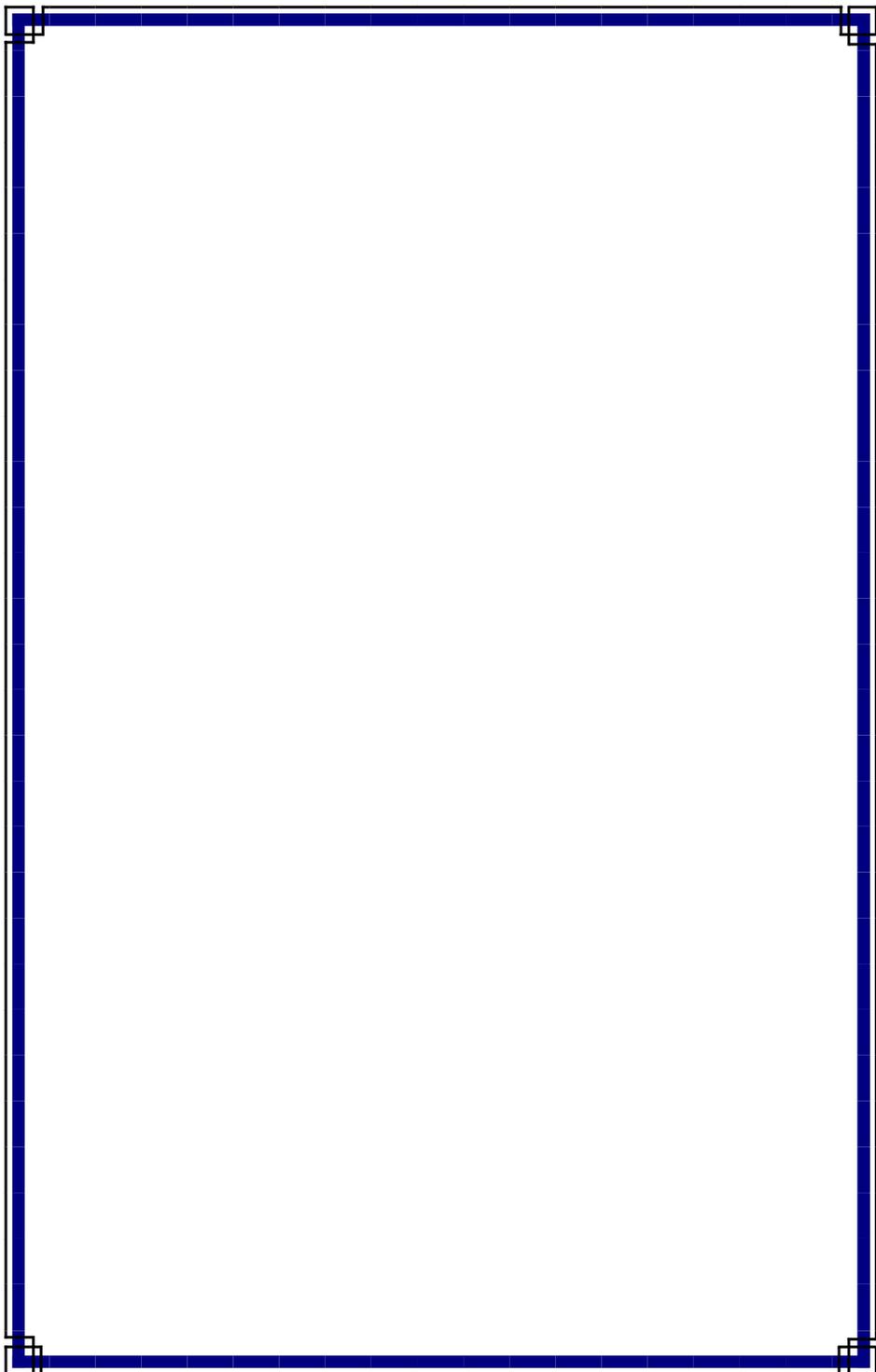


COMPARATIVE **R**ELIGION

RELIGION
IS
INSTINCTIVE, MENTAL, HAPPINESS
BUT
WHICH ONE?

SH. DR.
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**In the Name of Allah
The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful**

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The Author

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Introduction

Religiousness is a natural human property. It is seen explicitly in the running life of every man, family, tribe and nation all along the course of history.

Some people worship the One Omni-present Omni-potent God. Some others worship numerous heavenly and earthly Gods. Some others degenerate in devotion even to worship or at least to sanctify certain animals, such as the Indian Cow and Ox, or certain insects as the Egyptian Beetles.

It is noticeable that the core of all human sanctity, devotion and worship is God or Gods. It is the Being around whom/which people were/are used to congregate in their prayers/rites.

But it is seen that spirituality has always occupied the human psycho-mental space and not materialism. It is not merely a case of dividing steps and times among human races due to the materialistic view though it is highly/lowly practiced in this/that people in this/that period of time. It is due to exterior and interior factors, therefore we see the peoples and nations which were forced to abandon it how fast they came back to it when they got rid of that compulsory.

For example, the peoples of the ex-Soviet Union. How fast did they put out their

communistic material dresses, which they were forced by the police power to put on. Merely a political stroke and everything was changed. Spiritual practices strongly took place the material ones. It is as if they were waiting that crucial moment of change. They went back to their original doctrines and religions. It was an unbelievable case or matter of change even to the acknowledged people.

Now, the essential question that needs a very urgent and satisfactory answer is:

What is the core point of human spirituality?

If it is God, Who is God? What is God? Where is God?

Undoubtedly, the answers of these questions should settle the problem of what is Before human life. But what about the other two sides of the life: the After of it, and the relationship between it and the Before and the After?

The solution of this triple-sided problem is very necessary for man's satisfaction in heart and contentment in mind. Man wants such a solution to secure him the sound and perpetual settlement of his feeling happy or unhappy.

Religions have attempted to spare that settlement. Their viewpoints about God himself have formed the main entrance for them. One says God is only creator. Others say God is both creator & controller. Others say recognition of God is misleading minds as if opium when

effective to people. Every stand has its certain effects both individually and socially in man's life.

Let us hereafter in this book try to see how do major six religions: Confucianism, Hinduism, Buddhism as earthly religions, Judaism, Christianity and Islam as heavenly ones look upon God, aiming and hoping to hit the purpose after we give as much as possible the Fundamental survey of these religions.

But before that let us have a look about this sort of science: Comparative Religion.

Science of Comparative Religion was firstly created by Moslem scholars. There are many Moslem writers well-known with their books in this field. Nupakhti (202 A.H.) wrote the first book in this science and called it (Ideas and Religions). Maso'udi (346 A.H.) wrote the second two books of this studies and called them (Religions). Adam Metz, who recognized that the Moslem scholars have the favor of priority in this field wrote that frankly in his book (Islam Civilization in the 4th. Hejrah Century), part 1, page 366.

Religions before Islam were used in their scholars to look upon each other as heretics. This case is well clear with the reciprocal non-recognition between Judaism and Christianity as heavenly religions, between Hinduism and Buddhism as earthly religions.

But when Islam came into existence, it determined the One origin of all the Divine

Religions from the very beginning of humanity with Adam (PBUH)⁽¹⁾ and the first Message Allah revealed to Him until Mohammad (PBUHR)⁽²⁾ and the last Message Allah revealed to Him.

Consequently, Islam in its recognition of Moslems and Non-Moslems specifies the rights and duties of Ahlul-Ketab (believers of Divine Revealed Books), who belong to the Old and New Testaments, as a separate part of the Islamic Nation all over the Islamic world from those who do not belong to any of those Heavenly Revealed Books.

It is well-known that the Glorious Quran and the Prophet Mohammad's Sunnah (Tradition) have held many comparisons among religions, and, successively, the Moslem scholars moved in the same way. But regrettably we say that because of the Crusade wars against Moslems and the Andalus (Spain) suppression against Moslems, this science promotion had stopped. They did not end that stop until the modern era when the Azhar Moslem Scholars resumed writing on the way.

This science, due to Prof. Dr. Ahmad Shalabi in his book (Comparative Religions & Easternization) depends on three main rules which I have noticed earnestly in writing this paper.

The Curriculum should cover the study of all

(1) Peace Be Upon Him.

(2) Peace Be Upon Him and Relatives.

Religions first, then to hold the comparison among them in general and in specific themes, such as the Belief in God, the Legislation and Laws, or the History.

The Sources have to be widely covering the Worldly Religions with the necessary details of each.

The Nonalignment in writing would be so clear and strictly performed that the writer has to give the different or contradictory views as much as he can, and whatever they meet or not his/her own thoughts.

It is very important to say that this comparison among the Divine Religions Islam, Christianity and Judaism has promoted with the (so-called) Peace Process between (Israel) and the Arab States to become a type of realizing a mutual understanding among the three religions. Many conferences and meetings have been convened for the purpose, esp. in Egypt, Jordan and Vatican. Clearly, it is (a promising) movement in the U.S.A. in particular in spite of this cursed war waged against Islam and Moslems and the so-called terrorism.

But what promise?!

And to what time this case should continue?!

And when such a science of Comparative Religions would promote impartially and truly?!

Blank

CHAPTER ONE

FUNDAMENTAL SURVEY OF THE SIX RELIGIONS

Confucianism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam

Preface

As a necessary preliminary step, these three questions have to be answered:

1. Why are there religions?
2. What does genuine religiousness mean?
and
3. Within the Course of Humanity what do we see in this field?

As an inevitable result of reading deeply and illuminatively all the assigned books in this paper and countless others, I can say unhesitatingly that merely an investigating survey for the history of religions determines the evidence of the fact that theological insights have been in existence all through the course of humanity and without any exception both of races or individuals.

So what is the Relationship with Religiousness of man?

Therefore, to speak psychologically and sociologically, man emphasizes his cause of relationship with religiousness in this way:

It is being naturally and instinctively created from the beginning of man's creation, and it is well clear with man when feeling weak, lack and needy for outside factors both for his life very existence and order at the same time.

It is in existence despite all attempts run by some people or scholars to hide the reality behind deceitful screens of logic more than any

other sound intellectual and perceptible pleas, matter which incites man to go on looking for solutions for his problems.

Seeking Solutions for the problems:

What are these Solutions?

People, consequently, whenever seeking solutions for their problems, find that embracing a certain religious faith and joining the representing religious group or commune would secure the looked-for solution.

Corresponding for those Solutions:

To what extent these Solutions correspond with human Fitrah (nature) and mind?

It is well-known that the extrinsic factors of environment, starting from the parental and familial stimuli and ending with the educational-cultural systems, correspond with the intrinsic intuition - intellectual factors, so as to meet the genuineness of human religiousness of Fitrah and instincts of religion.

Many of Human Religions:

But why are there many different religions?

There are various causes for that matter as follows:

1. It is because of Individual Potentials:

Undoubtedly, it is due to human individual distinctive potentials, since none is exactly similar to another of people, not in respect of the very existence of man's properties and characteristics but of the high or low level of

each, a matter which effects the strong or weak commitment with the religious faith and its beliefs and laws.

2. It is because of the very Existence of Religions and the level of Relationship with the Creator:

This is in regard of adherence to the religious beliefs and teachings, but what about the very existence of religions?

It is the matter of The Creator and all His creatures: whenever man believes in The Creator of the whole existence, including the living and non-living beings, he has to settle the question of the relationship between Him and His creatures in a certain case limited in the mere existence of the Creator and His creatures, and, consequently, certain religions are established.

If he sees that the Creator is merely A Creator and has nothing to do with the control of all His creatures, there should be a separation between Him and His creatures, and a religion or many religions are founded.

But if faith assures His complete control, there should be no such a separation both in man's individual life or societal and communal one, and other religion or more are in existence.

Six Religions & The One Creator:
How do the six religions look upon the Oneness of God?

All the well known six religions:

Confucianism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam ascertain the Creator Omnipresence, Omnipotence, though the Heavenly latter three differ from the former ones in His reality and control, i.e. if He is the One and without any companion in His Oneness, or He has any sort of companionship with others.

Now we can put down the theme of this chapter in the following parts and sections.

Part One: Religions' Views about God

Section I: Confucianism View

Confucianism sees...:
What?

Confucianism, as a general idea, sees that the Emperor, as the Son of Heaven, charges his people throughout the Superiors and less-rank Rulers, who aim to apply the general principles of conduct and morality rather than manners.

Section II: Hinduism View

Hinduism sees:
What?

Hinduism, as a general idea, sees in Indra and, next to him in rank, Agni as the top Gods who partake control all other life, man and universe domains and aspects.

Section III: Buddhism View

Buddhism sees ...:
What?

Buddhism, as a general idea, sees, in result of people sufferings, that the Great God Brahman is not good if he is powerful and

helpless at the same time, but he is even not God if not powerful.

Section IV: Judaism View

Judaism sees...:
What?

Judaism, as a general idea, sees that the One God of Abraham and his descendants (PBUT) is in full control of all creatures though they do not care much about Him in running life affairs.

Section V: Christianity View

Christianity sees ...:
What?

Christianity, as a general idea, sees that the Trinity of Father, Son and the Holy Ghost are the Top-sacred Beings, though the Father of them controls the whole creatures through His Son Jesus (PBUH).

It sees also that His teachings are delivered to the children of Israel (Jacob) by His son who delivered them by his eleven disciples and saints.

It sees at last, that attention must be called to the fact that there should be separation between the church and state, referring to

Jesus' words "Give to Caesar what is his, and to God what is His".

Section VI: Islam View

Islam sees...:
What?

Islam, as a general idea, sees there is no God but the One Allah, and Mohammad (PBUHR) is the Messenger of Allah. His Message the Quran and Sunnah should be applied in life by the Islamic State. They should be adhered to by all human races, starting from the very date of the Revelation until the Dooms Day.

Part Two: Outline of Religion Views & History

Now we come to speak in brief about the Religions' views and history:

What are the outlines of the views and history of each of the six Religions?

Outline of Religion Views & History

But what was the outlined- views and history of each of these six well-known religions?

Section I: Confucianism

Let us start with Confucianism, due to the date order only.

Who is the founder of this religion?

Where did he include his teachings?

Its founder is Confucius. He was born in China in 551 B.C. and died there in 479 B.C. His doctrine and teachings are included in his work called Analects, which means Selected Sayings.

What was this founder?

Confucius was a private man who was used to train the sons of the gentlemen to become members of the ruling class. He himself was longing to become a ruler, so as to teach his supposed Good Way, which Analects portray, to the people. He relied upon the ideal old thoughts and asked others to follow the rules of the Former Kings, so as to avoid committing any wrong action.

Upon whom did he rely to deliver his

doctrine and teachings?

He depended on certain men. He called them the Divine Sages. Three of whom his Analects mentioned: Yao, Shun and Yû the Great, who were assisted in running their tasks by a certain group of servants.

His Twenty Disciples:

Were there certain disciples for him?

There were some twenty people. The introduction of the Book Confucianism, edited by Jaroslav Pelikan, figured as the Confucius disciples.

Then who is Master Tseng ?

Master Tseng is the most important one of them all, because he is edited in the Analects with twelve sayings of his own.

Transmitter of Analects:

Who?

But it is worthily remembered that Confucius described himself as a transmitter and not an originator of Analects. This case justifies supposing the book empty of containing many authentic sayings, and possibly none at all, though we have to assure in precaution that such an oldest stratum, even isolated, takes place in Gospels as well as in Buddhist literature.

And, also, since one has to depend on "hearing much" to know very little of real texts which might be ascribed to Confucius, there should be much caution.

Why was such a caution taken?

It was taken because all the sources underhand were mainly pre-Han, and those forged books were late. So old and isolated sentences have been detached from their context and connected together in a clever way to falsify the meaning.

Similarity with other Religions:

Does this case similar to any other religions?

This case is similar to that in all Scriptures of Judaism Old Testament, and of Christianity New Testament, and of some of the Prophetic Sunnah and not Quran of Islam.

But when all the ritual books of Confucianism were put down?

All the ritual books were certainly written long after the time of Confucius. The attributes they adopt are almost alike to those in churches of protestant and catholic, and some how to the inside-outside Moslem mosques.

Their Dress-regulation:

What about this dress regulation?

The dress-regulation contained in the Analects are the same as other nations who care much of them for the certain occasions both for the upper class and public one.

Their Burial and Mourning Rites:

What about them?

The burial and mourning rites, besides the sacrifice ones, are nearly the same as in prohibitions as with Buddhism, Christianity and Islam.

Their Ritual Vessels:

How are they?

The ritual vessels have to be arranged by the Divine King, who was the Emperor and the Son of Heaven, so as to give their magic influence over the common people.

The Social Virtues:

How are they and what is their relationship with the society?

They were used to adhere to social virtues, such as royalty, promise-keeping, respect for elders and courage in the cause of right. They had a very vast scope of ritual virtues. Their gentlemen had to master 300 rules of major ones and 3000 of minor ones, else they were disregarded of being gentlemen.

Their Music and Dancing:

What are they and their effect in society?

Confucius considered music and dancing the same as the ancient Greeks. They are instruments of education. They promote virtue, love among gentlemen, and make common people easy to rule.

Analects Book:

Was it interpreted?

The Analects have two main interpretations: the old and the new. The old is that of the Lun Yu Chi Chieh, presented to the throne about A.D. 240, though done before hundreds of years. It continued until Chu Hsi (A.D. 1130-1200) came to say that he was like Confucius; a transmitter

rather than an originator.

But he achieved his main object to popularize the new approach to the Confucian classics taught by the brothers Ch'eng Hao (A.D. 1033-1085) and Ch'eng I (A.D. 1033-1107).

Chu Hsi Role:

What was it?

Chu Hsi, the great scholar, was concerned with a Truth rather than with a God. So he assumed one Truth involved in the teachings of the brothers Ch'eng and in the sayings of Confucius, and that the Truth of the brothers lay on the surface but that of Confucius Analects lay hidden behind the words.

Chu Hsi's task, as he said, was to make it known or accessible to everybody. That case made him a great popular educator and evangelist but not at all a scholar.

Chinese interest in historical events:

What were the effects of that interest?

And since the Chinese were not in lack of the chronological sense, they mentioned the important dates, such as that of Confucius birthday and death, in connection to public events and persons. So, the accepted date of Confucius, i.e. 551-479 B.C., is doubtful to M. Maspero who suggested a quarter of a century later than it.

Section II: Hinduism

What is the book Rig Veda?

As for Hinduism, The Rig Veda, which covers the other three primary books of the Hinduistic revelation: Yujur Veda, Sama Veda and Athara Veda, means Praise of Wisdom and constitutes the core of this religion and philosophy.

How many hymn are there in this book?

It involves them all in one thousand and twenty five hymns, distributed over ten books. They are clearly seen herein with this book (Hinduism: The Rig Veda) translated by Ralph T.H. Griffith, with a valuable introduction which speaks that the Rig Veda must be understood in the light of the religious meanings of the older Verdic religion and of the Brahmanism and the Hinduism that came after.

Hinduism is Monotheistic Religion,
How?

It is remarkable that that Introduction and other sources emphasize that this religion is implicitly monotheistic religion, since it frankly says in Book 1, as aforementioned, "They call him Indra, Mitra, Varuna, Agni, and he is heavenly nobly-winged Garutman. To what is One, sages give many a little: they call it Agni, Yama, Matarisvan" (1:164.46).

The Complete Rig Veda:

Where is it?

It is known also that Griffith's translation

dated 25 May 1889, was the complete one although Prof. H. H. Wilson published in 1819 his Sanskrit English Dictionary and began translating the Rig Veda in 1850. But that of Griffith, published at Delhi in 1973 and again in 1976, has well established the basis for the modern Indian edition of the Rig Veda in English.

More details should be mentioned later when comparing between this religion and Buddhism.

Section III: Buddhism

Who is the founder?

As for Buddhism, Prince Gautama of India is the founder of this religion. It had been in existence before twenty four centuries.

Its Extended Land:

It extended from its motherland India to Nepal and Ceylon, where it trespassed the borders to China, Japan, Tibet, Central Asia and Siberia.

It stamped other religions:

Where?

It stamped clearly upon modern Brahmanism in India and adapted the Hinduist habits and conventions to its precepts.

Its Spread:

To what extension?

More than a third of mankind, due to Edwin Arnold in his book (The Light of Asia), owe their

moral and religious ideas to this famous, gentle, holy and beneficent Prince, who united the princely qualities with the intellect of a sage and the passionate devotion of a martyr.

Where was he born?

When was he dead?

This Prince Gautama was born near the nowadays border of Nepal in about 620 B.C. and died in about 543 B.C.

Its Ideas & Beliefs:

What are they?

From along his life, which we will see later in more details, he was used to call for eternal hope, immortal boundless love, faith in final good and human freedom.

He rejected:

What?

He rejected all degradation inflicted by the priests upon those great ideas whose inclusive, comprehensive doctrine aimed at the general purport.

Its Chief Features:

What are they?

Buddhism chief features are well noticeable in Nirvana, Dharma and Karma which show to what sublime, emotional, meditative.. personality was the Prince Gautama, who is still worthily praised and lauded by many eminent scholars as one of the prominent characters of religion in the course of the human seeking for the Truth.

Section IV: Judaism

What is the relationship of Judaism with Abraham?

As for Judaism, it started with Abram (PBUH) later called Abraham, who was born in today Iraq, in Kur-Kaldan, before about forty centuries, then he went to the north in Haran, from where he was ordered by the One Creator God to move to the (so-called) Promised Land in a gradual journey.

Abraham's Family:

Who are they?

He accompanied with him his family and his nephew Lot. His wife Sarah, the prominent figure all along his journey, was the other basic character.

Genesis Old Testament says:

What?

In the first Chapter, Genesis, of their Bible, Abraham (PBUH) and his family co-lived prosperously with the Kananites in Palestine, despite they were separated from each other.

Abraham's Journey to Palestine:

Was it there or more?

But, due to Genesis, he went, because of the famine, with his wife Sarah to Egypt, where he disguised as her brother, so as to secure his life and earn much benefits.

But a plague affected Pharaoh and all his

close men to dismiss Abraham and his wife Sarah, when they discovered that those false brother-and-sister were the cause.

His sons in serial birthday:

Ishmael His First Son & Isaac His Next Son.

Later on, due to Genesis also, after the birth of his son Ishmael from his maiden Hajar, who was given to him from the Pharaoh, and then the birth of Isaac from Sarah, he was oppressed by this Sarah to take Hajar and her son Ishmael away to live far from her and her only son Isaac.

Sacrifice Order:

With whom?

Genesis narrates that God ordered Abraham to sacrifice his son (Isaac), a story which is refuted by most of Moslem Scholars, since they overweigh the Sacrifice Order for Ishmael not Isaac.

He obeyed and so God redeemed (Isaac) by a ram sent down from Heaven not to pacify his mother Sarah, but for a short time after which she died in her fatal grief, sorrow and pain.

What Genesis says?

Jacob & Essau are the Sons of Isaac:

Genesis assures that Isaac got a son, and named him Jacob. But because of his mother's envy the feeling of hatred broke out between him and his brother Essau, since he was going to gain his father's blessing and then heredity and legacy.

Jacob mother ill-utilized the blindness of

Isaac and cheated him to bless Jacob in stead of Essau though he intended this one. But, due to Genesis, he refused Essau complain of that deceit and considered the bless sound:

What a wonderful story and the like which degenerates God's prophets & Messengers! It is not extraordinary since they were and still accustomed to commit such crimes!

Jacob's Twelve Sons:
Who are they?

Genesis speaks that Jacob married one of his father's family members to have his ten sons from her and his other two sons, Joseph and Benjamin, from his second wife.

What happened among the brothers?
How?

Genesis assures the repetition of the envious case but among these twelve brothers, as a result of a maltreatment of their father in preferring those two sons, Joseph and Benjamin, and Joseph in particular, to the other ten ones.

What effect?

They, consequently, decided to get rid of Joseph, whom, due to Genesis they sold to traders who by turn sold him to the Pharaoh of Egypt, where he was successfully living after having all the country control in his hands through God's learning him the interpretations of dreams.

Travel to Egypt..
Why?

Once more famine swept upon Palestine to enforce Jacob, called thereafter Israel, to send his sons to bring back supplies of food from Egypt.

Similar to Islam..

What?

Those repeated attempts of buying food, agreed upon with Islam, ended by acquainting their brother Joseph, who ordered them to go back to Palestine and bring back their parents and the whole family to live near him in Egypt.

Pharaoh Maltreatment to Israelites:

Why?

Genesis determines that they lived there separating from the Egyptians, who envied their prosperity and later on exercised slavery and harsh treatment against them. It is remarkable that Genesis is still repeating envy as the only cause of all misfortunes of Beni Israel among themselves and between them and others. It ignores all other causes of their badness.

Maltreatment Continued..

Why?

Because they were anxious and afraid of them.

Moses Came:

From where?

Moses (PBUH) who fled away to Madian, for fear of Pharaoh and his men, came back to be ordered, on the way, by God as His Messenger to save his people the Israelites or Beni Israel

from the tyranny of Pharaoh.

The Tyranny ended..

Why?

and How?

He, at last, accompanied them in Exodus from Egypt to Palestine through the Red Sea in a miracle by which they crossed the sea safely whereas Pharaoh and his army were drowned, a miracle agreed upon with Islam.

Did they arrive Palestine?

and settle there?

After so many ordeals, because of committing misdeeds against God's orders and even disbelief and worshipping the calf, the Israelites kept in wander for forty years in Sinai as a punishment for those misdeeds and disbelief. Moses died there at the end of the wandering period to be succeeded by his close friend Eshaia (Yusha'i) since his brother Aaron (Haron) had died before him. Yusha'i occupied Palestine after they had been rejecting his orders for fear of Amalek the Palestinians.

Results of Wars Against Palestinians, Babylon & Romans:

What were?

Wars broke out between them and the Palestinians (Amalek) to defeat them through God's help after they had restored truthfulness and good promise. But they did not last long on this good case. So they settled not long period there because of going to disobedience to

God. So they suffered of the Babylon and later the Roman oppression, during which they were exiled and expelled from Palestine to stay there for less than two centuries.

They were easily used to go back to disobedience and disbelief since they embraced the beneficial viewpoint of life which abandon spirituality from everything.

Jesus Christ Came:

This is Exodus and the period of their Kings which ended with the revelation to Jesus Christ (PBUH) to be the Messenger of God, so as to reform the Israelites after straying away from God's commandments in the so-called Old Testament and Talmud.

Mohammad (PBUHR) came..

They continued living in offense and corruption after God had rescued Jesus Christ (PBUH) from them to lift him up to the sky and to leave them in controversial case about him. They continued committing disobedience and corruption despite of the Roman Expel.. until God revealed to Mohammad (PBUHR) to be His Messenger not to them or Arabs or any other special group of people but to all human and jinn beings in general. So he tried to save them by calling them with many Quranic verses, but they obstinately went on in their badness and disbelief. They deserved consequently the third Expel.

The continued running the same bad way

until both the Crusade powers and Zionist one gathered together to enable them to come back to Palestine. It is because of not their goodness but of Moslems weakness in belief and behavior and adherence to their Islam. It is still a punishment to bring them back to Palestine, the sacred Islamic land.

Now, let us go back to the serial emergence of religions to live with Jesus Christ (PBUH) and his religion.

Section V: Christianity

As for Christianity, it commences with the birth of Jesus Christ (PBUH) from his mother Mary without a father but with God's miracle to beget him in this way as a sign of God's omnipotence, the same as Eve, who was begotten from a father (Adam) without a mother, and the same but in more a wonderful miracle as of Adam who was created of the earth soil throughout the God's order and without father and mother.

What is the bible of Christianity?

Is it the new Testament?

Due to the New Testament, and the four gospels of Mathew, Mark, Luke, and John, all the details of Jesus' biography are narrated, after which the Acts of the Eleven Apostles covered the long period of preaching, in which the church system was established.

Jews Neglected Jesus:

What is the Jews' viewpoint about Jesus?

The Jews neglected completely any mention of Jesus in their Old Testament and Talmud, although, up to Dr. Israel Walvensun, he was mentioned at first in Talmud, with how he was killed, but they dropped the event out, so as not to be known by any of the Christian nations among whom they, the Jews, were and still living so as to pass their press so easily on the Christian clergymen and on their public opinion that they would respond to their forgery of religion. In fact this case took place both in regard of putting down the responsibility of the today Jews for so-called Christ Blood and for supporting their assumed selected people and promised land..

The Politician Saul:

What was his political role?

Saul, or later St. Paul, was really the founder or at least the revivalist of Christianity. His efforts and endeavors before and after he was taken to Rome for trial as a Roman and not Israelite, due to his assumption, show to what extent the man was clever as a politician more than as a religious one.

Wells and Saul:

Well's Testimony on his behalf:

If we read what Wells wrote in his book (Outline of History, vol. 3, p. 998) the role of Saul would be so clear that he himself alone had secured Christianity from vanishing, especially

through his messages, which prevail upon the New Testament, besides his journeys, which started from Antioch to move to Rome and back along the Mediterranean countries to Palestine.

There are many Western scholars who assure his wide extent of trick he played by himself and messages in inoculating Trinity into Christianity in place of Unitarianism.

Gerald L. Berry & Saul:

What does G. L. Berry say about Saul?

Also, if we read something of what Gerald L. Berry wrote in his book (Religions of the World) from page 68 to page 76, we will be immensely surprised with the details he mentioned about the viewpoint of the Western intellectual elite in respect of Christianity and its idea about Christ..

Saul Inserted Strange Beliefs into Christianity:

Saul Inoculated Christianity with Paganish Beliefs:

Saul inoculated the believers and others with many paganish beliefs so as to follow his teachings and to destroy every opponent against him, despite the strong opposition of the disciples. How bitterly he was used to face them all without any supporter except John, who was very obedient to his orders all along his journeys and moving from place to another. How Europe responded greatly to his views, since he intermingled them cleverly and cunningly with the paganish European ones, such as the

festivals of the New Year, the Resurrection, the Easter ...etc.

Roman Empire Change:

What happened to that Empire?

After being persecuted fiercely by the Roman Empire, the Emperors began to change gradually their stand. In year 313 A.C. Constantine recognized Christianity, and Augustine before and Gregory I after supported it. The Archbishop of Rome became the most powerful one among the five Archbishops of Antioch, Jerusalem, Alexandria, Constantinople and Rome, because of two things:

1. Rome was the capital, and
2. Rome church was believed to be established by St. Peter himself, authorized by Jesus directly.

Asia & the Pure Christianity in Opposite of Europe:

What was the effect of changing Europe to the Paul Christianity of Trinity?

To sum up, Asia was living generation after generation the Jesus Christianity, without any deviation from the pure faith that God is One and nothing to do with father and son at all. At the same time Europe was living the Paul Christianity and its belief of Trinity. It was inevitable to settle this problem of dissention by a certain conference for the high Christian clergymen.

Conference of Nijia convened..

When?

The Emperor Constantine called for the Conference of Nijia in 325 A.C. to be attended by 2048, who in most of them were believing in Jesus' Christianity. But the Emperor's close friends as European were believing in Paul's Christianity.

What happened?

The Emperor and Pope Rome were incited against the opponents to exile some of them and expel the others, since they were rejecting the Trinity Belief. The Egyptian Scholar Arius was killed. The Roman Empire was dissented into two parts in respect of Christianity Belief. Another conference was necessary.

The Second Conference convened..

What were the effects?

Another conference was ordered to convene to put an end for the dissention. None attended it but those of Paul's Christianity. They were only 318 one, who decided the divinity of Christ the same as Paul was used to propagate.

What did they decide also?

Also, they decided to destroy all documents disagreeing with their belief, and to punish harshly who might hide any of those documents.

What effects..

Challenge..

Consequently, the true Christianity of Jesus started vanishing gradually and the police of Christianity of Paul replaced it without the true

gospels and the true God-unifying believers. And this is the case of today. The challenge was over on behalf of Paul Christianity of Trinity.

This is the Bitter Truth the Western Scholars have discovered early.

Herein an impartial objective stand should be dealt with...

What happened?

Contradictory Viewpoints:

But out of nonalignment and honesty in such a controversial scientific problem, the other contradictory viewpoint should be presented as much brief as possible.

New Testament Assures ...:

What?

It is clear that the current New Testament assures the great influence of St. Paul Messages in particular and not less than that of others in general.

The New Testament started with the presentation of Jesus' life (PBUH) and what he endured of sufferings, caused by the Jews or Israelites or the Children of Israel, all along his about thirty years of life, from the very beginning of his birthday until (so-called) crucifixion and death and resurrection.

The New Testament includes St. Paul's messages, the commandments of Jesus and their interpretations which are still preached with, focusing on the faith of Trinity and on bewareing of committing any misdeed or

disbelief, whatever and however the oppressions against the believer might be.

Now, there should be a standing by St. John and his role in Christianity.

St. John Divine Revelation:

What about?

The Divine Revelation of St. John comes at the end of the New Testament. It prepares psychologically the believer in Christ to endure even any unbearable sort of aggression or suppression they might suffer for the sake of Jesus (PBUH) and the Heavenly life they should be rewarded for that at the Dooms Day.

What is therein also?

The Second Coming - down of Jesus:

At the same time it prepares the believers for the Second Coming-down of Jesus and for the Last Dooms Day in which all people should be either rewarded in Heaven for sound belief, even without sound deeds, since Jesus (PBUH) has, due to them, redeemed them all on the cross and atoned all their misdeeds, esp. whenever repeatedly confessed of, or punished in Hill for unbelief in the Trinity.

What therein more in the New Testament?

Testimony of Christian Believers:

At the end, a testimony of cardinal believers and preachers of the New Testament should be mentioned. It is The House of The Holy Book in the Middle East, Beirut, Lebanon. They say that New Testament was written through the Holy

Ghost in less than one hundred years, and in Greek language which was of a literary and commercial type at that time of Jesus (PBUH) in Palestine.

But the eldest version goes back to the second century after Jesus (PBUH). But what different investigations say about the reality and authenticity of the gospels and the messages is something else which must be left for such true efforts, and which all other religions and beliefs are exposed to.

Section VI: Islam

Islam Started ..:

As for Islam, it started with the beginning of revealing Quran as the Heavenly Message on the Prophet Mohammad (P.B.U.H.& R.), who lived between 570 & 632 A.D. in Mecca (Nowadays of Saudi Arabia), when he was forty years old. He spent nearly thirteen years there in Mecca and the surroundings calling the idolatrous Arabs in particular, as being the necessary basis and core of the Islamic Nation all over the world, and the other non-Arabs. He was used to focus his efforts of propagation within the Stage of Mecca for his belief and religion at the season of pilgrimage.

How did people deal with the New Religion?

Fierce Enmity..

Effect..

He faced fierce enmity against his Call for the Oneness of Allah (The God), for which he was forced to permit his followers the Moslems to immigrate to Habasha (Ethiopia) twice escaping death they were threatened with day and night.

Harsh Boycott..

How?

Also, he was compelled by Mecca to spend three years with his Relatives Banu Hashem and Banu Abdel-Muttaleb in their valley in a very harsh boycott and without permitting any supplies or provisions of food or water. They were going to deacease except of patience and some supplies were sent in a hidden way.

What did Mecca do..

They wanted to stop the New Call..

They thought in reconciliation with the Prophet (PBUHR). They hoped to find listening ears from him to respond with their conditions after he had seen the harshness and suppression they dealt with him and his Friends.

Conditions of Reconciliation:

What were they?

The chiefs of Mecca tried in all ways to break the protection ring his Uncle Abu Taleb was effecting around him. Due to their claim his Uncle offered the conditions of reconciliation on him: to be their king, if he was aiming headship, to be the richest one of them, if he was running after wealth and money, to bring him the best

physicians to cure and heal him, if he was suffering of any sort of illness or disease.

What was the answer?

His Answer...:

He answered unhesitatingly: "I swear by Allah, if they place the sun in my right hand and the moon in my left hand I would not quit this matter (of Islam) even if I would be killed". So they desperately went back to torturing and suppressing against the Prophet (PBUHR) and his followers.

But did he (PBUHR) yield?

No, but he started looking for strong men or tribes to protect him and his call and support them. So he went to Tae'f to be opposed also badly. Then he commenced presenting himself on the tribes and their bosses asking them "Believe in me and support me".

Did they know his meaning?

Yes, exactly, exp. when A'amer the boss of Beni Sa'asa'a said (Do you authorize the matter (headship) to us after you?

He (PBUHR) answered, "No, the Matter is God's and He is the One Who authorizes any other one".

The result: When the ordeal ended?

After Aqaba Baya'a & Migration to Madinah:

But Yathreb (Madinah City), in Hijaz and not far from Mecca, secured him victory after nearly thirteen years when great seventy three men

and two ladies came to Mecca and held secretly an agreement called Aqaba Baya'a or Allegiance of Aqaba the second with him to migrate from Mecca to Madinah to live among them and under their protection and support.

Why Migration to Madinah though to assassinate Mecca Bosses was possible..

Then it yielded..

They thought of this matter and asked the Prophet (PBUHR) to permit then to kill Mecca bosses.

What was his answer?

"No, we haven't been ordered to do so!"
Assuring that the demand of Mecca stage was patience for offense and obedience of God without any material action. It is nowadays called Intellectual challenge against the anti-Islamic ones and political struggle against those who have societal and individual matters care in their hands.

Then what did the Prophet (PBUHR) do?

Foundation of the First Islamic State:

That Baya'a, really, was the crucial turning point in the history of Islam. It shifted the Islam Message and Call from a mere theoretical Message to practical application in the First Islamic State under the Prophet's direct control as the Ruler side by side as a prophet.

The Prophet Continued ten years more..

To do what?

The Prophet's Death:

When?

Ten years he passed away after he did his best within the Help of Allah in putting an end for all his interior and exterior enemies in decisive battles for which he was almost obliged to enter.

He was revealed with the Quranic laws necessary for the Islamic State side by side with what is necessary to deliver this Message to other peoples and nations all over the world through Jihad by which the material blocks were eradicated and not to force anyone to embrace Islam.

The battles started with Mecca in Badr, Uhud and Trench battles. Then after Mecca and Ta'ef He (PBUHR) had sent his letters to the kings and princess of The Persian and Roman neighboring countries to wage Mu'tah battle against the Romans, and prepared another army to Tabuk, but his fixed hour had come before he sent it to the field of the battle.

The Prophet died..

After?

He died after he had paved the way for the continuity of the Islamic State, called Caliphate after him, and for the delivering of Islam Call to all peoples and nations all over the world, and to protect the Call when delivered. He settled the matter derisively with all the enemies and the application of Islam Shariah, since he was, due to the two only sources of his Message, viz. Quran and Sunnah, the Last

Prophet and Messenger of Allah and the Mercy for all the world.

Before his Death the Prophet assured..

What?

The four Rules of the Islamic State were determined as follows:

1. Sovereignty is of Shariah and not of people.

2. Judging or Authority is of the nation who deposes the caliph to apply Shariah in life.

3. It is obligatory to erect Caliph during three days after the last one.

4. The Caliph alone has the right to Adopt the Shariah laws with consultation and counsel.

The Prophet Limited..

What?

The eight Corners of the Islamic State were limited as follows:

1. The Caliph himself.

2. The Delegation Assistant.

3. The Execution Assistant.

4. The Valis.

5. The Judges.

6. The Prince of Jihad.

7. The Assembly of Ummah.

8. The Directors of Departments.

After the Death of the Prophet..

What happened?

The contract of Caliph was concluded to

govern Moslems by Quran and Sunnah. Directly after his death and before burial the great Friends met together in the House of Beni Sa'edah to limit the Caliph. The candidate was Abu Baker who was chosen as the first Caliph of the Prophet (PBUHR) in the House and then pledged allegiance in the mosque to govern Moslems after the prophet (PBUHR).

The Rashideen Caliphs came successively after..

Omer Ibn Al-Khattab, then Othman Ibn Affan,

then Ali Ibn Abi Taleb (G. S. T.).

Each of them was pledged allegiance by the Contracting then Obedience Baya'a after the suitable candidacy and election.

Then the Umayyad, Abbasid and Ottoman eras came and passed.

But the process of the three stages of candidacy, election and baya'a was confused. It became as if succession to the throne in kingdom though the baya'a continued to force the Caliph to apply the Shariah of Quran and Sunnah.

Therefore, we can say decisively that the Islamic State continued but with mal-application of how to erect the Caliph and not nil-application of Shariah laws in this process.

That case determines and demands..

What?

It confirms to take full care to avoid that bad application whenever re-establishment of the Caliphate System is realized on earth.. We have full confidence in God's Victory in any time of today period because all factors of that hope are available despite this fierce war waged by enemies against Islam to prevent it from coming back to life once again.

Sorts of Accusations..

Against whom?

and why?

There were so many accusations against Him (PBUHR)in regard of His health and message authenticity. But there were opposite answers manifesting their untruthfulness though all of them are either of prejudiced one, whose words were and are easily vaporized, or of those seeking knowledge, whose words were and are ended in love and faith in the Prophet and his Message .

The Strongest Defense..

What is it?

Despite all the positive and negative stands from this Heavenly Message, on pleas of terrorism, because of certain events here or there, Islam is still in need of the State or Regime or Government which would apply its Shariah in its real conditions, and by which all peoples and nations can see the reality more than any writings or lectures defending it.

What is Moslems stand now

before this was against
the so-called terrorism?

It is necessary to get the benefit of those worldly effects against Islam in working in two ways:

One- to go on with the Islamic call in accordance with Mecca Stage, avoiding all actions of violence:

Two - to hold many various debates and discussions with the others.

Now, let us try to hold a comparison between only two of these six aforementioned worldly religions.

Part Three: Comparison between Hinduism and Buddhism

The comparison is going to be between Hinduism and Buddhism, since India is the motherland of them both and they are greatly intermingled or interchanging influences and their followers are almost innumerable.

Prelude for Comparison:

As a prelude, we have to say that it is very difficult to discuss the Indian religions, because of their great number and intermixture not only in views and beliefs but also in founders. A deep insight shows that they have neither limited doctrines nor philosophic systems. They are more or less void of the Godly Dogma. Brahmanism, Hinduism and Buddhism are the main prevailing three religions though there are many others.

Brahmanism as the Background..

For which of them?

Brahmanism is the background of most of the Indian religions, in general, and of Hinduism and Buddhism, in particular. Let us have a quick general survey about it.

What is Brahmanism..

Its Belief ..

It says that there are two great Beings in the world, one is Brahman, who is the origin and source of the whole world, and Itman, who is the ego-centric basis or consciousness of the one's character and its relationship with the exterior

world. It is the so-called Spirit. Both of Brahman and Spirit have to be unified to compose the Universal Union, for which death forms the first step whenever Spirit goes out of the body so as to incarnate gradually in other bodies and in other shapes or forms which at last ends in consuming in the world and Immortality.

Spirit Transmigration..

What is it?

It is the state of Transmigration of the Spirit into another animal or non-animal form, either highly promoted or lowly degenerated, of course throughout one's merits and demerits.

How does it run?

Karma, as they call, is the Omnipotent God of this gradual transmigration for whom oblations should be sacrificed in a certain ritual celebrations which the Priests have to perform on behalf of the devotees.

Buddha and the Priests..

Buddha saw..

Buddha saw all those domineering Priests and rejected them all-in-all to set a new religion in which he attempted to put a conclusion for the Priests' practices and oblations or libations.

What did Buddha found? and

What was the effect of that foundation?

Buddha founded Buddhism in the sixth or fifth century before Christ. The priests who were devaluated in Buddhism attacked him so fiercely that he was obliged to seek another

shelter in China. The Brahmanists, influenced by Buddhism, adapted their religion to be accepted simply by the common people. In this way Hinduism took place in being.

What is Brahman ?

Brahman in Hinduism is an impersonal Being which appears in three Gods: Brahma, Vishnu and Sheifa. Brahma is looked upon as the identified God character with a red color and four heads. The myth says that he broke out from the egg in which he was swimming. Then he created Heaven and earth, each in half of the egg. Then he connected the two halves by one part of him to create the masculine and feminine sexes from the two parts. The animal and human beings and the universe were created also from those two parts. Then after all this creation was over, he withdrew far from his creatures to cause weakness in popular worshipping for him.

What is Vishnu?

But Vishnu, who was hovering around in the sky by his magic wings, is as attractive popular God, who saves Spirits by transmigration when they come down to earth. His incarnations are so numerous that the eighth of them was Krishna, the charming God whose life is as poetic as a hymn or a song.

What is Sheifa ?

The third God Sheifa is the god of mortality and fertility and in whose hand dwell the natural

death and productivity, and who is strange in temper, cruel and lusty, pleased with picnics once and luxury once more.

The Unimportant Gods..

Are there any other Gods?

There are other unimportant Gods, who numerate more than three million ones and consist from everything and every animal or tree. They are worshipped by the low castes of the people who believe in the inaccessibility to the Great Gods, who are always busy in their tasks and who are worshipped only in the shrines. So, such a people see that the little Gods only can help them in their daily life.

Cow Is Sacred..

Why?

As for the other sacred Beings, the Hinduists see that the Cow has its own private prestige in devotion and holiness, and therefore it must not be harmed or hurt whatever and however the disadvantage it causes. They see its sanctity as a result of its great advantage both of milk and manure. They also sanctify the Ox, because Sheifa rides on its back.

Ghandi Revolt..

The Indian Castes..

Ghandi effected..

On other hand, and in consequence of Ghandi's revolt against the system of social castes and its effects on the people thinking and devotion, the Hinduistic republic

demolished that system throughout the force of law and legitimacy.

Continuity of Rites Performance:

But performance of rites and offering of oblations for the benefit of daily life are still continuous from the very beginning of the child birthday, or even pregnancy, until death and after death, assuming to fulfill his safety and security in the society he lives with and which he ought to remember always as the origin upon which their life is built.

Uga Method..

What is it?

Its object?

Lastly, if their numerous Gods and prevailing society distinguish their religion the other belief of transmigration depicts it with the powerful characteristic which has the greatest religious influence upon their thoughts and beliefs.

They think that man is not a distinctive being in regard of other animals but all animals have the same spirit of the man except its evolutionary stages through Karma, whom Hinduists endeavor to get benefit of by using Uga Method of meditation and sports so as to meet the Whole Spirit.

This is in respect of Hinduism and its thoughts, beliefs and method for sparing security and safety for man. What did Buddhism have in opposite of all that?

Buddhism & Salvation:

As for Buddhism, it starts really as a way for the salvation of the human soul from all its miseries and mischief throughout continuous transmigration and mortification. Herein it meets somehow Hinduism.

Buddhism founder..

Who?

Gautama is the founder of Buddhism and the effective factor in Hinduism development. He was brought up in about B.C. 563 and died in about B.C. 483, which means that Buddhism was established at the end of the sixth century and the starting of the fifth one before Christ. This was the period within which Hinduism was promoted.

The Prince Gautama..

Who is he?

Buddhism myth narrates that the Prince Gautama was brought up in a very rich family, and of a father who was the king of Nepal provinces or at least the chief of a high class tribe. This means he was a very good spectator of the low classes when roving among them with his very keen eyes and sensitive intuition.

Did he make a family?

He Married a Princess..

He married a princess when he was twenty nine years of old and got a son, a matter which stimulated him with his marital and parental feelings to sympathize with the others and their children.

On his walks outside his palace, he saw the

various conditions of people's unhappiness. So, he was used to ponder so deeply and affectionately upon all those unhappy people. This state of Buddha sensitivity influenced the promotion of Hinduism. But what happened as a result of all those affections and sensitivity?

He Departed ...:

Why? and where?

He, in result of those miserable cases, gave up living in his palace, esp. after he saw three men: a sick man, a poor man and a deceased man in one day.

Of course he left his wife without even bidding her farewell although she was going to deliver his son.

He Denounced ...:

Gautama started studying Brahmanism but to find no solution of healing the sufferings of troubles.

He saw that the Priests were directing religion and all rites on behalf of their own benefits, especially out of the oblations. Consequently, he denounced these procedures and went on looking for the Truth in some other way or principle.

Looking for the Truth..

Where?

He came across two of the Brahman priests whom he at once left them back to continue his seeking for the Truth, which, up to his estimation, should be far from such priests and their cruel

measures against the unhappy ones.

He met other priests..

With / out Mortification..

Once more he met other five priests, living ascetic life and looking for the Truth also but by the mortification method, a case which attracted his attention to live with them for six years successively and in the same way. But feeling of nothing new he left them also to go back to his ordinary life of wandering but without any mortification.

He was asking his food and sleeping place wherever he resided.

To the time of..

The Truth Light Emerged..

On his wandering, he came to a big tree under which he spent seven weeks contemplating and meditating for the Truth Light which at last emerged to him suddenly. He became very pleased and spoke about what he had seen to the first two traders who were passing by him.

What happened..

They believed in his words. He came back to his five comrades to believe directly in his words also.

Buddha for Gautama..

Why?

Because of Light he saw Buddha was nominated Buddha instead of Gautama, which means the Illuminative Being. He visioned four

truths from which his religion was formed:

His Four Truths..

Their relationship with Nirvana..

The four Truths were:

1. Life is all-in-all full of unhappy and miserable conditions, for which man has to live in perpetual pessimism.
2. The cause of this misfortunes is running always after lust and pleasure and without any satisfaction or satiety.
3. The eradication of lust and pleasure roots up human pains and miseries and results in Nirvana, which fulfils the pure spiritual ecstasy.
4. The way to access to Nirvana needs eight conditions or rules:

What are they?

- 4.1 Sound faith.
- 4.2 Strong determination.
- 4.3 Good words.
- 4.4 Virtual deeds.
- 4.5 Straight life.
- 4.6 Real effort.
- 4.7 True thoughts.
- 4.8 Right contemplation.

Any Similarity with Other Religions:

Most of these stipulations are not bounded to Nirvana and Buddhism, but they can be found in Hinduism or Confucianism, and all of them are taken for granted in the Heavenly Religions, esp. Islam and Christianity.

Buddha View about God..

He is Indifferent About God..

Buddha did not think of these semi-devotional measures as the Way for Worshipping any God, but only to annihilate man's sufferings, and to secure his salvation from all his unhappiness factors, and to help him to access to Nirvana Ecstasy, to which one has to dedicate all his activities. So Buddhism is indifferent about God devotion from Hinduism.

People Complained His Wandering..

Why?

Buddha continued his type of life, wandering from house to house, preaching his teachings in a very decent and kind way within the monastic system and its hermitages. People, in consequence, complained such a way of life, esp. for forsaking families and business works.

His Strictness Ended..

How?

But the strictness and hardships of this order ended later when admittance to hermitage came to be refused but to those who might pass a very strict exam, and to practise equal treatment for all priests together with disregarding the system of castes.

His Confession..

What was it?

Also, the elder one of them was obliged to read daily over his mates the confession of the great four sins: murder, adultery, thievery and

feeling proud of having super power, sins which expel the monk out from the cell.

To Abandon Other Sins..

What are they?

Also, they have to abandon other many sins, such as drinking wine, eating out of order, dancing, singing, attending a pleasure show, perfuming, using comfortable utensils, and at last earning money.

Effects of These Principles:

Undoubtedly, these conditions harden the way to be hermit, from one hand, and simplify the family and popular way of life for the others, from the other hand.

Other Three Principles:

But there are other more three principles than those before mentioned. These are available in Dûrme Buddhist Order:

I trust in Buddha.

I trust in Shariah.

I trust in community.

... and Their Meanings:

The first principle means to believe in Buddha and to follow his way;

the second one means to confide in his laws;

the third one means to put faith in the hermits and their interpretation of Buddha teachings.

Likeness and Dislikeness between
Hinduism & Buddhism:

Herewith, it is seen how Buddhism distinguishes between its system from Hinduism and all other Indian religions, although they almost agree in some ideas, such as incarnation or transmigration and, and in some procedures they practice as the way of devotion, such as contemplation.

Buddha has Three Establishments:

What are they?

It is worthwhile to mention that Buddha Shariah includes all his religious or sacred writings with the following three establishments:

1. Finana, which is the Monastic System called Singa, and which represents the monasticism development from the era of the very first monks.
2. Dhemana, which is the whole commandments and laws of Buddha, esp. the four truths and eight rules.
3. Shariah and commentaries of Buddhism scholars who were divided into two sects: Hayanana & Mahayana.

Hayanana means the Small Wheel whose members are very coherent together with the original old scriptures of Buddha through which one has to access by his own effort to Nirvana, and on condition that he has not to sanctify anyone or to believe in any god. This sect was widely spread over Ceylon and Indo-China countries.

Mahayana means the Great Wheel, whose

scholars have the power to amend the old Buddhism so as to become easily understood by the believers who have to dedicate themselves to the communal and social affairs, and to exert their best to access to Nirvana, and to sanctify the old Buddhists and those who can exemplify their type. This sect was broadly existed in China, esp. in the fourth and fifth centuries after Christ.

Chinese Effects on Buddhism..

What are they?

It is remarkable how much the Chinese effected development upon Buddhism, esp. when they came to believe in the Last Day as the Dooms Day in which there is happiness for the righteous people, and torture for the sinner ones, not merely for torture but on purpose to secure them salvation from sins.

It is notable, at the end, that these two sects believe in the four Truths and eight rules aforementioned, and that they distinguish Buddhism from Hinduism, whereas the Buddhist view of rejection sanctifying any God or figure but their elders show the great difference from Hinduism and all other earthly and heavenly religions

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CHAPTER TWO
GOD IN RELIGIONS

Section I: God in Confucianism

It is a Method of Life Without God.

But how?

It is, as a general idea, not more than a way of life without referring to any God words..

It is more or less a method of regulating the State and Family affairs in a moral way. It has no gods or temples or shrines with priests and other clergymen as other religions.

Its Sacred Writing:

What are they?

The Analects or Selected Sayings are their sacred writings, which are ascribed to the founder Confucius. They are the only real sources of this religion.

Confucius Poor Life...:

How was it?

Confucius, who probably lived between (501? and 479? B.C.), as a son of a poor father, was brought up in poverty in LU, China. He ran a moral life. But because of common corruption, he could not apply his thoughts in a steadfast State. He died after the death of Buddha (483? B.C.).He died after he interpreted the old religious books in a way suitable for his own views.

But He Accepted the Common Chinese Religion..:

How?

Confucianism, as a way of societal and

familiar affairs, attempted to construct the relationships down among people. It did not look up in the sky the same as other religions. Its own system was involved with great respect and sacredness. It has so many books stressing on the governors and State.

They care much about the way how to handle the private and public affairs. Confucius, therefore, accepted the common religion known to the Chinese. That religion was accustomed to worship Heaven and practise offering oblations to. He looked upon Heaven as a universal potency in which human power is injected for the welfare of all people.

He and the Son of Heaven (God)..

How was his view emerged prominently?

It was so clear when he considered the Emperor as the son of God though all clergymen of the earthly religions in China and Indian continent were looking upon Confucius as a monotheist who believed in one God.

Confucius, therefore, may be considered as a monotheist.

He was tolerance in adherence to sanctifying the natural phenomena and forefathers and spirits (jinni). He denounced hallowing any person except the Emperor, whom he saw as the Son of Heaven. He thought and even believed that the Emperor was authorized by the One God as His representative on the ground.

Such a consideration is not available in any other religion but Christianity along the medieval ages.

Section II: God in Hinduism

Spiritual Indian..

Why?

From the very beginning let us ask about the cause of the prevailing Indian Spirituality, and why it is so greatly remarkable?

It is because of facing all aspects of natural activities, and of feeling weak before them, the Indian man became highly spiritual and greatly ascetic. He, consequently, ran after heavenly powers for which he was/is hoping to get help.

So Gods became numerous..

And Man of Many Gods..

Why?

It was/is clear that no Hinduist might/may be found living there without worshipping many gods at the same time. He fancies the world as if so crowded with gods that worthwhile worshipping due to natural phenomena and life conditions. Simply, for example, he prays for the tiger that eats his cattle. He prays for the railway constructed by the European man. Even he prays for the European himself.⁽¹⁾

Abnormal Worship:

Why?

(1) Habib Said, The Great Worldly Religions, and G. Lubaun, The Civilization of India, p. 368.

The ancient Indians worshipped the animals, esp. the Cow. They pray/ed for the penis due to believing that it is/was the cause of creation.⁽¹⁾

Worship of Animals:

Why was it common in India?

Totemism, which is built upon believing in a secret relationship between a group or one man and a totem (a primitive sacred thing), was/is the cause of their worshipping to animals. Also, believing in incarnation, viz. God embodiment in this animal or that, made/makes them perform such a worshipping.

The Sacred Cow:

Sanctifying the Cow has another story..

What is it?

The Rig Veda, their sacred writing, speaks in detail about the sacredness they practice for the cow. They, due to Sama Veda, speak about the pray for it.⁽²⁾

This was the general case in the past..

But where was M. Chandi later?

M. Ghandi Preferred the Cow to His Real Mother:

Why?

Mahatma Ghandi esteemed the cow so highly that he called it (My Mother the Cow), in the aforementioned journal. He said that his mother the Cow is preferable to his actual mother because of its milk for many years

(1) Weach, The People and Religions of India, p.310.

(2) Bhavana Journal, Bombay, 1963.

without any cost but food and because of no costs for sickness and death, whereas the real mother does not give the same lot of milk and for high costs for sickness and death.

So Hinduism Has Many Gods:

But how?

Hinduism, therefore, has many gods. They represent all natural phenomena. Indra, for example, is the god of thunder, Agni of fire, Sun is worshipped as the fire of gods, Surya is one of them.

Do Indians confine worship in sacred things?

They Intermingle Sacred & Non-sacred Things..

How?

Hinduism, due to Lewis Renon, has no borderline between the sacred thing and the secular non-sacred things at all. Both things are intermingled together without any separation between them.

It Is Almost Pluralistic Religion..

and monotheistic at the same time..

How?

This religion, as many other earthly ones, has two directions in respect of god: the monotheistic and the pluralistic. It prevails the second one because it responds with the advantages tendency.

The Trinity of Brahmanism:

Where is it?

It is in the belief and very religion of

Brahmanism.

On the 9th. Century B.C., the Indian priests approached to Unitarianism. They gathered together the many gods in only one. They called that process Brahmanism. It had three gods in one: Brahma of creation, Vishnu of protection and Sheifa of destruction. And Brahman is the One of those three gods. This Trinity opened the gate widely before those religions of the same aspect, such as Christianity.

Where is Trinity in Hinduism?

It is seen well when it kept on the Trinity of Varuna in the sky, Indra in the air and Agni on the ground.

The Certain & Public Ceremonies:

What are they?

The followers are/were accustomed to offer those three gods oblations and libations for each of them and in certain ceremonies. They rub the statute with the best oil or ointment or perfume they have, and dress it with the best clothes and jewels they own... They have to perform this either at home in private or in certain public places. They behave in this way or that due to what may fulfill pleasure and satisfaction to the certain god.

The Four Castes..

Where are they?

What Effects have they on Hinduism?

The four societal castes had their effects on Hinduism and its gods. The high classes were

used to worship those great gods in certain shrines. Such a worship cost much. The low classes, such as the cast one, were used to worship the low-level gods both at home and any place. In this way they cost little in offerings.

The Law Karma in Hinduism:

What sort of law is it?

Hinduism believes in Karma, the law of punishment and reward. Every evil deed or virtuous one is controlled within that law. It believes in Transmigration of Souls, which means the soul's tendency to go back to the secular world for certain purposes the holder of which has not done before death. If those purposes are good the soul transmigrates in a body of a good man as a reward, but if they are bad or evil the soul transmigrates in a body of a bad or evil one as a punishment. Herein Hinduism meets with the heavenly religions in the idea of soul immortality. But Hinduism is different from all those religions when believing in saying that Soul or Spirit is separated completely in its activities and punishment or reward, whereas those religions have no such a separation.⁽¹⁾

Mixing Spirit With Virtues:

But don't they believe in any meeting between Spirit and Virtues?

Yes, they believe, also, in Starting or Mixing the Spirit with virtues done in life. They see this process of mixing as the way to end

(1) Prof. Atria, India Culture and Spiritual Aspects.

Transmigration.⁽¹⁾ It is worthwhile to say that this idea of mixing spirit with Virtues has inspired the thinkers of the Heavenly Religions, esp. Islam, with the view of mixing material with spirit. But this idea in Islam is different completely in meaning and purpose from Hinduism since it sees it in controlling all human deeds or actions by God's Orders and Prohibitions so as to satisfy God and enter His Paradise.

What does Hinduism see in Existence Unity?

It Believes in it..

But how?

Hinduism believes in Existence Unity. It says that this life is created from the Great Spirit Atma. This Spirit is immortal Being. It is a bit of the Greatest Creator God. It seeks always to go back to unify with its origin. And since Brahman, the Greatest god, is composed from the three gods: Brahma, Vishnu and Sheifa, they believe in the union of existence.

Undoubtedly, all thinkers who believe in this idea are effected by that Hinduistic believe of Existence unity.

Section III: God in Buddhism

Soul Salvation:

Buddhism Believes in Soul Salvation:

But how?

Buddhism is the same as Confucianism. It is

(1) Prof. Atrica, and also Habib Said, the World Great Religions, p. 33.

not a religion as the others which believe in god. It is a way of trying to secure human soul its salvation from unhappiness and pain. Therefore it has the idea of salvation, but how to achieve it is different from all Heavenly religions, esp. Christianity in which such an idea is prevailing.

It Believes in Transmigration & Mortification:
For what purpose?

Also, Buddhism believes in Transmigration and Mortification the same as Hinduism. But such an idea and its way have nothing to do with the Heavenly religions.

The Prince Against Richness & Pleasures:

Prince Gautama, the founder (563? – 483? B.C.), was a son of the king or chief of one of the provinces by the borderline of Nepal. So, it was not expected from him to lead such a movement against richness and pleasures, and at the same time to disregard religions and gods. But the exciting point in his views and way of salvation is that meeting between him and the poor Confucius.

The Four Truths:

The Prince & His Four Truths:

Let us go on to see Prince Gautama, who became Buddha, the holder of Lighting or Illuminating Truth. He meant the Truth of the Salvation Way through Mortification. We will see the Prince sitting or residing for seven weeks under the big tree waiting the revelation or inspiration of that Light. He is now assuming that

he was inspired with the aforementioned four principles consisting the body of the Truth, or about which, or upon which, that Light or Way should be built:

1. Everybody suffers pain all along his life.
2. Running after lust and pleasure is the cause of miseries.
3. Eradicating that running realizes happiness and Nirvana ecstasy.
4. Fulfilling Nirvana in full comes by adherence to these eight matters or rules:
 - 4.1 Sound faith.
 - 4.2 Straight determination.
 - 4.3 Good words.
 - 4.4 Virtuous deeds.
 - 4.5 True life.
 - 4.6 Strong effort.
 - 4.7 Sound thought.
 - 4.8 Right meditation.

What is the Sound Meditation Process?

Buddhism sees through this thinking and meditation process a form of worshipping though Buddha himself did not esteem it this way.

Buddhism Worship:

What is the worship of this religion?

What God is/ was worshipped?

What form or way or system do they follow?

Buddha saw in meditation the way of worship and even the worship itself.

It sees in Buddha himself as a type of God

incarnated in statues and receives chants..

Hermitage System:

Hermitage System Reflects this Religion in Life.

How did Buddha run his life?

He was used to shelter in winter season in this house or that, even a palace of a king or prince. But after winter he came back to wandering among people propagating his sect. Cells or hermitages are spread all over India. The system in which those cells are run determines the existence of so-called religion in Buddhism.

Buddhism Two Sects:

There are two sects in this religion:

One, Hayanana, which Copies Buddha Character, two, Mahayana, which adapts the old teachings.

Views of both sects about God:

Hayanana, whose followers are adhered to the old original principles of Buddha. They endeavor to copy his character by exerting hard efforts. Nirvana, as they think, may be achieved without any sanctifying any other or believing in any god.

Mahayana, whose followers are careful to amend or adapt the old teachings of Buddhism so as to be acceptable by the common people. They think that they have to discover by themselves what Buddha discovered. The next step, as they think, should be to teach the discovered or achieved Truths to others. They

aim no personal profit at all. They only wish others to be similar to themselves in efforts and souls. They, instead of sanctifying certain gods, see that their elders of Buddhism, and those who can fulfill the same level of Nirvana, are those who deserve to be sanctified. This sort of sanctification is the same as that of gods, esp. they care to worship or express that process of sanctification in shrines or temples.

General Comparison among These Three Religions

When comparing among these three earthly or terrestrial religions, we see that only Hinduism is full of gods, whereas Confucianism and Buddhism are alike in taking no care for worshipping or even having gods in their teachings since they endeavor to spare happiness for man through his family and society in Confucianism, and through his own sect Hayanana or Mahayana in Buddhism, and adherence to the teachings with or without amendment.

Section IV: God in Judaism

Judaism Beginning...:
How?

Judaism is from the very beginning a monotheistic religion. But Jews or Hebrews did

not adhere sincerely to Unitarianism.

Their prophets, starting from Moses (PBUH)⁽¹⁾ until Jesus (PBUH) propagated the Existence and worship of the One God, but they were used not only to get out from the belief and way or law, but to get away of them and replace them with others.

Deviation of Judaism:

to What?

They deviate to incarnation..

They did not leave any deviation away from Unitarianism but they committed within their historical course.

For example, they deviated to incarnation, to pluralism when they accompanied God with the Gods of the peoples they co-lived with them, and to beneficialism along their historical stages.

Incarnation has nothing to do with the Heavenly religions but through inculcation from those earthly ones.

Hebrews' Other Worships..:

Hence, what did they worship?

Sometimes Hebrews worshipped Spirits and stones; sometimes they worshipped the gods of the neighboring people.

J. S. Well says ..

What?

J. S. Well says in his book (The Religion Revolution of Today, p.30) that the Jews were at

(1) Peace Be Upon Him.

first Wandering Bedouins, and were overwhelmed by primitive thoughts, such as fear of demons, and believed in Spirits. They worshipped stones, sheep and even trees.

Reinach says ..:

What?

Reinach says in his book (History of Religion, p.176) that they were accustomed from time to time to have small idols, kept in their houses and carried by them from place to place.

Charles F. Kent says..:

What?

Charles Foster Kent says in his book (A History of Hebrew People, p.42) that Moses attempted to construct one nation of those groups of Hebrews who followed him. He asked them doggedly to worship the One God Jehovah, who was believed in by the Unitarian Akhnaton, the Pharaoh of Egypt at that time.

... and Suspects ..:

What?

Herein, this historian provokes suspicion even in the source of the Hebrew belief of the Oneness of Jehovah. But due to confirmed scriptures of the Heavenly religions, esp. Quran, that belief was real, and it was revealed to Moses and his successors of prophets from the One God, despite what Weach repeated in his book (Civilization of the Near East, p.84 & p.88).

W. Durient Determines ..:

What?

W. Durient determines in his famous book (The Story of Civilization, p.338) that the Jews did not quit at all the worshipping of the calf and ram and lamb, which were deeply planted or dug into their souls from the very time of their living in Egypt.

Exodus repeats..:

What?

Exodus, Old Testament, still repeats their story with the calf, and how they were dancing in bare case around it within their worship.

Snake Worship:

Later on they worshipped the Snake, the wonderful miracle of Moses before the Pharaoh of Egypt and the very great congregation for the occasion (Kings II, 18:4).

Ba'al Worship:

C. F. Kent and his aforementioned book, p.94, says that the God of Kana'nites Ba'l became one the Hebrew gods side by side with Jehovah, and that they continued in this way until the time of Ishaia (Yusha').

Exodus & Jewish Jehovah:

What does Exodus say about Jehovah?

As for the characteristics of the Jewish Jehovah, He was the same as any body in walking along with them in a cloudy pole, when day, and in fiery pole at night (Exodus 13:20-21).

.. and the Ignorant God:

How?!

When they speak about God, he is as

ignorant as any illiterate people who needs to be led or guided by them even in his own deeds (Exodus 12:7 & 12:12).

.. and the Uninnocent God:
How?!

They also portray him in an Uninnocent person who used to repent his misdeeds (Exodus 22:14). And even he orders them to steal (Samuel I – 15:10). He is a cruel god, destructive and fanatic to his people the Israelites (Exodus 12:12). He was even under the control of Moses so as to abandon his anger against the Hebrews (Exodus 32:10-4 & 13-18).

The stages of Worship to Jehovah:

What are they?

It is remarkable that there are three stages in their worship to Jehovah:

Before erecting the Temple.

In the Temple.

After the destruction of the Temple.

They worshipped ...:

What?

They worshipped the gods of the neighboring tribes, as aforementioned, in the time of Kings (Judges 10:6).

W. Duriert says ...:

What?

After a time when David (PBUH) considered Jerusalem as his capital, Solomon established the Temple in which they restricted worshipping Jehovah for generations regardless some

deviations they committed when worshipping paganish gods, such as the Sacred Stones, the Ba'al Statute, the Copper Snake, the Golden Calf (W. Durient, The Story of Civilization, part 2, p.346).

Ishaia says ...:

What?

After the Babylon Exile and the destruction of the Temple, Ishaia called the Hebrew back to Unitarianism and to reject all other gods than Jehovah. This prophet was accused of betrayal by Kurush, the Persian King. (Ishaia 44:88).

Y. Daya says ...:

What?

But the Hebrews did not respond to Ishaia call, because of the roots dug deeply in their souls for the beneficial God. This is the case of the today Jews in (Israel), which they adhere to and even they are running after (Y. Daya, Paradise for the Fearful).

Genesis says ...:

What?

Most of them do not care for the presence of God, esp. because the rabbis always remind them of Jacob (Israel) and his wrestle with god and men, and how he overcame them all (Genesis 32:23-29).

Daniel Gordis Says...:

What?

Daniel Gordis in his book (God Was Not In The Fire, p.46) refers to the Jewish tradition which

suggests that to be human you have to wonder and to ask, to dream and to cry. Jews, under the successive pressure, have to endeavor societal welfare and not God's presence.

Their Skeptic Belief:

How?

God himself does not ask them to give up doubts about his presence. They look upon skepticism as a healthy, legitimate and even celebrated condition in Jewish life. They always see the world they witness as an unfair cruel one. They consider the question about believing in God not the central Jewish spiritual one.

Jews & Christians: The Relationship

They are in contrary with the Christians who say: "Believe, and you will be saved", since they say: "Search, and you find meaning". They seek not God's truth, but God's feeling. The one of them has to set aside the quest for proof and search for relationship. They openly say that mind cannot prove God's Existence, or what God is, or what God does.

Judaism and Islam

Is there any relationship between them?

Other religions, esp. Islam, prove God's Existence rationally and feelingly since they depend not on the sensate or perceptive proof

only, but also on the mental one. It is the testimony of the creatures and being in need both in existence and control to the Omnipotent Omniscient Creator God.

And they prove that God the Creator is different in His very Self from all his creatures. And they also prove that since God is beyond human mental faculty man can neither perceive Him nor know what He does. And they insist righteously that such a prove has not to incite doubt in one's soul, but certainty. And they, ultimately, assert that God is knowable and that His boundlessness far exceeds human capacity to understand in himself.

Daniel Gordis says..:

What?

Rabbi M. Kaplan suggests (D. Gordis' book before referred to) that Jewish life revolves around believing, behaving and belonging. They emphasize that their faith is in part a result of their behaviour. Their Mishna insists that "the reward is commensurate with the effort", (Avot 5:22). This rule differs from Christianity, which cares mostly for belief, but it responds with Islam exactly, esp. in the field of deeds and the Prophet Hadeeth "Reward is equal to the effort"..

Jews Concentrate on..:

What?

In a word, Jews do not make God a part of everyday Jewish life. They concentrate on

'social justice' and not on God's one.

Section V: God in Christianity

Jesus Christ (PBUH) started his prophecy when he was thirty years old, and continued for only three years, three months and three days.

Gospels Determine:

What?

Gospels of Luke, John, Mathew and Barnabus, besides the Acts and the British Encyclopaedia determine that Jesus Christ was the Messenger of God to the Israelites or Beni Israel (Luke 7:16, John 6:14, Mathew 15:21, Barnabus 52:13).

The Christian Belief About Jesus:

In spite of all these sacred writings, Christians do not believe in Jesus as a man born ordinarily, but as the son of the Immortal Father God. And, as a consequence, he is immortal as his father.

How does the Christian belief see that?

Theologically, they attempt to interpret this state. They say that when the Father became angry with the human race, because of Adam's first wrong for which he was dismissed from paradise, He decreed together with His mercy to atone this wrong and then to be satisfied with all this.

What did the Lord do?

He sent his only son Jesus to the earth. It was when Jesus came into the Virgin Mary's womb

to beget him the same as any other baby.

What did his Mother do with him?

She brought him up to be seen as a human one. When he was thirty years old God revealed His Message the Bible to him and ordered him to deliver it to his people Beni Israel.

Did his delivery run easily?

Or, there were obstacles in his way?

His people challenged him harshly and tried to trick him with the Romans. They chased him from place to place to stop delivering of his Message. He went on regardless of their tricks and asking people to adhere to worshiping and obeying God and performing only spiritual deeds.

At last, what was the end of their tricks?

They stimulated the governing Romans unjustly against him so as to kill or crucify him. They wanted to get rid of him pleading badly that he was ambitious to be the king of the country and to depose them.

What did the Roman do?

They responded to the Jewish tricks. They were bribed. They, therefore, decided to crucify Jesus Christ. His disciple Yahotha the Iscoriot was guiding the Roman soldiers to seize him for thirty golden pieces as a bribe paid by the Jews.

The nowadays gospels say that this case is true.

But other writings with Barnabus gospel reject this story. They insist that Jesus Christ was

not captured. But Yahotha the Iscariot was seized in his place after he was made very similar to Christ, who was lifted up to the sky.

All gospels testify for that truth though they restrict it to after so-called crucifixion.

But how Christianity of Trinity interprets that murder of killing and...?

Alright, they believe that Christ did not commit any wrong to be punished, but they see that it was not a punishment. It was merely a Godly process done by the (Father) to atone by (his only son) Jesus Christ Adam and his human race, because of his wrong when he disobeyed (The Father) order and ate from the forbidden tree. Therefore, this murder was not more than atonement for that wrong, esp. after (The Father) formed (his only son) in a shape of one of Adam offspring.

The New Testament Decides..:

What?

God, therefore, due to the Christian thought, is the Father of the son Jesus through the Holy Ghost.

But the gospels and Acts of the New Testament decide three truths:

God is One and has no companion or partner (Mathew 23:8, Mark 12:30-31, John 20:18).

Jesus is the Messenger of the One God and not more than that case (Mathew 21:11, Luke 7:16, John 6:14, 7:40, 8:40).

Jesus is the Messenger of God to Beni Israel

only and not to all peoples (Mathew 15:21-24, 10:5-6, Acts 11-1, 10-28,).

The Triple Shifting of Christianity:

How was it?

Has it any relationship with the original Christianity?

Therefore, shifting Christianity from Unitarianism to Trinity, and Jesus from a Messenger of God to the Son of the Father, and the Religion from private to Beni Israel to Universal, this act of triple shifting is a new process.

And it has nothing to do with the original Christianity. Many Western scholars determine this truth. Wells in his book (Outline of History) is one of them.

Who Committed that Shifty?

Many scholars, e.g. Prof. Dr. Ahmed Shalabi, in this field of Comparative Religion, assure that this shifty or deviation took place because of Saul or Paul or St. Paul, when he courageously added one sentence to the assumed or supposed order Jesus Christ (PBUH) revealed to him on his way to Damascus from Jerusalem. Jesus said to him, due to his words, "Hold up torturing me Saul and call for Christianity". But, due to those scholars, Saul added this sentence to the words of Jesus that he (Jesus) was the son of God. (Luke, Acts 9:3-30).

Paul way..

Paul, hence, went on interpreting Jesus'

words and commandments and teachings within that addition.

Who Opposed or Supported that Shifty?

But his action confronted strong opposition from most of the Asian Christians. Paul fails bitterly to enforce his understanding on them. But he found the solution on the hands of the European Christians, specifically by the Roman Emperor Constantine.

When and How Took place?

It was when that Emperor interfered in the Conference of Niquia (D.A. 325) and enforced Paul's views of Trinity on the Christian Belief in place of Unitarianism.

Christian View about God:

What?

Consequently, we can say that the current Christianity is different in esteeming and evaluating God from Islam. They see He is Father of Jesus, the only son. They believe that this only son forms the mediator between man and God. They always repeat 'No Heaven Without This Mediator'.

But Judaism sees partnership and companionship with various Gods, as before mentioned.

Islam View about Mediation:

What?

But Islam rejects this matter of mediation and assures that only one's own faith, beliefs and deeds are his way to Heaven and God's

Satisfaction, though there is the Prophet's Shafa'a (mediation) on the Dooms Day only.

Christianity Similar Hinduism About Trinity:
How?

Let us recall again that Christian doctrine of Trinity meets the Hinduism Trinity in regard of number. The Christian Father, Son and Holy Ghost are the same in number as the Hinduism Brahma, Vishnu and Sheifa. Also, both of them say that the three unite in One, Christianity in the Father, and Hinduism in the Great Brahman. Nothing of such a doctrine of Trinity is in existence in any other heavenly or earthly religion.

Judaism & its Mitzvah:

What does it say?

As for the relationship with God, Christianity has its own unique path to achieve spirituality. They differ in spiritual fulfillment from that of Judaism and Islam, as the other two heavenly religions. Due to Mitzvah, the central feature of Judaism, both Christianity and Judaism make virtually opposite claims. But also both of them strive to create a better life for the believers. They completely meet with Islam in this strife.

Morals and the Three Religions

God stresses in Christianity on the ethical side of Beni Israel, because the secular or material side was the prevailing one and the

spiritual or moral sphere was almost forgotten. It is clear that there is no boundary between the ritual and the ethical in Christianity, and more than that condition in Islam. It is not clear in Judaism the same as the other two. Jewish tradition insists that one's behavior also creates his fertile spiritual opportunities. Christian doctrine of Trinity has its effects on the moral system in a very simple and neatly packaged way, whereas it is not alike in Judaism. But Islam determines the dependence of morality and ethics as a separate system, once, and intermingled with all other spheres of life, once again.

Comparisons

Mental Faith

Christianity, in regard of the connection of mind and faith, tries to manage a balance between the intellectual sophistication and the deep respect for tradition and faith or belief. It does not look like Islam in this respect, whereas Judaism has not succeeded in the same degree or level.

God's Esteem

Christianity takes God, the Father, very serious but less than Islam since He is one of the Trinity and more than Judaism which cares for benefit.

Doubt in Belief

Christianity relies upon undoubted belief in the Trinity, Judaism does not worry for this doubt, but Islam takes it as the very core of Faith and Belief and all Deeds in the first step of discussing these matters, but later on when believing in God and His messenger & message there should be no doubt at all.

As for deeds or actions of dealing with others the over-weighed doubt is the considered in judgment whenever there is no determined or confirmed sacred text of Quran or Sunnah or Friends' Unanimity or Qiyas.

Section VI: God in Islam

Islam Belief:

What is it?

Islam Religion is built upon the Belief in two sentences: "No God But Allah, Mohammad is the Messenger of Allah".

It is not only a Belief but the comprehensive Faith of Islam.

Three Points about Belief:

What are they?

There are three points in this context which must be discussed explicitly:

1. The Presence of God,
2. His numeration and
3. His Characteristics.

God's Omnipresence

As for His Presence, Islam, different from Judaism, sees that all the creatures, terrestrial and celestial, testify in their reality and in a mental undoubted way that His Presence is determined.

But how?

His presence is determined because every creature in its very existence, side by side with its control, is very in need of the One Omnipresent Omnipotent Creator (Quran, The Bakara Sura, Verse 255).

Also, man's mind together with his instincts confirm His Presence and Potency. They determine their own need for the Presence and Control of that God (Quran, The Yunus Sura, Verses 34 & 107), (The Rome Sura, Verses 23 & 24), (The Nahl Sura, Verse 53), and many other verses.

God's Multiplicity and Characteristics

Later on these two matters will be well explained. But as a pre-discussion thought Islam determines as aforementioned in Belief & Faith that Allah the All-praised is One without any partner and companion. Its doctrine, therefore, is built upon Unitarianism and not at all on Dualism and Multiplicity..

As for His Characteristics He is not similar of any creature or being and none of them is similar to Him. He is One in Himself and One in these characteristics.

But what is the Relationship of the Creatures with the Creator

He Subhanah (i.e. the All-Praised) is not only the Creator of all creatures but also the manager and controller of every one of them by His/ its private order inserted and deposited in whether of the living creatures or material or liquid or gas one.

God Controls His Living Creatures:

But how?

It is in regard of the Texts which completely depend on the perceptive rational evidence, and in respect of the creatures palpable and touchable actuality. But in respect of the contents of Quran, they show the connection of the creatures in their existence and control, with the Presence of God the Creator and Manager. They give the control order of the three relationships which may exist between man and himself, from one side, and between people and The Creator, from the other side, and between man and other people, from the third side.

What does this managing of the three human relationships mean?

It means that man as the top of the livings, is in need of the One God to create and order. This state means that all other less level creatures are also in need of such a case and more. This is the call of man's mind and instincts, which either to order by the Omnipotent Omniscient Creator of them, or to leave them to the estimations of man's faculties, which are changeable under all exterior and interior factors.

We can confirm that

God Controls all Material Creatures:

Universe, as the whole non-living material world, proclaims day and night that none can create nor order it but the Omnipresent, Omniscient, Omnipotent Creator. And this Creator must be One, else there should be difference in creation and order (Quran, The Mu'minoon Sura, Verse 91).

Also, we can confirm that

God Controls Life:

But how?

Life, as the expression of growth and motion of all the livings, recognizes the One Presence of God. Else, it should be exposed in lasting and running to destruction and unhappiness. The livings would suffer because of less knowledge and less control than the One Omniscient Omnipotent Creator.

Atomic System Recognizes the Oneness of God

How?

For example, the process of man's thinking leads undoubtedly to recognition of such a Creator. When he thinks deeply and illuminatively of the atom with its system as the smallest material palpable thing, he would believe in the Omnipresence of the One Omnipotent God.

But why?

The system of motion in the atom either creates itself or the charges of electron and proton create it. But both of them, being in need of the other, and both are in need of an exterior factor, determine the Presence of the One Creator of them both (Imam Mohammed Abduh in his book (The Message of Unitarianism), Mawlana Mohammed Ali in his book (The Religion of Islam), and the English astronomer Hertchel mentioned in Wajdi Encyclopaedia, p.503, all of them assure those factors).

Other many sources

Determinate God's Presence & Oneness:

In this way, we can say that God's Presence and Oneness are determined in Islam. This determination includes His Entity, His Omnipresence, and His Sanctity.

His Entity means that He is the One, the Whole, of no parts whether coherent or different. There is no pluralism neither in Himself, nor His

Presence, nor His Potency (Quran, The Anbia' Sura, Verse 22, The Mu'minoon Sura, Verse 91, The Kasas Sura, Verse 88) and many other verses, all assure that matter of fact.

As for His omnipresence we have referred to before, which means that all creatures are in need both in their presence and control to His Omni-presence and Omni-management.

Al-Ikhlās Sura Assures..:

What?

As for His Characteristics, it is well enough to mention one full Sura from Quran called Al-Ikhlās 'The Truthfulness', No.112. It assures that Allah, The All-praised, is only One in Presence and Potency, and that He does not deliver children nor He is born from anyone, and that He is Peerless.

Other characteristics..

Allah's Grace and Mercy

As for the other characteristics, it is well-known in Islam that every Sura of the Glorious Quran begins with the Verse: Bismillah Ar-Rahman Ar-Raheem, in Arabic, which means 'In The Name Of Allah, The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful'. And this swear means that Allah is not only gracious, but the most of that, which none of the creatures may have, and He is not only merciful, but also the most of that, which is beyond relativity and that of human epithets.

Allah's Forgiveness and Love

He is Omni-beneficent, Omni-forgiver, Omni-loving...etc. for those who repent their wrongdoings and come back to obeying His obligations and prohibitions. At the same time, He is very harsh against only the non-believers, both in His Oneness and full control all over the world and existence. And out of His mercy, He always beware and precautions those misdoers so as to abandon committing such wrongs or to put an end for already or still committing. And whenever they stop that, they have to run forward claiming the mercy from the Most-forgiver God.

Islam says that..

God Is Different from...

What?

The All-praised Allah is different from the (Father God) of the Christians and Jehovah of the Jews. The Father in the Trinity is one of Three, though they unite to make One. They repeat in prayers what expresses truly this meaning: In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost as one God.. Amen.

He is different from the Jews, who blame their God for all mischief and sufferings, whereas Christians expect forgiveness for all misdoings on plea that Jesus has atoned them all through (crucification).

The Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost are one God..

How can the distinctive three become one?!

Regardless all their theological interpretations it is impossible to cancel the Three entities neither in fact nor in meaning of the expression: the Father refers to Allah, the son to Jesus Christ, the Holy Ghost to Jibreel or the Virgin Mary.. How can such three distinctive separate ones be gathered together to be unified in one God?!

Islam Creates One Nation

Other two religions views about constructing One Nation:

Islam alone creates the Moslem Nation out of all human peoples. Jews assume that Judaism created one nation whereas the reality contradicts such an assumption even in (Israel State), where they oppose each other religiously and ethnically, both as members and as groups. The movement of Jehovah Witnesses is merely an attempt of compensation to the impossible composed one Jewish Nation.

As for Christianity they a scribe falsely to God what contradicts the bible. They assume that it is as a religion for all humanity and Jesus himself is sent to all world peoples and not to Beni Israel only. This case is presented in the Torah also untruly.

Prayer in the Three Religions

Are they the same in worshipping God?
or they are different prayers from one another?

Jewish method of prayer for individuals or groups, at home, or temple, is similar to Moslem and Christian prayers. Moslems perform five obligatory prayers a day and many other voluntary ones in the mosques or at home. Christians perform prayer in churches on Sundays only as a collective one and other prayers at home for certain occasions. Jews perform also their collective prayers in Saturdays only and other prayers in other occasions.

Prayers Shape or Form:

Is it similar or different in the Three Religions?

They are fully different: Jews move roundly during prayer once and standstill twice within which recitation of their sacred books is performed. Their heads are moved up and down also. Christians are used to sit on benches to listen to the Sunday preach and to repeat certain chants following the tones of organ. Moslem have five prayers per day: dawn, noon, afternoon,,sunset and after sunset, besides Friday prayer. Each of them has a certain number of kneels, and Fatehah Sura should be recited in every kneel together with some verses of the Glorious Quran. Moslems repeat some invocations of God and supplications before and after every prayer whether in the mosque or in

other places.

Catechism in Islam, Judaism & Christianity

Is it similar or different?

The method of prayer as Catechism in Judaism is well known in Islam and less than that in Christianity. The links of discussion in all Moslem mazhabs (sects) are so famous that none of the history ages was void of them. It was noticeable that those discussions and dialogues became very hot in the prosperous intellectual intervals, such as the Abbasid era of the Islamic Caliphate.

Abbasid & Today Moslems:

And it was not only for understanding the Shariah and linguistic sciences but also because of defending the pure belief of Islam against the thought of invaders of Persia and Greeks at that time, but they could not overcome the highly strong Moslems. But today Moslems become so weak before the modern liberal democratic capitalistic thoughts that they, esp. the states all over the Islamic world, hostile themselves and the fundamental Islamic movements under forged pleas. They allied with the anti-Islamic states, esp. USA to fight the so-called terrorism which really means Islamic Wakeup. They are afraid of the Islamic giant a new, fancying their end though Islam aims their secure from injustice and corruption they are suffering from Collective

Prayers in the Three Religions:

To go back to prayer, we see the group or collective form of prayers both on Fridays and the other daily five prayers, all obligatory, is well known in Jewish Keva as well as the Christian Sundays prayers.

Views of the Three Religions about the One of the other Two

Islam Alone Recognizes the Other Two Religions:

In Torah we read that Jehovah spoke to Moses (PBUH) to inform Beni Israel that He is the Lord and the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. This speech is known in Quran, but without omission of Ishmael. Jews ignore completely any reference to Jesus (PBUH) in all their sacred books. The Quran condemns that ignorance and assures the recognition for Jesus and Moses as well, and without any difference from Mohammad (PBUHR) as Messengers of Allah. Islam does not care for different nomination of God since all the three Heavenly Religions worship the same One God when it is Allah in Islam and God in Christianity and Jehovah in Judaism, although there are some deviations away from the Oneness of God in Judaism and Christianity.

Islam, therefore, alone is the religion of the three ones which recognizes the other two

Messengers. Moses and Jesus (PBUT) and hence recognizes the Judaism and Christianity as revealed by the all-praised Allah. But it condemns the distortions and deviations they practiced in their two religions. Judaism does not recognize Islam and Christianity and their two Messengers (PBUT). Christianity also does not recognize Islam as a revealed religion and Mohammad (PBUHR) as Allah Messenger. They only recognize Moses (PBUH) and his religion but with some mending and changing of their sacred book which involves the Old Testament (Torah) and New Testament (Bible). The Old Testament of Christians is some what different from that of the Jews since they distorted their Torah and added Talmud to it. This Talmud is full of false doctrines and judgments. This differentiation between the Christian and Jewish Old Testament is clear though Christians recognize that their religion is the completion and re-adjustment of the Jewish religion. They, by the way, assume that Jesus himself said (I was not sent to contradict Torah but to complete it).

The Next Life in the Three Religions

Their Views: are they the same or different?

Islam looks upon This Life as a bridge to the Next Life. Moslem has to do his best in purifying his true faith and his obedience to his Lord aiming to be rewarded justly and favorably in

the Next Life by residing in Paradise. The next life in Islam view, therefore, is the immortal life in Paradise for the true believers and good-doers, whereas it is so in Hell for the non-Moslems who disbelieve in Islam and practice corruption and unjust Islam, hence, see that the Next Life is the House of Reward or Punishment whereas This Life is the House of God Commandment and suffering. Christianity is the same in this regard as Islam. Though it is different in seeing that (The Father) has atoned all believers from their misdoings if recognize them before their certain priest. They say that atonement was the result of sacrificing (the Father) his (only son) for this purpose. Whereas Judaism neglects the Next Life to a very far extent as if there is no Doooms Day, and there is nothing but This Life with all its pleasures and benefits.

The Three Relationships in the Three Religions

1. with the creator,
2. with oneself and
3. with others

Islam gathers the three relationships: with oneself by morals., with God by doctrines.. and with people by dealings., together and at the same level of importance.

It (Islam) does not prefer arranging the relationship between the Creator and His creatures by doctrines and worships to arranging the relationship among creatures. If

such a preference takes place Islam should be spiritual religion and has nothing to do with achieving happiness for the creatures by legislation which orders and arranges their relationship among them. Also, Islam does not prefer those two relationships to the relationship of man with himself by morals, food, and clothes. If such a preference takes place Islam target would be only for gaining life benefits or spiritual things.

When does Islam care for the Four Values in arranging the three Relationships

It cares for achieving these four values when dealing:

1. it is the Spiritual Value when dealing with the Creator by doctrines and worships,
2. it is the Material Value when dealing with other Creatures aiming to attain material profits by financial and commercial dealings,
3. it is Humanitarian Value when dealing only with man aiming to help the needy or relieve the depressed or release from suffering the troubled.
4. it is the Moral Value when dealing with oneself aiming to be ethically depicted with the good epithets and virtues within good dealings and treatments..

Where are These Three Relationships and Four Values in the other Two Heavenly Religions

There is a very clear separation in Judaism between man and God, who, as they believe, has to play his role widely for the profitable aspect of This Life.

They see that the relationship with the Creator is so restricted in achieving the Material Value only that all other three values should yield completely. It is well clear in their Torah and Talmud which admit all evil deeds and bad actions. They see that the All-praised God is kind and merciful as long as He helps them to gain life profits, else He is harsh and unkind.. Christianity depends firstly on the so-called Jesus Words "Give Caesar what is His, and God what is his" in separation between God and This Life Control. But this case is confined in circumstances, viz. whenever the Archbishops or Popes are accessible to the high chairs of ruling, as it happened in the Middle Ages and at the beginning of the Renaissance period, they held in hands firmly the states in Europe. Then it depends secondly on the faith in the Trinity, of (Father Son & Holy Ghost) who determine abandoning all profits and pleasures of This Life to replace them with worships and morals. Therefore, it indulges in running after the Spiritual Value as a replacement of the two values

together: the Material and Spiritual.

As for the Moral Value it is regarded due to the so-called Ten Commandments. But the Human Value has more care and regard since those Ten Commandments stress adherence to virtues.

By the way, what we see of good charitable works performed by the societies joined with churches and supported by the states, esp. the commission ones, are a good evidence of such actions. It is remarkable that such activities are concentrated on the spheres of human weakness, such as in teaching and medical treatment..

Sorry to say that all these human activities are subdued to the political direction of the states which care for their benefits, esp. in the so-called third world and Africa. The end of such aims does not allow achieving the Human Value together with the Spiritual and Moral ones. It is, in one word, because they aim political purposes and not pure human ones.

In this way, the far distance among the Three Heavenly Religions is well clear in respect of the three relationships:

The Jewish Religion stresses the Material Value which is achieved not by regarding the relationship between the Creator and creatures but by the relationship between the creatures themselves. This case leads to regarding only the Material Value only on behalf of the other two

values.

This attitude of Judaism shows the far distance between it and the other two Heavenly Religions: Islam and Christianity. Islam does not admit the prevalence of the Material Value on the other three values. It is because God's Orders and Prohibitions are under consideration in all deeds or actions of life. It is well known in Islam that the one has to work hard for his life benefits as if he is living for ever. He has to achieve the Material Value side by side with the other two values: The human & Moral, He has at the same time to work for the sake of his Next Life by adhering to God's Orders and Prohibitions, as if he is dying tomorrow. Islam obliges Moslem, for example, to help any distressed one even within his prayer. It is known that Iman Ali Ibn Abi Talem (G. S. H.) paid some of charity to a poor man during his prayer. Moslem, hence, has to stop his prayer to help the sick one who fell unconscious within prayer to carry him to the hospital. The praying is regarded in prayer all along his action of help without speaking. Islam asks the trader in his shop to practice charity actions and human deeds achieving all values all through his commercial work.

Therefore, the three heavenly Religions are far from each other in regarding the Four Values though they meet somehow in certain aspects:

They meet in the Material value and practicing all actions which may achieve it,

though Judaism disconnect it with God. Islam connects it completely with God the same as with the actions of the Spiritual Value. Christianity indulges in the Spiritual.

Value as a reaction against the Israelite attitude when indulging in the Material One.

The Three Religions Views about the Relationship between God and This Life

Judaism separates God from His Creatures. It believes that He has no relationship with man, after being so distorted and deviated, but as a helper to attain his life benefits only.

Christianity, as aforementioned, depends in Separation between God, the Creator, and man, the top-creature, on the saying ascribed to Jesus Christ: (Give Caesar what is his, and God what is His). The ruler beholds life and its arrangement, whereas God beholds church and its worship. Therefore, there should be separation between life and church, or between state and religion. God, due to their view, is restricted to the church and its affairs, though this case is subdued to the intellectual and political positions.. in the one time. Whenever the archbishop can become a ruler, such as Mac Arius in Cyprus, no religious cause may stop him. Also, whenever the Pope of Rome (Vatican) may dominate the high chairs of Europe, such as what took place in the Middle

Ages, no religious cause hindered him from it. In this case the saying "Give Caesar what is his, and God what is His" would be away of use, and what is God's may be given to Caesar whereas what is Caesar's is not given to God but after consideration.

Islam has no separation between religion and life or state since it is religion and the state as a part of it. God's Orders and Prohibitions arrange all life affairs in man's three relationships. No sphere of life is left to non-arrangement. This arrangement is under the control and authority of the Islamic State...

Therefore, Religion has no relationship in Judaism with life and state though their state (Israel) assumes to be a Jewish state. Really it is secular state and its legislation has nothing to do with their religion.

But Christianity is exploited badly all through ages by states and rulers to achieve their political aims and life spoils. Really Christianity has no state within..

Islam does not separate between life and religion because Shariah arranges completely all life aspects and spheres..

E/Abraham Is the Great Grandfather of ...

Whom?

Abraham, due to Islam, is not the first Jew nor the first Christian, but the great grandfather

of Jews, of Christians, and of Moslems at the same time. He was the great grandfather of Moses (PBUH), of Jesus Christ (PBUH) and of Mohammad (PBUHR).

E/Abraham Was Moslem...

How?

This is not in regard of blood, but regarding religion he was Moslem, the same as all Prophets and Messengers of the One God, from the very beginning of humanity with Adam (PBUH) until the last Prophet and Messenger of the One Allah Mohammad (P.B.U.H.& R.). And this is in respect of the general literary meaning of the word Islam, which means believing in the One All-praised Allah and yielding in full obedience to his Orders and Prohibitions as the only Omnipotent, Omnipresent and Omniscient Controller of the living and non-living world.

Therefore, Ebraheem was neither the first Jew nor the first Christian, as Judaism and Christianity assume, because he came before them both. Glorious Quran says {Ebraheem was neither a Jew nor a Christian but Moslem and not a polytheist} -Al-Umran Sura - Verse 67. This means that he was adhering to righteousness and subdued to truthfulness and not one of the idolater or polytheist.

Islam was revealed to Mohammad (PBUHR)...

How were all Prophets Before & After Moslems?

The word Moslem means literary the believer in the One God Allah, and who yields and obeys His Orders as the One Creator of all the creatures, and as the Omnipotent for that and for all-controller, and as the Omniscient of all their matters and affairs, of all advantages and disadvantages, of all what is necessary and not necessary for every thing and everybody..

In this sense Ebraheem (PBUH) was Moslem. But in regard of the idiomatic sense of the word Moslem refers only to the one who believes in Islam Religion. The Verse 19 of Al-Umran Sura says {The Religion Before God is Islam..} means that the accepted religion all along humanity eras by God from all nations and peoples is the religion which its followers yielded and subjugated and obeyed the All-praised One God Allah, Whom they believed in this Omnipresence, Omnipotence, Omni-science, Omnicontrol for the creatures. This meaning responds the same with the religions: Judaism, Christianity and Islam...

But the Verse 85 of Aal Umran Sura says {If anyone desires a religion other than Islam, never will be accepted of Him; and in the Hereafter he will be in the ranks of those who have lost every good end} means that the last religion God revealed to His Messenger Mohammad (PBUHR) to deliver to all peoples in the world is the only accepted religion to the end of This Life.

Therefore, we determine that Ebraheem

(PBUH) was not a Jew nor a Christian, because he had come before them, and because they decline to false doctrines, and he was Moslem believing in the One Allah, the Eternal, the Absolute, the One who beget not, nor is He begotten, and there is none like unto Him.

So, Ebraheem Islam was not in the meaning of being one of Mohammad's followers, because he had come before him. It was in the meaning which all religions may be called with when they are the same in their Unitarian fundamental origins.. When they are believing in the One Allah as the Creator and Manager of all creatures.. When they are calling for worshipping and obeying this Creator-Manager God..

Consequently, none of these three Heavenly Religions can assume that Ebraheem (P. B. U. H.) was one of his followers. They meet together in this case of Ebraheem.

The Last Point of this Comparison among These Three Heavenly Religions

{To each among you have we prescribed a law and an open way} - from Verse 48 of Mae'da Sura,

What does it mean?

We see out of the aforementioned statement that the three religions meet in the origin of religion. They meet in belief in Allah and

in obeying His Orders and Prohibitions. This Verse adds more statement. It says that all religions do not meet in the subject of Shariah and way. Every Ummah or nation and society is distinguished from the other due to what the All-promised Allah revealed to their messenger and prophet of law to tackle their problems and arrange their affairs. Also, they are distinguished from each other due to the Way or Method they were obliged to follow in living according to those laws and calling others to live with, if the religion is common for all human races and peoples, as it was with Noah (PBUH) Message, and Mohammad (PBUHR) Message... But other religions were private each for a certain people not more.

CHAPTER THREE

CONCLUSION

Conclusion

Lastly to sum up, all the six mentioned religions: Confucianism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam are of different interests in experiencing religion in life, as we have seen in this study of comparison among religions and their viewpoint about God, the very core of any religion.

They look upon Jehovah or Father or Allah each one in different view from the other two.

This is in regard of these three Heavenly Religions. But in regard of those three earthly religions, we do not see the real existence of god or gods except in Hinduism, whereas the other two, Confucianism and Buddhism, are merely two ways or methods of reforming or bringing happiness to the family, society and the individual member as well.

The crucial question now is:

What has humanity to think deeply and illuminatively about? and

What measure has to decide?

All peoples and nations have to think about the real role of Religion in life, and to decide through comparison which Religion to adhere to completely in this life for the benefit & goodness of This and the Next Life.

Out of non - alignment we truly and sincerely call all others to avoid fanaticism when judging Islam Belief and Shariah to know them

really and decide out of one's mental and intuitional stand the position from them.

Undoubtedly, he who would choose Islam and none but Islam would respond with human Fitrah (nature) and with one contents of his mind both in Belief and Shariah. But the one who adheres to fanaticism in following his hereditary doctrines and other religions, whether heavenly or earthly ones, he is doggedly imitating the past and following the heritage of his forefathers. It is merely an easy imitation and blind following. This one deprives his decision from the rational, deep, illuminative research and from comparative, a ware, true, unprejudiced study.

Which man is ready to carry such a responsibility for the sake of that Day of tomorrow and after tomorrow?!!

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Brief Biography

The author was born in Rabi Thani 1350 H (i.e. 1931 G) in the family of the Hawarey of Prophet Mohammad SAW Al-Zubayr bin Al-Awwam RA, the son of Saffiyah the aunt of Rasulallah SAW, thus Khadeejah RA is his aunt, Hamza and Abbas RA are his uncles, Ali and Jaafer RA are his cousins, and Abu baker RA is his father in law.

He holds 1 BA degree in English literature, 1 B.A. degree in Education, 1 MA and 1 PhD in Comparative Religion, and a 2nd PhD in Tafseer. He authored multiple books, as seen on the website indicated in the Footer, including a Tafseer in 4 parts (2 volumes).

This book we introduce herewith under the title (Comparative Religion) is a very brief study of comparing the six religions: Confucianism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. It stresses the fundamentals and the views about God.

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Accessory Information

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