bible that when Paul received his sight *"straight away he preached Christ in the synagogues that **he is the son of god**"* and I ask: where did Paul learn what he was preaching about? Having been an avowed enemy of the Church what did he know about the teachings of Christ?

A quick answer will come from Christian theologians and they will tell me that Paul was inspired; for did Jesus (PBUH) not appear to Ananias in a vision and tell him that Paul is *"a chosen vessel unto me"*, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and Kings and the children of Israel!

(Acts 9:15)

This would be a valid answer if Paul was preaching the Gospel of Jesus (PBUH), but Paul came with a different Gospel from that which the disciples preached and which Jesus (PBUH) preached. Paul is boastful of the fact that his Gospel is a different Gospel which, he claims, was revealed to him by Jesus (PBUH).

"...but I certify you brethren, that the Gospel which was preached of me is not after man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus (PBUH) Christ."

(Galatians 1:12)

But the question remains, if his Gospel was revealed to him by Jesus (PBUH) why then is it completely different from what Jesus (PBUH) taught? Jesus (PBUH) said he had not come to destroy the law and he says:

“Whoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the Kingdom of Heaven: But whoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven”

(Mathew 5:19)

And Paul says:

“Before the faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith, but after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.”

(Galatians 3:23-25)

According to Paul the Law was meant to guide man towards faith in Jesus (PBUH). In other words the Law was meant to remain only for a certain period of time. But Jesus (PBUH) says:

“For verily I say unto you, till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall not be taken away from the law, till the law is fulfilled.”

(Mathew 5:18)

Who, then, does Paul follow? Jesus (PBUH)? Why then differ from his teachings? Even after Jesus (PBUH) had gone away from this world his disciples continued preaching what he had taught them. Peter, who was their leader, once in a lecture to the Jews, said:

“Ye Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus (PBUH) of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God, with mighty works and wonders and signs which God did through him in your midst, as you yourself know”

(Acts 2:22)

In this lecture Peter was inviting Jews to Christianity, and he says clearly that Jesus (PBUH) was an ordinary man Who God used to do wonders. He does not say Jesus (PBUH) performed wonders because he was God but he says *God did wonders through him*.

If Paul was inspired by Jesus (PBUH) why would he go all out to destroy the church Jesus (PBUH) established and create his own church?

When I heard about the new theory, which I referred earlier, of “*Jesus (PBUH) and two Gospels*”, I sat there with my ears wide open, listening to this new theory. I had never heard it before and I tried to mentally page through the Bible to see where it had come from and my mind dwelt on Paul.

One may not say by reading the Gospel of Mathew that Jesus (PBUH) brought another Gospel. The following is recorded therein:

“Go ye therefore and preach to all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Teach them to observe all things whatsoever I have commended you, and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world”

(Mathew 28:19-20)

In another place we read that Jesus (PBUH) sent forth his disciples and commanded them saying:

“Go not into the way of the Gentiles and into any city of the Samaritan enter ye not. But go rather to the lost-sheep of the house of Israel-And as ye go preach saying, the Kingdom of heaven is at hand”

(Mathew 10:5-7)

What is very clear is that:-

1. In *Mathew 10:5* Jesus (PBUH) commands his disciples to go out preaching to Jews only.
2. In *Mathew 28:19* Jesus (PBUH) sent the same disciples to preach to all nations but he makes two very important statements: The first is that they must teach (the nations) **TO OBSERVE ALL THINGS THAT HE HAD TAUGHT THEM** (the disciples). The second is that he (Jesus (PBUH)) is with them (the disciples) always *“even unto the end of the world.”*

Now which is the new Gospel? The message the disciples have to carry to all nations is the same message Jesus (PBUH) gave them to preach to the Jews. If Jesus (PBUH) had another Gospel for the Gentiles he would not command his disciples to teach them (the nations) to observe all things that he (Jesus (PBUH)) had commanded (the Jews) to observe.

You must now understand why my mind dwelt on Paul as I mentally paged through the Bible before my visitors. For the Gospel I know to be different from the Gospel of Jesus (PBUH) is the Gospel preached by Paul, which is the Gospel preached by all Christian preachers all over the world.

You say Paul’s Gospel is the Gospel of Jesus (PBUH)!? He himself confirms that his Gospel is different from the Gospel preached by the disciple of Jesus (PBUH). You see, after the departure of Jesus (PBUH) from this world his disciples continued to preach, as ordered by their master. At that time Paul started preaching and spreading his new religion and the people were confused because both groups claimed to be preaching the Gospel of Jesus (PBUH).

Paul warns the Corinthians:

*“for if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus (PBUH), whom we have not preached, or if ye received another Spirit which we have not received or **another gospel** which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.”*

(2 Corinthians)

To the Galatians he says:

*“I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the Grace of Christ (meaning himself) unto **another gospel**, which is not another Gospel, but there are some (the disciples) that trouble you, and would pervert the Gospel; of Christ. But though we, or an angel from Heaven preach **any other gospel** unto you let him be accused as we said*

before, so say I now again, if any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accused.”

(Galatians 1:6-9)

It is clear from the above quotations that Paul’s Gospel is a different Gospel; that he is all out to win followers for himself and his new religion. The disciples of Jesus (PBUH); Peter, Barnabas and the others; fall under the group preaching “another Gospel”. How can Paul be preaching the Gospel of Jesus (PBUH)? Wherever he goes he makes a point of warning the people to follow him and his teachings and he in his own words says that his Gospel is not the Gospel preached by others (the others being the disciples).

“For” he says “I neither received it (the gospel) of man, neither was I taught it but by the revelation of Jesus (PBUH) Christ”

(Galatians 1:12)

He warns the Corinthians

“Wherefore I beseech you, be ye followers of me”

(1 Corinthians 4:16)

He is worried that people are divided, some follow his teachings and others the teachings of the disciples of Jesus (PBUH) and he urges the Corinthians:

“... that you speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.”

And further he states:

“...some of you say I am of Paul and I of Apollos, and I of Cephas (Cephas is Peter) and I of Christ”

But who has caused this division?! If it is true that the voice that spoke to Saul on his way to Damascus was the voice of Jesus (PBUH) I have these questions in my mind:-

1. Why would Jesus (PBUH) promise his disciples that he is with them always even unto the end of the world knowing that he is going to instruct Saul, an avowed enemy to grow new furlers and become a “*very special disciple*” who has been chosen to bring a new message to the Gentiles?
2. What did Jesus (PBUH) mean when he said
“Whosoever shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the Kingdom of Heaven”!?

We, Muslims, believe in the Gospel of Jesus (PBUH) (known as *Injeel*) and we believe in all that Jesus (PBUH) (Esa alei-his-salam) taught. But we do not agree with the contaminated Gospel where men have changed the word of God, as preached by Jesus (PBUH), to suit themselves. Jesus (PBUH) like all the other prophets of God brought one message, which has not changed from generation to generation. There is no different message for a certain tribe or nation, all nations were created by God Almighty and He alone is worthy of worship and all nations, of all colors and hues, were created by him. ***“THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE GOD”***

Many writers who have written about Paul, including Christian theologians have expressed the view that the founder of present day Christianity is Paul; not without reason, for, as I have shown, Paul's teachings are not those of Jesus (PBUH) or his disciples.

Looking at the incompatibility of Paul's teachings with the teachings of Jesus (PBUH) and Paul's attitude towards the disciples, one is left with the question: whose voice did Paul hear on his way to Damascus? He says the voice was that of Jesus (PBUH), But was it!? What proof is there to show that the voice he heard was that of Jesus (PBUH)? Why must we believe him? I don't believe nor do I have reason to believe that after the ascension of Jesus (PBUH), God has ever allowed him to come back to this world or that his voice was ever heard by Paul or any body else. I believe that the only time Jesus (PBUH) will come back will be near the end of the world, as both Christians and Muslims believe.

If Paul did hear the voice and the voice did mention the name of Jesus (PBUH), I leave it to you to figure out whose voice it could have been. If a person shouts your name in the dark and only his voice is heard it does not follow that because that person mentioned your name then it was you who spoke.

I invite you to read your Bible starting from Acts:

You will observe that the activities of the different disciples or apostles are mentioned up to Acts 15. From Acts 16 onwards you will find only the name of Paul; why do you think this is so? Read acts 15 and you will find the reason for Paul's defiance, which caused him to break away from the body of the disciples in Jerusalem to go and establish his headquarters in Rome, which is to this day the headquarters of the Roman Catholic Church, the Papal seat.

THE INSTRUMENT OF LIGHT

Why have I written this book? What do I stand to gain by writing this book? Many people will ask themselves these questions, for we live in a materialistic world: everything we do must benefit us materially.

I was a Christian for sixty-five years; and for sixty-five years I held onto a belief passed onto me by my parents, who also got it from their parents, who also got it from their parents. My parents were simple people and their belief was a genuine belief. They, like millions of other people all over the world believed in the Trinity God without questioning the basis for that belief, without even thinking that there was no basis for their belief.

When my eyes were opened to the truth it was like an awakening from a deep sleep; I felt a pity for the millions of people all over the world who are holding onto a belief introduced to them in childhood, who have not actively chosen a *belief*, and are holding onto that belief because they think it is "**THE**" (only) religion. It is a faith they

inherited from their parents and they have no reason to question its basis. They never even look further than what their minister reads to them on Sunday, at church. They are satisfied that they have gone to church therefore they have done their duty to God.

Even those with enquiring minds will soon abandon their questions. They dare not question their belief, for anyone who questions this belief is quickly labeled “*a heathen*”.

But the majority of the people do not even know what it is they believe in; they just believe because they want to belong. Some go to church because of the fear of the shame of having no priest or minister to conduct their funerals after their death. Men are generally not worried, for as long as the wife and children go to church, they are assured of a decent Christian burial.

Who cares about the hereafter? As long as we are happy that is all that matters.

Happy Christmas!!
Happy Father’s Day!!
Happy Birthday!!

Happy New Year!!
Happy Mother’s Day!!
Happy Valentine’s Day!!

Happy this and happy that and the years go by while we enjoy ourselves... until death, the unfailing end overtakes us and all our happiness comes to naught and we become only a memory and then we come face to face with the reality concerning the purpose of our being... too late!

I have listened to the “*born-again*” Christians giving testimony of themselves. Each and every one of them was saved from sin when he accepted Jesus (PBUH) as his personal Lord and savior. I have listened to men and women declare in public how they were thieves, robbers, murderers, adulterers and were saved from sin when they accepted Jesus (PBUH) as their Lord and Savior. I and many other Christians who had not been “*born-again*” were not impressed by these declarations, for it seemed as if one had to have committed serious sins to be born again. Perhaps these people have good reason to feel a tremendous relief from having abandoned their sinful lives to a life of good citizenship.

But do not think that the awakening I have referred to was something like being “*born-again*”; I did not have to be reformed from a sinful life to become a Muslim, I was a staunch Christian all my life and I never missed any church service. The awakening I have referred to was a new discovery, a discovery which changed my life, my way of thinking and my general behavior. I suddenly became aware of the purpose for my being and of my duty to God and to men. The things that were of value to me suddenly became valueless and the “*pretended happiness*” of Christendom became a mockery and a clumsy hand beckoning one to hell.

From the first time I began to realize what I have to do for the remaining days of my life in order to gain eternal happiness *Insha-Allah* (God willing). I looked at the wasted sixty-five years of my life and felt the urgency to write and inform those people who like me are sincere in their wish to worship God, the creator of the Heavens and the Earth. People who are prepared to seek the truth and are willing to accept the truth, whatever it may cost. People who believe in life after death, and have a desire to enjoy

that eternal life at the end of their earthly days. But more importantly, people who have the guts to change their lives in spite of public opinion.

Public opinion plays a major role in our daily activities. Some people have suffered silently under difficult circumstances for fear of public opinion, others have lost fortunes and others may lose their souls for fear of public opinion. Yet there is only one way in which one may hope to attain eternal bliss, and that is by denying oneself the joys of this *dun'ya* (earthly life) that take one away from God, and by embarking on a completely new way of life where the first consideration is the pleasure of Almighty God.

There are no two ways about it, for we were not created for ourselves, but for God's pleasure; and yet we live our lives as if we were created for the sole purpose of enjoying ourselves. This is exactly what Jesus (PBUH) (peace be with him) meant when he said:

“For what shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”

(Mark 8:36-37)

The purpose for which we were created is often overlooked in our daily rush to satisfy our unending needs; and the years go by until our rush is stopped forever and we become only a “memory” and it will only be then that we will know the truth...But it will be too late...

CONCLUSION

I have written this book in great humility to Allah *Subhana hu wata'ala* (God the Glorious and Most High) who, in His infinite mercy, lifted me up and pulled me by the hand, in my old age, from the darkness of *shirk* (association of partners with God) and idolatry into which fate had dumped me, and led me gently into the awareness of my duty to him and to his creation and into the true belief in Him who alone is the creator of the Heavens and the Earth and who alone will one day judge my soul.

I can do no more than inform those who read this book, of what I, as a Christian, did not know about God almighty: that he is one and that there is no Trinity. I cannot make people believe, nor can I make them accept my point. All I can do is to do my best (which I have done) to expose the baseless Doctrine of Trinity and to show without any doubt that:

1. There is none worthy of worship but Allah, the God of all creation
AND
2. Muhammad (PBUH) is the last messenger of Allah

Some people in my country, South Africa, believe that Allah is a God of “Indians” because the first Muslims in South Africa were people who came from India about three hundred years ago and they were known to worship Allah. For the benefit of those people I wish to repeat that Allah is the name by which God Almighty calls himself in the Holy Quran. Allah is the name of God almighty, the creator of the Heavens and the Earth, and all that is in the Heavens and the Earth.

An introduction is given to us about who Allah is in *Surah Ikhlāas (Chapter 112 of the Holy Quran)* as follows:

Qul Huwallahu Ahad
Say that Allah is one
Allahus Samad
Allah is completely independent
Lam yalid walam yoolad
He begets not nor was he begotten
Walam ya Kullahu Kufuwan ahad
And he has no likeness whatsoever

Allah is the one and only God and there is none other. It is He who said to Moses (PBUH):

“And I shall raise them a prophet like you from among their brethren and I shall put my words into his mouth, and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him”

And Allah *Ta'ala* gives a dire warning in the next paragraph, where he says:

“...and it shall come to pass that whosoever shall not listen to my words, which he shall speak in my name, I will punish him.”

(Deuteronomy 18:19)

In this book I have shown, convincingly, I submit, that Muhammad (PBUH) is “*that Prophet*” and it is now up to the reader to undertake further research to determine whether this book is found to be lacking in certain respects. For it is up to the reader to

satisfy himself. I am not selling Islam and I will gain nothing materially from people embracing Islam as a result of reading this book. I have written this book solely for the pleasure of Allah Ta'ala and I pray that He may be pleased and accept my humble effort.

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