

Crucifixion of Prophet Jesus in Holy Qur'an

Introduction:

This article is within the scope and margins of the Holy Qur'an and does not encroach into other faiths' scriptures and their beliefs, except insofar as their references link with the Holy Qur'an. Islam through its laws in the Holy Qur'an does not lend support to any acceptance of the terminology "son of god" and proves materially within its verses, that Prophet Jesus did not die on the cross. In addition, Islam through the Holy Qur'an, distances all Muslims from the Trinity.

Discussions on Crucifixion of Prophet Jesus:

- 1) There are communities, which claim that Prophet Jesus was the biological son of Almighty God. They also claim that Prophet Jesus voluntarily surrendered to get tortured and have his crucifixion and that Prophet Jesus died on the cross: mainly to free all other peoples of their past sins. Almighty God has amongst His innumerable laws, the law of death and the law of life¹. According to the Holy Qur'an, there are so many verses² which materially prove that Prophet Jesus was a normal human being with natural biological parents. The Holy Quran proves this point of procreation that only a man's and a woman's relationships are required to commence conception of a child in a woman. This is most brilliantly stated in the Holy Qur'an at **HQ6:101** "*Wonderful Originator of the heavens and the earth! How could He have a son when He has no consort? And He created everything, and He is the Knower of all things.*"
- 2) Prophet Jesus was ordained as the last in the series of Israelites' prophets only, but ultimately the second last of all prophets in the historical array: Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*) was the Last and Final Prophet from the total of

¹ Almighty God has two laws in this matter of death of persons: The higher law and the first is the law of death and the lower or secondary is the law of life. The law of death finally overcomes the law of life. The law of life cannot overcome the law of death. There is no return of life to the original material human body back on Earth. Death is 3rd of the 5 phases of cycle of life. They are: 1st is birth. 2nd is life of compliance according to scripture (Holy Qur'an for Muslims). 3rd is death of humans and separation of soul (into *Barzak*) from material body. 4th is Judgement after resurrection of the body to original state. 5th is Outcome of the Great Day of Judgement. That completes the cycle of life only for humans.

² There are so many verses in the Holy Qur'an, which elevate the absolute Supremacy of Almighty God and at the same time deny the existence of son of god beliefs by some communities. Some examples are quoted here as HQ2:116, HQ3:40, HQ4:157, HQ4:171, HQ5:72, HQ5:75, HQ5:116, HQ6;100, HQ6:101, HQ9:30, HQ9:31, HQ10:68, HQ17:111, HQ18:4, HQ19:35, HQ19:88, HQ19:91, HQ19:92, HQ21:26, HQ23:91, HQ25:2, HQ39:4, HQ43:81, and many others as subtly implied denials.

124,000 past prophets³. It is prudently necessary to roll back into history and identify the actual situations of cults, which had existed, surrounding all the regions of the Middle East, about the same time that Prophet Jesus was born. In the main, these instances involved widespread acceptance of prominent persons as sons of gods; the purported deaths of these peoples, then their purported rising back into life again, then materially elevating directly into Heaven, and then living there forever. Mithraism was such a cult⁴. Please note: Mithra was not an ordained prophet of Almighty God⁵.

³ From names of Prophet Adam to Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*), a total of 124,000 Prophets (*Nabi*) were ordained by Divine revelations, but directly delivered to them by Archangel Gabriel, as spiritually contracted. Out of 124,000 Prophets, only 313 are Messengers (*Rasul*). Out of 313 Messengers, only 25 have been mentioned by name in the Holy Qur'an as case studies. Note: that every Messenger (*Rasul*) is also a Prophet, but every Prophet (*Nabi*) is not a Messenger. All of these 124,000 prophets were regular human beings who must eat food, drink water, breath air and need atmospheric pressure to stay alive. The figure of 124,000 prophets is quoted in Hadith No 21257 of *Musnad ibn Hanbal*. Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*) was the Last and Final Prophet and after his death in 632AD, that sealed off all prophets of any description whatsoever being ordained by Divine revelations, to serve humanity on earth. This is stated in the Holy Qur'an at **HQ33:40** "*Muhammad is not the father of any of your men, but he is the Messenger of Allah and the Seal of the prophets. And Allah is ever Knower of all things.*" Seal means total shutting off arrival of any prophet of whatsoever description: No new prophet and no re-entry of any of the past 124,000 prophets will eventuate.

⁴ The term cult usually refers to a social group defined by its religious, spiritual, or philosophical beliefs, or its common interest in a particular personality, object or goal, which then spreads to other people.

⁵ Mithraism, which had commenced in Persia around 1400BC and spread widely eastwards to India, westwards to all regions surrounding the Mediterranean Seas and northwards to all regions surrounding the Black Sea, the Caspian Sea, the Aral Sea and the Adriatic Sea, and so became a common cult. In a legendary nutshell, Mithra's mother Anahita was directly impregnated by a god and Mithra was born inside a rock cave on 25th December BC. Upon Mithra's birth, they were visited by three Persian historians who brought with them costly gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. The date 25th December BC was a special Persian festival to commemorate Winter Solstice, which attracted large crowds of people annually. Winter Solstice is after the 3rd week of December, when the night is longest and the day is shortest. In Northern Hemisphere, Winter Solstice can vary between 21st to 25th December. This is because of the tilt of the earth at 28.5-deg. Legend says that Mithra lived and had twelve close associates as his disciples, with each disciple representing one of the twelve signs of the astrological Zodiac. There was a last supper of his close associates, the night before the event of the Spring Equinox. Mithra died at age of 33, and his body was placed inside a rock tomb and Mithra then arose from the dead after 3 days and elevated directly into Heaven and seated next to the god who fathered him. After Mithraism penetrated the regions of the Roman Empire, it quickly became the official State religion of the Government of Rome. Many Roman senators were followers of Mithraism and this allowed Mithraism to further penetrate into Europe and England. Mithra has been expressly mentioned in the Hindus' scripture the Rig Veda, together with Varuna (a Hindu god, as Ruler of the sky and the seas), as part of the Indo-Iranian historical reporting. Much of existing Mithraism infrastructure was destroyed throughout the conquered routing taken from Greece to India, when the massive cumulative army of Alexander the Great conquered the Persian Empire in 334BC. Mithraism was also State religion of Persia. There have been found over 480 underground Mithra temples throughout the regions of spread of Mithraism. There is rather surprisingly, very close similarities with some aspects of Christianity. In history, the Persian Empire was the biggest Empire of past times, which also facilitated spread of Mithraism from Asian countries to surrounding Mediterranean countries.

- 3) The mighty Persian Empire had facilitated the spread of Mithraism by its past Rulers⁶. After Mithraism had been accepted as the official State Religion of the Government of Rome, the Romans introduced Mithraism into every country they invaded. To date there are new underground Mithra temples discovered in England. These temples are also being restored⁷. It becomes increasingly conclusive of the very close similarities between the ancient Mithra cult of Persia and the life of Prophet Jesus described in other communities' scriptures. It is imperative for all Muslims, to place the entire life of Prophet Jesus into correct Islamic perspective.
- 4) According to the Holy Qur'an, Prophet Jesus was not born in a stable on 25th December but very likely in the middle of the year, when dates fully ripen in the Middle East. That is June to October. Again, according to the revealed Holy Qur'an, Prophet Jesus was born amongst a clump of date palms in a remote part of the eastern (Judean) desert. This material evidence is stated in the Holy Qur'an at **HQ19:21-26**, which states *"He said: So (it will be). Your Lord says: It is easy to Me; and that We may make him a sign to people and a mercy from Us. And it is a matter decreed. Then she conceived him⁸, and withdrew with him to a remote place⁹. And the pains of childbirth drove her to the trunk of a palm-tree. She said: Oh, I wish I had died before this¹⁰, and had been a thing quite forgotten! So a voice came to her from beneath her¹¹: Do not grieve, surely your Lord has provided a stream beneath you. And shake towards you the trunk of the palm-tree, it will drop on you fresh ripe dates. So eat and drink and be comforted. Then if you see any mortal, say: Surely I have vowed a fast to the Beneficent, so I will not speak to anyone today."*
- 5) Other revealed evidences of verses from the Holy Qur'an establish that Prophet Jesus was a normally conceived person, born as any normal human and lived a normal life as would any other regular human being from infancy through to adulthood. The Holy Qur'an establishes that a

⁶ The past Rulers of Persian Empire were Cyrus the Great, king of Persia, founder of the greatness of the Achaemenids and of the Persian Empire (c. 559–529 B.C.) Darius I (Darius the Great), king of ancient Persia (521–486 B.C.) Xerxes I (Xerxes the Great), king of ancient Persia (486–465 B.C.) Xerxes II, king of ancient Persia (424 B.C.).

⁷ The restoration is not to revive Mithraism as a cult but show to the world ancient Roman influences. The Romans invaded and occupied England around 55-54BC. The cult of Mithraism had existed and was practised by the invading Romans before Christianity had reached England by Augustine in 597AD.

⁸ There is a minimum of 9 months gap between events of conception and birth, as would be for normal pregnancy of a woman. However, all these are scoped within the same verses at HQ19:21-26.

⁹ This indicates out of a town or a city boundary, such as Jerusalem or Bethlehem.

¹⁰ Her exclamation indicates clinically, the throes of natural childbirth experienced then, without the modern assists available in hospitals. Mary was very young having her first child, Jesus. Mary's other subsequent children named in the Bible (Mark 6:3; Matthew 13:55-56) were four sons James, Joseph, Joses and Simon. His two sisters were not named in the Bible; the Holy Qur'an is also silent on this.

¹¹ This was an angel-inspired advice as the voice. The sweet juice of ripe dates restored her strengths.

person is ordained a prophet at the age of 40 after reaching his maturity. This stipulation is in the Holy Qur'an at **HQ46:15** *"And We have enjoined on man the doing of good to his parents. His mother bears him with trouble and she gives birth to him in pain. And the bearing of him and the weaning of him is thirty months. Till, when he attains his maturity and reaches forty years, he says: My Lord, grant me that I may give thanks for Your favour, which You have bestowed on me and on my parents, and that I may do good which pleases You; and be good to me in respect of my offspring. Truly I turn to You, and truly I am among those who submit."*

- 6) That becomes conclusive that Prophet Jesus could not have been crucified at age of 33 as stated in some scriptures, but definitely ordained as prophet at least past the age of 40, after having embarked on his prophetic mission for several years.
- 7) When the Gregorian calendar was established in 1582¹², the Vatican then reversed by resetting of all historical dates and by working backwards from 1582; this created further complications of retaining the age of Prophet Jesus to be 33¹³ at his crucifixion and aligned with Easter dates, resulted in the outright loss of 15 years. To solve this problem, they simply wiped off 15 years (as surplus) of past world records! What a solution!
- 8) Without the need to dwell into the details of the life of Prophet Jesus, it becomes prudent to analyse the moments of his crucifixion, as historically recorded in the Holy Qur'an. The Holy Qur'an accepts that Prophet Jesus was betrayed by his own community of Jews, which also became hypocritical, and then they took lowly action of conspiracy with the Roman soldiers to get Jesus crucified. This is stated in the Holy Qur'an at **HQ4:155-158** *"Then for their breaking their covenant and their disbelief in the messages of Allah and their killing the prophets¹⁴ unjustly and their saying, Our hearts are securely covered; no, Allah has sealed them on account of*

¹² In the past the Julian calendar was most widely used. It did not have the flexibility to adjust to dates to incorporate certain pagan beliefs and practices. Easter was a very important festival amongst Christians. The original goal of the Gregorian calendar was to change the date of Easter from its fixed position under the Julian calendaring system. In 1582, when Pope Gregory XIII introduced his Gregorian calendar, the date of Easter was tied to Spring Equinox, as the Spring Festival in ancient paganism, a festival which attracted large crowds of crop farmers. This was because Easter, traditionally the greatest celebration on the Christian calendar marking the crucifixion of Jesus Christ, was celebrated on a date based on moon cycles. Easter changes dates every year as it falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon in the northern hemisphere's Spring Season vernal equinox.

¹³ This matches with age of Mithra at 33, when Mithra is supposed to have died and arisen 3 days later. Mithra was placed in a rock tomb for 3 days. Hence Jesus should have been at age 48 when crucified.

¹⁴ This refers to past actions by past communities, which did not accept their Prophets' preaching to them about "One God." Those communities continued with their idolatry and polytheism practises.

their disbelief, so they do not believe but a little¹⁵; and for their disbelief and for their uttering against Mary a grievous slander¹⁶; and for their saying: We have killed the Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, the messenger of Allah, and they did not kill him, nor did they cause his death on the cross¹⁷, but he was made to appear to them as such¹⁸. And certainly those who differ concerning it are in doubt about it. They have no knowledge about it, but only follow a conjecture, and they did not kill him for certain¹⁹; rather, Allah exalted him in His presence. And Allah is ever Mighty, Wise.”

- 9) The Holy Qur’an repeatedly stresses in many different verses that Prophet Jesus was a regular normal human, who ate food for survival²⁰ and not a son of god. His mother Mary also ate food for survival. Here is a sample of a verse from the Holy Qur’an at **HQ5:75** *“The Messiah, son of Mary, was only a messenger — messengers had indeed passed away before him. And his mother was a truthful woman. They both used to eat food. See how We make the messages clear to them, then see how they are turned away (from truth)!”* Neither Prophet Jesus nor his mother were any description of gods and the Holy Qur’an makes this point clear in strongest terms at **HQ5:116** *“And when Allah will say: O Jesus, son of Mary, did you say to people, Take me and my mother for two gods besides Allah? He will say: Glory be to You! It was not for me to say what I had no right to (say). If I had said it, You would indeed have known it. You know what is in my mind,*

¹⁵ This portion of the verse refers to the uncontrolled behaviour of the Israelites who took to worshipping of a handcrafted golden calf idol (led by Samiri), during the 40-days absence of Prophet Moses, when he alone went up to Mount Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments (HQ20:12-16).

¹⁶ Mary mother of Prophet Jesus was indeed a pious young lady and the Jews accused her of fornication. Mary was in the age group 16-20 years. That was the age for Jewish women to get married then.

¹⁷ Execution by death on the cross was the Roman law against non-Roman citizens. Executions to Romans was by beheading only (for example, St Paul was a Jew but a Roman citizen, he was executed by beheading). Death on the cross took several days after persons’ crucifixion. See Footnote 19.

¹⁸ After all the physical difficulties Prophet Jesus had encountered, he went into a coma in less than 6 hours of his crucifixion and the crowds of other persecutors assumed that Prophet Jesus had already died. They also had to get him off the cross as it was getting close to Friday evening, which would encroach into Saturday by Friday sunset, which was the beginning of Jewish Sabbath. No working on Sabbath. That is why they did not break his legs and bones, as was the usual practice of that time.

¹⁹ Almighty God was the Mastermind behind this event and the persecutors then handed over Prophet Jesus, who was still alive to Joseph of Arimathea, who then took Prophet Jesus away into a cave where Joseph’s other associates gave herbal treatment over 3 days to revive him from the coma. After his revival, Jesus walked out of the chamber straight to his waiting mother Mary and Mary Magdalene.

²⁰ Some of the many verses in the Holy Quran include: HQ5:75, HQ17:111, HQ4:155-158, HQ4:171, HQ2:116, HQ2:253, HQ5:72, HQ5:116, HQ6:101, HQ10:68, HQ19:92 and HQ9:30-31.

and I do not know what is in Your mind. Surely You are the great Knower of the unseen.”

- 10)** As always, Almighty God makes certain that all His genuine Prophets are very well-recognised with certain features, which makes them unique and sufficient to draw attention of the communities. Prophet Jesus was no exception and he was very well endowed with extraordinary powers, blessed by Almighty God. Some examples are quoted in the Holy Qur’an at **HQ3:48-51** *“And He will teach him the Book and the Wisdom and the Torah and the Gospel, and (make him) a messenger to the Children of Israel (saying): I have come to you with a sign from your Lord, that I determine for you out of dust (a thing) like the form of a bird, then I breathe into it and it becomes a bird with Allah’s permission, and I heal the blind and the leprous, and bring the dead to life with Allah’s permission; and I inform you of what you should eat and what you should store in your houses. Surely there is a sign in this for you, if you are believers. And (I have come) verifying what is (already) before me of the Torah, and I allow you part of what was forbidden to you; and I have come to you with a sign from your Lord, so keep your duty to Allah and obey me. Surely Allah is my Lord and your Lord, so serve Him. This is the right path.”*
- 11)** Islam, through the Holy Qur’an warns all Muslims, not to accept and believe the following statements: that Prophet Jesus was son of god and that Prophet Jesus died on the cross upon his crucifixion and that there is such a concept as Trinity. These points have been stressed in the Holy Qur’an at **HQ4:171** *“O People of the Book, do not exaggerate in the matter of your religion nor speak anything about Allah but the truth. The Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, is only a messenger of Allah and His word which He communicated to Mary and a mercy from Him. So believe in Allah and His messengers. And do not say, Three. Refrain (from it), it is better for you. Allah is only one God. Far be it from His glory to have a son. To Him belongs whatever is in the heavens and whatever is in the earth. And sufficient is Allah as having charge of affairs.”*
- 12)** Pagan practices of the past often involved calling prominent religious persons as “son of god.” The Holy Qur’an makes this reminder at **HQ9:30-31** *“And the Jews say: Ezra is the son of Allah; and the Christians say: The Messiah is the son of Allah. These are the words of their mouths. They imitate the saying of those who disbelieved before. Allah’s curse be on them! How they are turned away (from truth)! They take their doctors of law and their monks for lords besides Allah, and (also) the Messiah, son of Mary. And they were enjoined that they should serve one God only — there is no god but He. Glory be to Him from what they set up as partners (with Him)!”*

13) The Holy Qur'an is the final revealed scripture and not the diary of day to day reporting all about Prophet Jesus. In addition to numerous other matters, the Holy Qur'an puts the life of Prophet Jesus in a nutshell, regarding his normal human conception, his birth in the desert, and his being ordained as Prophet Jesus. Rather importantly, the Holy Qur'an mentions the names of only 25 revealed Prophets and each prophet's mention comes with briefs of certain phases of his life, as case studies for humanity of subsequent times. Prophet Jesus was a normal human being, he was born with normal human conception, his life cycle has been covered fully, and his name is mentioned in the Holy Qur'an 25 times, and finally his bodily death in this world and his burial, also in this world. This is stated as directly revealed evidence in the Holy Qur'an at **HQ23:50** "*And We made the son of Mary and his mother a sign, and We gave them refuge on a lofty ground having meadows and springs.*" Of all the women's names mentioned in the Holy Qur'an, the name of Mary as the mother of Prophet Jesus is most numerous mentioned 31 times. Chapter 19²¹ of the Holy Qur'an has been dedicated to Mary, the mother of Prophet Jesus. Notwithstanding all these outstanding features, they still do not falsely conclude that prophet Jesus was a "son of god."

Conclusions on Crucifixion of Prophet Jesus:

- a)** Mary²², the mother of Prophet Jesus was indeed a righteous lady and she was normally impregnated by her husband Joseph. She was not guilty of fornication. Therefore Prophet Jesus was not a son of god.
- b)** Prophet Jesus was unfairly tried by his persecutors and notwithstanding that he was found not guilty, Prophet Jesus was condemned to death and nailed to the cross by the Roman soldiers, following conspiracy by the Jews.
- c)** Prophet Jesus was on the cross, appeared to have died but his persecutors did not kill him and he survived his crucifixion. The Holy Qur'an states so.
- d)** After Prophet Jesus recovered from a state of coma, he walked out of the rock chamber and left that region permanently, walking over the mountain, away and towards the east of Jerusalem.
- e)** Islam forbids all Muslims from belief and acceptance of the Trinity.

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²¹ Chapter 19 of the Holy Qur'an is called Maryam. There are 96 verses in that Chapter, scoping Mary's pious lifestyle. In addition, the Chapter outlines the Abrahamic descent of Zacharias, including his son John the Baptist as the second last prophet of the Israelites and who was also a cousin of Prophet Jesus.

²² Mary, the mother of Prophet Jesus was a descendant from the tribe of Levi (out of the Twelve Tribes of Israel) and she was of priestly class, who consumed much of their time inside synagogues at prayer.