

SIMILARITIES BETWEEN HINDUISM AND ISLAM – PART 2

by Dr Zakir Naik

LESSON 1 – MUHAMMAD (PBUH) IN THE HINDU SCRIPTURES – BHAVISHYA PURANA

Let's discuss what do the Hindu scriptures have to speak about the last and final Prophet, the Antim Rishi.

It's mentioned in the Bhavishya Purana, Parva 3, Khand 3, Adhyay 3 Shloka 10 to 27 it says that,

“The Malechha's have spoiled the land of the Arabs. There is a enemy who's causing mischief. I will send a man, by the name of Muhammad to defeat these enemies and to guide the people. O Raja, you need not go to the foolish land of the Pishachas, I with my grace will purify you here. A person of angelic disposition, comes to Raja, and says, Arya Dharma will prevail in the world; the religion of truth, will prevail in the world. I have been sent by Ishwar Parmatma and my follower will be those who will be circumcised. Who will not have a 'Shendy', a tail on the head, they will grow a beard, they will create a revolution, they will give the call for prayer, they will eat all lawful things but will not eat the flesh of swine. They will not be purified by herbs or shrubs but will be purified by warfare. They will be called Musalmaan, they will be a creed of meat eaters.

Now this prophecy if we analyze refers to no one but the last and final Messenger Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). it says that the enemies, will be defeated by a man called as Muhammad. His name is mentioned, peace be upon him. And he will guide the people. And we know Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) lead the Arabs from darkness to light. It further says that the followers of this Prophet referring to the Muslims, they will be people who are circumcised; they will not have a tail on the head. They will grow beard, they will create a revolution. They will give the call for prayer i.e. the Adhan. They will eat all lawful things but will not eat the flesh of swine. They will not be purified by herbs and shrubs but by warfare. They will be called Musalamaans. They will be a community of meat eaters. All these prophesied no one but Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) and his followers, the Muslims.

Prophet Muhammad has been prophesized in several places in Bhavishya Purana. Time doesn't permit us to go into the details, I'll just give a reference of a couple...

He is prophesied in:

Bhavishya Purana, Parva III, Khand 3, Adhyay 3, Shlokas 5 to 8: he's also prophesied in Bhavishya Purana, Parva III, Khand 1, Adhyay 3, Shloka 21 to 23.

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LESSON 2 – MUHAMMAD (PBUH) IN THE HINDU SCRIPTURES – VEDAS

The Prophet Muhammad has even been prophesied in several places, in the Atharva Veda.

It's mentioned in the Atharva Veda, Book no. 20, Hymn No. 127, Shlokas No. 1 to 14. These are called as 'Kuntap Suktas' Kuntap in Sanskrit means the hidden gland in the abdomen, referring to the meaning of these Shlokas are hidden. They will be known later on.

Due to shortage of time we'll just discuss the first four in brief.

The first Mantra says,
He will be Narashangsa, He will be Kaurama, he will be protected from 60,090 enemies.

Mantra No. 2 says
He will be a camel-riding Rishi.

Mantra No. 3 says
He will be Mamah Rishi

Mantra No. 4 says
He is Vachyesv rebh

The first Mantra says, He is Narashangsa

Narashangsa in Sanskrit is derived from the word 'Nar' meaning a man or a person. And Shangsa means praiseworthy. How we know in Hindi we say 'Prashansa'. Prashansa is the same thing. So Narashangsa means 'a person who is praise worthy' and if you translate Muhammad (peace be upon him) from Arabic to English, it means 'the Praise Worthy'. So Narashangsa is the Sanskrit translation of the Arabic word 'Muhammad' (peace be upon him).

The first Mantra further says, he is Kaurama. One of the meaning of Kaurama, it means the 'Prince of Peace' and the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) was the prince of peace. The other meaning of Kaurama is an emigrant, and the Prophet he migrated from Makkah to Medina.

And the verse also says, he will defeat 60,090 enemies. And we know the population of Makkah that was against prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) was approximately 60,000 thousand.

Mantra No. 2 says
He will be a camel-riding Rishi

Indicating he will not be an Indian Rishi, he will not be a Brahmin, because Manu Smriti, Chapter No. 11 Verse No. 202 says "A Brahman cannot ride a camel or an ass." So this means it cannot be an Indian rishi. It cannot be a Brahmin, it has to be a foreign Rishi. A foreigner.

Mantra No. 3 says, He is Mamah Rishi. Also meaning Maha Rishi means a great Rishi or some places it says Muhammad, that's the name of Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam).

The fourth Mantra says he is Rebh, Rebh means one who praises. Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) he was also called as 'Ahmed' (may peace be upon him) which means 'One who praises'. And the Prophet was called the one who praises which is the translation of the Sanskrit word Rebh. He has been prophesied in several other places in the Atharva Ved. He's also prophesied in Atharva Veda, Book No. 20, Hymn No. 21, Verse No. 6, it says that a 'Karu' meaning the praise worthy man he will defeat 10,000 enemies without a battle.

This refers to the battle of Ahzaab, the battle of Khandaq, which Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) we know that he was the one who was praise worthy and he won the battle of Khandaq, Battle of Ahzaab in which the enemies were approximately 10,000 without the battle being fought.

He is also prophesied in Atharva Veda, Book No. 20, Hymn No. 21 Verse no. 7, saying that the Abhandu by God's help will defeat 20 Chiefs. Abhandu means an orphan, it also means one who praises. Both of this refers to Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam). And he will defeat 20 Chiefs, we know from history that approximately in Makkah, there were approximately 20 tribes. So Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam), he won the Battle of Makkah and defeated all these 20 Chiefs.

Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) is even prophesied in Rigveda, Book No. I, Hymn No. 53 Verse No. 9. the same Prophecy but the but the word is changed. It's called as Sushrama. And Sushrama again means one who praises, the translation of the word Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam).

The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) is also prophesied in the Samaveda in Agni, Mantra No. 64, it says, "that he will not be fed by his mother, his mother will not breast feed him and after that he will become a Prophet". And we know it was a Arab custom that the children are normally breastfed by the wet-nurse and Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) he was breastfed by Halima (may Allah be please with her).

There are various prophecies of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) in several places in the Vedas.

He is also prophesied in Samved, in Uttararchika, Mantra 1500, it says that Ahmed will be given the eternal law, Ahmed as I mentioned earlier is another name for Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) meaning one who praises. He will be given the eternal law. Referring to the Qur'an, Samved says, he has been given the eternal law. But since Ahmed is a non-Sanskrit word the translators could not understand what is the meaning of Ahmed... so they broke the word into 'Ah' and 'mati' and now they translate as 'I alone'. So it means I alone has been given eternal law. So if you read the translation it says, I alone has been given eternal law, but actually it should read as Ahmed has been given eternal law. And Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) has been prophesied as Ahmed is several places in the Vedas.

He's also prophesied in the Vedas in Samveda, in Indra, Mantra 152
He's prophesied in Yajurveda, Chapter No. 31, Verse No. 18

He's prophesied in Rigveda, Book No. 8, Hymn No. 6, Verse No. 10

In Atharva Veda, Book No. 8 Hymn No. 5 Verse No. 16,

in Atharva Veda, in Book No. 20, Hymn No. 126, Mantra No. 14.

In several places he's been prophesied as Ahmed, which was another name of Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam), the one who praises.

Furthermore the last and final Messenger has been prophesied as Narashangsa in several places in the Vedas.

And as I mentioned earlier Narashangsa is derived from the word 'Nar' meaning a person or a man. And shangsa, as Prashansah, means the praised worthy. A man who's praise worthy which is exactly the translation of the Arabic word Muhammad.

Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) has been prophesied as Narashangsah, as Muhammad (peace be upon him) in several places in the Vedas.

He's prophesied,

In Rigveda Book No. 1 Hymn No. 13 Verse No. 3
In Rigveda Book No. 1 Hymn No. 18 Verse No. 9
In Rigveda Book No. 1 Hymn No. 106 Verse No. 4
In Rigveda Book No. 1 Hymn No. 142 Verse No. 3
In Rigveda Book No. 2 Hymn No. 3 Verse No. 2
In Rigveda Book No. 5 Hymn No. 5 Verse No. 2
In Rigveda Book No. 7 Hymn No. 2 Verse No. 2
In Rigveda Book No. 10 Hymn No. 64 Verse No. 3
In Rigveda Book No. 10 Hymn No. 182 Verse No. 2
In Yajurveda Chapter 20 Verse 37
Yajurveda Chapter 20 Verse 57
Yajurveda Chapter 21 Verse 31

Yajurveda Chapter 21 Verse 55
Yajurveda Chapter 28 Verse 2
Yajurveda Chapter 28 Verse 19
Yajurveda Chapter 28 Verse 42

You can keep on quoting only references he's been mentioned as Narashangsah in several places in the Vedas.

You can only give a talk for several hours together about Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) mentioned in the Hindu scriptures.

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LESSON 3 – MUHAMMAD (PBUH) IN THE HINDU SCRIPTURES – KALKI AVATAAR

I will just mention another one, last prophecy.

He has been prophesied as the Kalki Avtar, the final Avtar, the Antim Rishi. It's mentioned in the Puranas about the Kalki Avtar about his coming.

It's mentioned in the Bhagavat Purana, Khand, 12 Adhyay 2, Shlokas 18-20 it says that in house of Vishnuyasas, the revered priest, Brahmin priest of the village of Sambhala will be born the Kalki Avtar.

It further says that, He will be Lord of the worlds. And he will have unsurpassed qualities and character. He will be given specially eight criteria's. And he will be given by the Angels a steed horse, a fleet horse and he will ride a white horse with the sword in his hand, he will defeat the miscreant, the evil people and he will be savior to the world.

It further says in Bhagavat Purana, Khand 1, Adhyay 3, Shlokas 25 that "In Kalyug when King become robbers, there'll be a savior who will be born in the house of Vishnuyash. His name shall be Kalki."

He's even prophesied in the Kalki Purana, Chapter No. 2 Verse No. 4, that in the house of Vishnuyash, the Chief of the village of Sambhala will be born Kalki Avtar.

Kalki Purana, Chapter No. 2 Verses No. 5 says that he will along with four companions defeat the evil people.

Kalki Purana, Chapter No. 2 Verses No. 7, it says, that He will be helped by angels in the battle field.

Kalki Purana, Chapter No. 2 Verses No. 11, says that in the house of Vishnuyash, in the womb of Sumati the Kalki Avtar will be born.

And further it says in Kalki Purana, Chapter No. 2 Verses No. 15 says, He will be born on the 12th of the first half of the month of 'Madhav' month.

Now all these prophesies refer to no one but the last and final Messenger Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam).

Point No.1, He will be born in the house of Vishnuyash. That means his fathers name will be Vishnuyash.

And we know that the name of the father of Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) was Abdullah. Vishnuyasas means the follower, the obedient of Vishnu. And Abdullah means the obedient, the worshiper of Almighty God.

His mothers name will be Sumati. Sumati in Sanskrit means one who is peaceful. And the name of Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) mother was Aminah, which also means peaceful.

It says he will be born in the village by the name of Sambhala. Sambhala in Arabic means a place which is of peace and security and we know Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) he was born in Makkah which is also called as Darul Aman which means a place of security and peace.

It further says that he will be born in the house of the Chief of Sambhala, and we know Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) was born in the house of the chief of Makkah.

It further says he will be born on the 12th day of the first half of the month of 'Madhav'. And we know that Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) he was born on the 12th of the first half of month of Rabbi Awwal.

It further says that the Kalki Avtar, he will be an Antim Rishi, the last Rishi. And we know Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) he was the last and final Messenger of Allah (Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala) as is mentioned in Surah Ahzaab, Chapter No. 33, Verse No. 40.

It further says that he will receive guidance from Parshuram in the mountain and then will go towards the north and comeback. We know he received the first guidance through Archangel Gabriel in Ghareeh Hira, in Jabl Al Noor, i.e. Mount of Light and later he migrated from Makkah i.e. northwards and he comes back to Makkah later.

It further says that he will have qualities which are unsurpassed in character. As Allah says in the Qur'an in Chapter No. 68, Verse No. 4, that, it says that

“Verily Thou art standeth on the highest standard of character.”

“Thou art standeth on the highest standard of character.”

It's further says that this Kalki Avtar will be given eight special qualities, referring to, he will be wise, he'll have self-control, he'll have respectable lineage, he will also have revealed knowledge, he'll have valor and strength, he will have measured speech, he will have the qualities of being charitable, and he will also be very kind. All these eight criteria's and characteristics refer to no one but the last and final Messenger Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him). It fits his character exactly.

It further says that Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him) he will be given the steed horse by Shiva. And we know Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) was

given the Buraaq by Almighty God by which he went to Mi'raj, the ascension to the heaven

It's further says he will ride a white horse and will have sword in the right hand, and we know Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) he took part in most of the battles, most of which were in self defense, he took active part, he even rode the horse and had the sword in the right hand.

It further says he will be a savior of humankind, as Allah says in the Qur'an in Surah Faatir, Chapter No. 35, Verse No. 24 and Surah Sabaa, Chapter No. 34, Verse No. 28, it says,

“Wa Maaa Arsalnaaka”

That “We have sent Thee not, but As a Mercy to the whole of humankind. And he has been sent as a guidance to the whole humankind but most of the men yet do not know.”

He's also said that he will guide the people to the right path and we know Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam), it was the days of Yaum Al Jahiliyah and he guided them from darkness to light.

It further says that he will be supported by four companions who will spread the message. And we know the four companions mentioned refer to, Hazrat Abu Bakr, Hazrat Umar, Hazrat Uthmaan and Hazrat Ali (may Allah be pleased with them all).

And it further says that he will be helped by the angels in the battle field and we know in the battle of Badr, angels helped Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) to win the battle. It's mentioned in the Qur'an in Surah Ale Imran Chapter No. 3, Verse No. 123 and 125, it's also mentioned in Chapter No. 8 Verse No. 8 and 9.

These prophecies undoubtedly refer to no one but the last and final messenger Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). He's been referred as the last Rishi, Antim Rishi, last and final Messenger Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him).

SIMILARITIES BETWEEN HINDUISM AND ISLAM – PART 2

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LESSON 4 – CONCEPT OF LIFE AFTER DEATH & DESTINY IN HINDUISM AND ISLAM

Let's discuss the fifth pillar of Eemaan, that is believing in life after death, believing in the hereafter. First we'll discuss life after death in Hinduism. The common he believes in the cycle of birth – death and rebirth known as the Samsara, the theory of reincarnation. And this theory of reincarnation says that Almighty God has created different people in different ways, some are born rich, some are born poor, some are born healthy, some are born with some congenital defect. So how could God be unjust in making different people born in different ways, so they came out with the theory of Samsara also known as theory of reincarnation or Transmigration of soul based on the verse of

Bhagavad Gita, Chapter No. 2, Verse No. 22, which says,

“Whenever a person changes his clothes and wears new clothes it is somewhat similar like a soul gives away the body and enters new body it believes in the theory of Karma the actions that you do are the Karma if you do good actions you'll be rewarded in this world or the hereafter and if you do bad actions you get the punishment”

They also believe in the theory of Dharma, Dharma means a person should live life according to the guidance of Almighty God, if you do good Dharma then your Karma will also be good.

And they believe in Moksha that means free from the cycle of birth death and rebirth. If you analyze that this concept of transmigration of soul or Samsara is nowhere mentioned in the Vedas what the Vedas speak is about the Punar Janam, Punar means next or again and Janam means life, so Punar Janam means next life or life again, it doesn't mean life-death and life again it's not cycle of birth death and rebirth it's only next life or life again. So the Hindu Scholars who believe in the Vedas they say that the concept of transmigration of soul was never mentioned in the Vedas, it came into existence later on what is mentioned in the Vedas if you read Vedas, Rigveda, Book No. 10, Hymn No. 16, Verse No. 4 and 5, it speaks about the next life and also says that you will go to Paradise, but doesn't speak about death life and death.

Further if you analyze the Vedas and the other Hindu scriptures they talk about Swarg about heaven and describes heaven that it's a very beautiful place where rivers will

flow there will be rivers flowing of milk and there will be various fruits it will be a place which is good it even talks in several places in the Vedas in Atharvaveda in Rigveda,

The Vedas even speaks about Nark that is Hell. The description is somewhat like fire and it says that this fire of hell will be bad and a person won't be able to bear the pain in hell.

So the concept of hell and heaven is there but the concept of death-birth and death is not there anywhere in the Vedas because the human being...the scholars they could not know that how could some people be born healthy, some people born with congenital defects so because of this we find that this concept has come about the birth-death and the rebirth.

Lets discuss life after death in Islam

And Allah says in the Qur'an in Surah Baqarah, Chapter No. 2, Verse No. 28, that,

"Don't you know that you were dead and We gave you life and then cause you to die and then We again resurrected you"

Here resurrection by Allah mentioned in the Qur'an is you'll come in this world only once and then again you will be resurrected

Allah says in the Quran in Chapter No. 67, Verse No. 2, that

"Allazee Khalaqal Mawta Walhayaata"

"It is Allah who has created death and life to test which of you is good in deed"

This life is a test for the hereafter

Allah says in the Quran, in Surah Ale Imran, Chapter 3, Verse 185, Allah says that,

"Kullu Nafsin Zaaa'iqatul Mawt"

"Every soul shall have a taste of a death; the final recompense is on the Day of Judgment. And those who's saved from the hell fire and get Garden in the life they will achieve the objectives of this world for this world is nothing but mere amusement and chattels of deception"

The description of heaven is given in the Qur'an. It describes that there are many rivers in the heaven, there are rivers of milk and there will be various fruits, it is a very beautiful place.

And Qur'an also describes about the hellfire.

Allah says in the Qur'an in Surah Baqarah chapter. no. 2 verse no. 24 about the description of hell and if we analyze in the Quran as compared to Hinduism, it doesn't have a philosophy that life death and life again because some people are born rich, some people are born poor, some people are born with health, some people with

congenital defect, Allah says that this life...different people have different tests. And depending upon different tests, the life will keep on changing.

Let's discuss the 6th pillar of Islam. The 6th pillar of Islam is Destiny, its Qadar. And Allah says that Allah (Subhanahu wa Ta'ala) has certain things destined for e.g. When a person is born, where he will die, when will he be born, how will he live like how the questions in the examination, it keeps on changing so Allah (Subhanahu wa Ta'ala) has already destined, how will a person be born, how will he die. And this concept is the same even in Hindu scriptures that All Mighty God has destined, He has assigned how will the human being live. This was in short the similarities between the 6 pillars of Eemaan in Hinduism.

SIMILARITIES BETWEEN HINDUISM AND ISLAM – PART 2

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LESSON 5 – CONCEPT OF WORSHIP IN HINDUISM AND ISLAM

Mohammad Naik: Yes sister...

Questioner: My name is Saira, I am a teacher. In your talk you mentioned about pillars of Eemaan i.e. faith in Islam and showed the similarities of the same in Hindu scriptures. Is there any mention of the pillars of Islam in Hinduism?

Dr. Zakir: The sister asked a question that I have mentioned about pillars of Eemaan in my talk and compared with similarities in the Hindu scripture, are there any similarities between pillars of Islam and the Hindu scriptures? Yes sister, time didn't permit me to speak about all these similarities, you can speak for days together. As far as the pillars of Islam are concerned, it's mentioned in

Sahih Bukhari vol. no. 1 in the Book of Eemaan Hadith no. 8, the beloved Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said that

“Islam is based on 5 principals, on 5 pillars, the first is Affirming “La Ilaha Ilallah Muhammadur Rasoolullah”. There is no God but Allah and Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), is the messenger of Allah.

The second is establishing Salaah.

Third is Zakaat, Charity.

Fourth is Saum i.e. fast in the month of Ramadhaan and

Fifth is pilgrimage to the city of Makkah once in your lifetime.”

These are basically 5 pillars, the first one about one Allah (Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala) and the final messenger Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam), I have already discussed in my talk.

Regarding the second pillar of Salaah, the main portion of Salaah in Islam is Sujood i.e. prostration. Allah says in the Qur'an in

Surah Ale Imran chapter. no. 3 verse no. 43

يَلْمِزِيْمٌ أَقْنَتِي لِرَبِّكِ وَأَسْجُدِي وَأَرْكَعِي مَعَ الرُّكَّعِيْنَ

That

“O Mary! Worship your Lord devotedly and bow down with those who bow down”

Allah says in the Qur’an in

Surah Hajj chapter. no. 22 verse no. 77

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا

“O you who believe! Bow down and prostrate yourself and prostrate with those who prostrate.”

So the major part is prostration. In Hinduism there are various types of worship. One of the types of worship is called as ‘Sashtang’ Sashtang comes from ‘Sa’ meaning. Aath meaning ‘Eight’. ‘Ang’ mens part of body so Sashtang means 8 parts of the body. That means when you worship you should touch 8 parts of the body. Now if you analyze the best way a Hindu can do ‘Sashtang’ is the Sujood we do in Salaah, the 8 parts of the body we touch, is the forehead, is the nose, is the 2 hands, is the 2 knees and the 2 feet.

The third pillar of Islam is Zakaat, that’s charity. 2.5% of excess wealth in charity every lunar year. Charity is even prescribed in the Qur’an in

Surah Al Hashr chapter. 59 verse no. 7 that

“Charity has been prescribed so that the wealth does not circulate only amongst the rich”

This is exactly what is mentioned in Rigveda Book no. 10 Hymn no. 117 verse no. 5 that

“Give charity to the poor and you may never know today you are rich, tomorrow you may become poor. And wealth circulates like the wheels of a chariot.”
Same thing as Islam.

Pillar no. 4 is Saum, that means fasting for the complete lunar month of Ramadhaan, abstain from food and drink from dawn to sunset.

Hinduism has various types of fasting. One type of fasting mentioned in Manusmriti chapter no. 6 verse no. 24 is

“Fasting for 1 month”

Fasting is further mentioned in Manusmriti chapter. no. 4 verse no. 222 and Manusmriti chapter. no. 11 verse no. 204

The fifth pillar is Hajj that every adult Muslim who has the means to perform Hajj should at least perform Hajj that is pilgrimage to the holy city of Makkah in the month of Hajj.

There are various types of pilgrimage in Hinduism, one type is mentioned in Rigveda Book no. 3 Hymn no. 29 verse no. 4, it speaks about 'Elaispad'. A Tirtha, a place of worship called as Elai Spad, Elai means Allah. Spad means place. So Elaispad means a place of God and it says, it is in the center of Prithvi, earth and we know that Makkah is the center of the world. So Veda says one place of pilgrimage is the House of Allah, we call it Baitullah which is the center of the earth and further if you read in

Rigveda Book no. 3 Hymn no. 29 verse no. 11, it speaks about Narashansa, about Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam). So, this place of pilgrimage is nothing but Makkah and if you open and read the Sanskrit dictionary, it says Elaispad means a place of God, a place of Tirtha. Makkah pilgrimage is also mentioned in

Rigveda Book no. 1 Hymn no. 128 verse no. 1

These were in short similarities between Hinduism and the pillars of Islam.

SIMILARITIES BETWEEN HINDUISM AND ISLAM – PART 2

by Dr Zakir Naik

LESSON 6 – QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION – PART 1

Ashraf Mohammady: Jazaak Allahu Khair Dr. Zakir Naik for this enlightening talk on the subject Similarities between Hinduism & Islam. We'll now throw the floor open for an open question & answer session but before that let me make the rules clear so that we can conduct the session in a proper & a fit manner. Please make a queue at the 4 mikes provided to you, there is a mike provided for the ladies at the back, one mike for the gents at the back and a mike each at my right and my left and in the front. Please understand that this is a question time & not a lecture time so please pose your question, be precise & to the point. The volunteers at the mike are requested to see to it that the non-Muslims in the queues are given first preference to pose their questions.

We now begin the Question & Answer Session and can we have the first question from the brother on my left.

Questioner: This one's name is Yogananda. Aahhh.. This opportunity this whole takes to pay the thanks to Almighty Allah for today Peace to Humanity has been seeded through Dr. Zakir Naik. Peace to humanity for the Hindu-Muslim unity so thanks very much for your, very great effort he has taken by going through all the Vedas & other things it's a really big task he has done but still more is there another part of Hinduism i.e. he has touched the matter of Vedanta there is Sidhanta is another one is there that also if he concentrates still more he can give very good evidences & it'll be very good for the Peace to Humanity for the future. Ok Thank You very much, Thanks Allah.

Dr. Zakir: I'm thankful to the brother's comment. May Allah accept our effort! And I'm aware brother there are many things more we can talk, normally my talk is for 1 hour to 1 hour 15 minutes today I requested Br Zakir, I speak for 1 and a half hour & I spoke for 1 hour 40 minutes and I'm aware that whatever we do whatever we do research is just a drop in the ocean and for more information you can refer to my cassettes on Concept of God in major religions, Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) in major world religious scriptures and many books I've written on these topics as well as on Hinduism, In Sha Allah, if a person goes through them then they'll get more knowledge on the similarities in Hinduism & Islam. Hope that answers the question.

Ashraf Mohammady: Brother can I have your name and your profession first please?

Questioner: My name is Sarvan Kumar, I'm working in a bank I understood many Hinduism now only, because most of the Hindus doesn't know what Vedas says but do you agree all Vedas scriptures and Vedas chapters everything is correct then some section of the people in Hindu only learning that Vedas not many Hindus are learning they are not allowed to learn but those religion leaders also not practicing the same what Vedas says. Is it correct then why they're doing like that? Please answer me

Dr. Zakir: Brother asked a very good question His first question was Do I believe with everything what the Vedas say? Point no. 2. The Vedas only a selected few Hindus, learned people, they read others are prevented from reading why?

Point no. 1 Do I believe everything of the Veda? If you analyze Allah says in the Qur'an in Surah Ra'd chapter no. 13 verse no. 38 Allah says that

"We have sent revelation in every age" Likulli Ajalin Kitaab "In every age we've sent a revelation"

By name only 4 are mentioned in the Qur'an, Torah, Zaboor, Injeel & the Qur'an. The Qur'an is the last and final revelation of Allah (Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala) which was revealed to the last and final messenger Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam). Now there was a person who asked me in Bombay also that can I consider Vedas to be the word of God do I consider the Veda totally to be correct? See by name only 4 are mentioned Torah, Zaboor, Injeel & the Qur'an but there were many books revealed by Allah (Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala) now regarding Veda, Can I consider it to be the word of God. Since Veda is not mentioned by name in the Qur'an or in any authentic Hadith I cannot say for sure that it is the word of God. I can say may be it is. May be it is, May be it is, may be or maybe not. But even if Veda was the word of God it was meant for those people and for that time. Today we have to follow the last and final revelation i.e. the Glorious Qur'an for the whole of humankind.

Regarding your question do I believe everything in the Veda? Allah says in the Qur'an in Surah Baqarah chapter no. 2 verse 79

"Fawailul Lillazeena Yaktuboona Kitaaba Bi Aidihim Summa Yaqooloona Haazaa Min 'Indil Laahi Liyashtaroo Bihee Samanan Qaleelan Fawailul Lahum Mimmaa Katabat Aydeehim Wa Wailul Lahum Mimmaa Yaksiboon"

"Woe to those who write the book with their own hands, then say, "This is from Allah," in order to traffic with it for miserable price. Woe to those for what they earn. Woe to those for what they write."

Now we realize that all the previous scriptures of Almighty God by the passage of time they've got corrupted they've been changed. Today we don't have the Injeel in the pure form; the Bible that we have it was not the Injeel revealed to Isa (Alaihi Salaam) they have changed in passage of time. So even if Veda was the word of God today it has not maintained its pure form and all the Hindu scholars they agree so

Allah says in Surah Hijr 15 Verse no. 9 that

“We have revealed the Qur’an & we shall guard it from corruption”

Qur’an is also called as the Furqaan, the Criteria to judge right from wrong. So what I say that whatever is matching with the Qur’an in the Vedas I accept it to be true. What doesn’t match I leave it aside, because Vedas hasn’t maintained its pure form according to the Hindu scholars. So what I say whatever matches with the Qur’an I say I’ve got no objection this part may be the word of God but I don’t agree everything of the Vedas. There are many unscientific points in the Vedas I can give a talk on that which I don’t intend giving. I can give hundreds of unscientific things mentioned in the Vedas. So what I say that this is the Furqaan the criteria you check with this if it matches with this we agree it to be that part as to be true. Hope that answers the question.

Ashraf Mohammady: May we have the next question from brother on my left

Questioner: Okay. I’m Rama Ghoda from Bangalore. I’m an engineer but publishing a magazine called Shudra Shakti. I do agree with Dr Zakir Naik as far as his thoughts are concerned as far as one God is concerned but Mr. Naik himself said that reformers of Hinduism have given stress on believing Vedas, not on Puranas if that is so can we agree with Kalki as an Avtara and 2nd question I’ll come, I’ll come with another 2 questions. if Kalki Purana and your version of Kalki could bring peace with the 2 religions in India, alright give lot of publicity to it and try to win over the people, second thing is you said the Hinduism you quoted the Vedas and a friend of mine also posed a question that in Vedas are not allowed to be read by all, it’s a fact. Among Hindus there are 4 Vernas except Bhramans the other 3 Vernas are not allowed to read only the Shatriyas and Veshyas can hear but Shudras are never allowed to read Vedas they had no access to Vedas so what is Hinduism?

Dr. Zakir: I’ll come, sure, sure

Questioner: Can you call Can you say that Shudras are also Hindus?

Dr. Zakir: Brother very good Question.

Questioner: but you said, you said, Hindus are a people belong to certain area. I do agree

Dr Zakir: Brother please ask one question at a time. The brother asked 2 questions at a time I do agree with you the second question I didn’t answer not because I did not know the answer I gave the first answer. Ask one question at a time you can ask the second question no problem I’m here my flight is 4:30 in the morning. 1 question at a time and I, my pleasure... if I don’t know I’ll tell I don’t know. the brother asked 2 questions and I gave the first answer and when I sat down I realized oh I forgot. I’m a human being I’m not a computer. So the second question after I sat down I realized I didn’t answer. Thank you for reminding. Your main question, first question you said that the Hindu reformers said don’t follow Puranas only follow Vedas so why have I quoted Kalki Puranas if I leave it out what will happen? brother towards the end of

my talk I told you very clearly that I've quoted Vedas as well as the other Hindu scriptures even if you remove from my talk all the quotations of all the scriptures besides the Vedas my talk would be the same. I'm talking about the last and final Messenger not only from the Puranas, not only from Kalki Purana I gave so many references from the Vedas I think u didn't hear if you want, I can repeat it. Do you want me to repeat

Rig Veda book 1 Hymn 13 verse 3, Rig Veda book 1 Hymn 18 verse 9, Rig Veda book 1 Hymn 142 verse 3, tens and hundreds of quotations only from the Veda talking about Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam). I told you in my talk that even if you remove Kalki Purana, Remove Kalki Avtar yet there's Narashansha there's Kaurama, there's Abhandu in Atharva Veda, in Sam Veda, in Rig Veda in all the 4 Vedas I gave, all 4. 100% all 4.

Prophecies I mentioned in my talk only few limited time. You understand brother so even if you remove Kalki Purans, Kalki Avtar yet there'll be peace by only following Vedas. this believes in

Ta'aalaw Ilaa Kalimatim Sawaaa'im Bainanaa Wa Bainakum.

Come to common terms as between us & you.

I know many Hindus respect the Bhagvad Geeta, respect Purana therefore I quoted Purana & Bhagvad Geeta. Even if you remove Purana & Bhagvad Geeta there is Jihad even in Rig Veda, there is Jihad in Rig Veda and there are many things. So even if you quote Vedas my talk would be majority would be the same. Hope that answers the question.

Now coming to your question which the other brother posed that why in Hinduism only certain people are allowed to read the scripture others aren't? And you're right that Brahmin's are allowed to read and Shatriya's are allowed to listen Shudras are not. Are Shudras Hindus?

According to Vedas Almighty God he created from his head the Brahmins, the learnt class, from his chest the Shatriyas as the Warrior cast from his thighs or stomach, he created the Vaishiyas, the business class, from the feet he created the Shudras so this is the cast system which is there in Hinduism which I don't agree with. Even the reformers, Raja Ram Mohan Roy he disagrees with, Justice Ranade he disagrees with it.

What Allah says in the Qur'an in Hujurat chapter no. 49 verse no. 13

Yaaa Ayyuhan Naasu Innaa Khalaqnaakum Min Zakarinw Wa Unsaaw Wa Ja'alnaakum Shu'oobanw Wa Qabaaa'ila Lita'aarafoo Inna Akramakum 'Indal Laahi Atqaakum Innal Laaha 'Aleemun Khabeer

"O humankind, We have created you from a single pair of male and female and have divided you into nations and tribes so that you shall recognize each other not that you shall despise each other. And the most honored in the sight of Allah (Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala) is the person who has Taqwa."

The criteria for judgment is not cast, its not color, its not wealth, it's not sex, but it is Taqwa. It is God conciseness, it is righteousness, it is piety.

Allah says in the Qur'an in Surah Isra Chapter no. 17 verse no 70.

Wa Laqad Karramnaa Baneee Aadama.

“We have honoured all the children of Adam.”

Whether you're born in a Hindu family, or Christian family or Muslim family, if you're a Bani Adam, if you're a human being you'll been honored. In Islam all human beings are equal the only way you can be superior is by Taqwa, it's by God consciousness, it's by piety, it's by righteousness. So I disagree with this concept what I believe and there are many scholars who say this has been incorporated so that the higher class, the Brahmins could rule. What they came in their philosophy, you Shudra? you are a Shudra lower class behave like a Shudra if you serve me better in the next life you'll become a good person but this life you serve me. So this I believe is not the word of Almighty God that's the reason reformers of Hinduism they spoke against this caste system, against Brahmanism, Shatriyaism so according to me if you analyze this caste system is wrong and the religious scriptures should be read by anyone whether rich or poor. whether businessman, whether warrior whether king because this is the book of the Creator, Almighty God. And everyone should know what our Creator wants us to do. Hope this answers the question.

Ashraf Mohammady: Yes Brother

Questioner: I'm... I'm Srinivas and I'm working in a courier company. See I've been searching for the truth for say...i mean say.. say since my teenage itself and I somehow I started hearing about the Qur'an. Since I was touring throughout south India I happened to stay at different places and at different times I used to come across several people who were traveling with me and I used to ask tell me something about the Qur'an and all that and of course I pray to God and finally he has sent Jahaangir Bhai & Kisar Didi they gave me every detail regarding the Qur'an and I'm very much convinced with the Truth the Qur'an speaks and I'm happy to announce that I took my Shahaadat this evening before this session

...

Ashraf Mohammady: Takbeer

Questioner: in your exhibition hall, and See my, I..I just have a few questions to pose to Mr. Zakir Naik and one is still I do not have a Qur'an with me I just hear people reading out Qur'an and out of that I just memorized few verses one of them is Qur'an 17:40 which says, Did Allah give you sons and take daughters from the angles truly you utter a I mean you utter a lie there's a verse I didn't understand this.. one thing. The second thing is what is 'Haroor'... 'Haroor' the companions of men and angles.. something friends...like spirit forms.

Dr. Zakir: the brother is referring to Hoor, Hoor, Hoor Hoor Companions in ...

Questioner: Sorry...ya companions in the heavens...

Dr. Zakir: the brother has quoted the verse of the Qur'an. There's a verse of the Qur'an the brother asked a question

First I'd like to congratulate the brother you're most welcome to the religion of Peace

Questioner: Thank you!

Dr. Zakir: I request one of the Volunteers that please get the translation of the Qur'an of Sahih International, Please get it.. yes .. In Sha Allah. And ask someone to get the translation of the Qur'an.. In Sha Allah I'll gift you a copy of the translation so you can have a translation of the Qur'an with yourself In Sha Allah.

Now regarding your question that there's a verse of the Qur'an which says that you give daughters to Almighty God and sons for yourself. This verse is narrating as I told you in my talk that Allah says in the Qur'an in Surah Ikhlāas chapter no. 112 verse no. 3

Lam Yalid Wa Lam Yoolad - He begets not nor is he Begotten.

Almighty God does not have any Children, so in argument to that they say that you give children to God! leave aside giving children you give daughters to God and sons for yourself. It is a rhetoric question. First of all giving children to God is wrong and leave aside children you're giving daughters to God & to yourselves you're giving sons that means why are you degrading. Because in the society you know at that time in that society sons are considered more superior so why are you degrading God and Allah says in the Qur'an in Surah Maryam chapter no.19, verse no. 88 Allah says that "anyone who says Allah has begotten a son. Laqad Ji'tum Shai'an Iddaa. It is the most heinous thing you can say Wa Qaalut Takhazar Rahmaanul Waladaa. They say that Allah has begotten a son. Laqad Ji'tum Shai'an Iddaa. Indeed they've put forth a thing most monstrous" Anyone who says that Allah has begotten a son it is the biggest abuse you can give.

It says Wa Qaalut Takhazar Rahmaanul Waladaa, Laqad Ji'tum Shai'an Iddaa, Takaadus Samaawaatu Yatafattarna Minhu. As though the skies are ready to burst. Wa Tanshaq Qul Ardu, the earth to split asunder. Wa Takhirru'l Jibaalu Haddaa the mountains to fall down to utter ruin.

Allah says that, if the sky had feelings and if they'd have heard that Allah has begotten a son they would have burst open. If the mountain had feelings the mountain would have split asunder, the earth would have split open. So therefore to say Allah has begotten a son is the biggest abuse so these verses Allah (Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala) he uses many things as rhetoric. Allah also says tell to them if Allah had a son I would be the first person to bow down to him. Rhetoric again Rhetoric that means if Allah had a son I would be the first person to bow down. Indicating Allah does not have any son. So similarly this is another rhetoric used in the Qur'an that if you say that Allah has got son you give daughters to Allah and sons to yourself so all these verses are indicating that that Almighty God does not beget, neither is He begotten, and He does not beget.

Now coming to your 2nd question about the companions the word that you mentioned was Hoor and Allah says in several places about Hoor. Mentioned 4 places in the

Qur'an in Surah Toor Chapter no. 52, in Surah Dukhaan Chapter no. 44, Surah Rehman chapter no. 55 and Surah Waqiah chapter no. 56. 4 times the word Hoor is mentioned in the Qur'an it is talking about the companions in the hereafter when you go, this life is a test in the hereafter if you go to Jannah your companions describing that they'll have all big beautiful eyes etc. and they'll be ladies. Now the question posed that in Jannah if you go to Jannah if the men will get beautiful women, what will the women get? Men will get beautiful women in Jannah in paradise, what will the women get? so this question was even asked to Hazrat Ayesha (May Allah be pleased with her) so she said that they'll get what the heart hasn't desired, what the eye hasn't seen, what the ear hasn't heard, means even the women for their companionship in the Jannah even they'll get something what their heart hasn't desired what their eye hasn't seen what the ear hasn't heard these are descriptions of Jannah they're giving you the highlights that what would happen in Jannah. There will be rivers flowing of milk and honey if you are a rich person you can have river of milk, flowing beneath your feet but that milk is different than the milk that we know. The fruits talked about in Jannah is different than what you know. The Hoors talked about that is different than the girls that you know. It is nothing compared even to Miss World or Miss Universe! That is far superior.

Ashraf Mohammady: May we have the next question from the brother at the back.

Questioner: I'm Pawan Kumar Sharma. I'm mechanical engineer from Haryana I have read some verses from Qur'an in another exhibition hall, from those verses messenger of God, as told to common people, to common man that you should come to the Mercy of God, Allah. And Allah will bring joy and make your life prosperous and if you not come to the mercy of Allah your life will fill of sorrow. I want to know what this here... Allah means? Whether it is Almighty God or the God followed by only that Messenger? And if God is one then whatever be the religion those tribal people are following then Almighty God will bring prosperity to those people also?

Dr. Zakir: Brother asked a good question. I'd just request that the brother who has just accepted Islam, I would like to present him a copy of the Glorious Qur'an, the translation, I'd request the brother to come on the top.

The brother's asked a question that he read a verse of the Qur'an that if you come to the mercy of Almighty God, he will take you to the right path otherwise you'll go astray so is he talking about Allah only of that messenger or did different messenger had different Allah? Brother, as I told in my talk that Almighty God is only One, but He has sent several messengers but all the messengers preached the same message. In the Qur'an by name 25 messengers are mentioned Adam, Moses, Abraham, Jesus, Muhammad peace be upon them all. All the messengers they preached the same message that believe in one same God there is no different God for Hindu and different God for Christian and different God for Muslim. All the human beings have got the same God, what we say in Arabic is Allah, you can give any name to Almighty God but it should be a good name, it should be a beautiful name it should not conjure up a mental picture. So here it says that you come to the Mercy of God means that if you follow the guidance of Almighty God, the guidance is given in the last and final revelation Qur'an then In Sha Allah you'll be successful as I

mentioned this life is a test for hereafter so all the messengers whether it be Adam, whether it be Noah, whether it be Abraham, whether it be Moses, whether it be Jesus, whether it be Muhammad peace be upon them all, all these messengers they spoke about the same Almighty God and they called all the human beings to the same God, not different God. So what we realize the messages kept on getting corrupted so the moment the message got corrupted Almighty God sent a different messenger same as Bhavad Geeta Chapter no. 4 verse no. 7 “whenever there’s unrighteousness I come” but who comes? Almighty God sends a messenger. In every age so here we understand that all the messengers preached the same message but the previous messages have been corrupted, this is uncorrupted God says in Surah Hijr chapter 15 verse 9

“I have revealed this Qur’an and I will guard it from corruption” Hope that answers the question.”

Ashraf Mohammady: Do we have a non Muslim sister?

Questioner: Ya, this question is on behalf of a non Muslim sister.

Ashraf Mohammady: okay sister.

Questioner: Assalamu Alaikum! Brother a non Muslim sister she doesn’t want to be identified. She says, what is the concept between the similarities in worship between Hindus and Muslims alike? Like shaving their heads, like the Hindus do in Tirupathy and the Muslims do during Hajj and the Hindus circumambulate the temple and the Muslims do during the Tawaf?

Dr. Zakir: The sister’s asked a very good question. What are the similarities between worship in Islam and Hinduism and she gave an example that when they go for pilgrimage they shave their head Muslims also when we go for Hajj and Umrah we shave the head. They circumambulate even we circumambulate, all similar. There are many similarities in worship as far as the shaving the head is concerned the reason we Muslims, when we go for Hajj, we have to shave our head is for humility, for humility that we are humble before our Creator Almighty God and normally you know hair is a form, you know, for style. Therefore you find that many men and women they go to have hairstyle, you know, different-different hair styles they have so when we shave we are just showing humility that our humbleness is due to Almighty God only. In Hinduism also they have a similar concept of shaving for humility, it is matching.

Regarding Circumambulation, the reason we circumambulate, people object that if Islam is against idol worship then why do you circumambulate around the Kaabah, why do you bow down to the Kaabah, don’t you worship the Kaabah? And the Hindus they circumambulate and even they worship. The difference between the Hindu circumambulation and the Muslim circumambulation is a difference of chalk and cheese. We bow down to the Kaabah in the Salaah it is as the sign of direction it is the Qiblah. Kaabah is the Qiblah. If we offer Salaah we have to offer in the same direction. Today, if you want to offer Salaah here, some will say lets pray north, some will say south, some will say east, some will say west so for unity all the Muslims face towards the Kaabah. So those living in the west they face towards the

east those in the east face the west those in north face the south those in south face the north. And if you analyze Kaabah, the world map the first person who drew the world map was Al Idrusi in 1154. When the Muslims drew the world map, north pole was down and south pole was on top and Kaabah was in the centre. Later on the western cartographers came they turned the map upside down, north pole top, south pole down but yet Kaabah is in the centre.

The reason we circumambulate around the Kaabah is because Allah has told us, Prophet has told us we do it. My logical reason that I can think is because every circle has got one center. When we circumambulate around the Kaabah we are testifying that there is only One Almighty God. But if you circumambulate around the Kaabah and believe many Gods, then you are doing wrong. And regarding worship the statement of Hazrat Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) which is mentioned in Sahih Bukhari Vol. no. 2 in the Book of Hajj, he said that "I'm kissing this black stone, this black stone can neither benefit me, can neither harm me, I'm kissing it just because my prophet kissed it." This statement of Hazrat Umar is sufficient to testify that no Muslim worships the Kaabah and further more my argument is, during the time of the Prophet there were Sabahas who stood on the Kaabah and gave the Azaan. No idol worshipper will stand on the idol he or she worships.

So this proves that we Muslims don't worship the Kaabah, it is only a symbol it is only a Qiblah. And regarding other similarities sister, there are other similarities there are various other forms of worship in Hinduism. One form of worship known as Shastang. Shastang come from Sha, Asht means Aath and Ang means part of the body. 8 parts of the body. One type of worship in Hinduism is 8 parts of the body, touching 8 parts of the body the best way you can do is like we Muslims do the Sujood in Salah. Touching of forehead, our nose, our two hands, two knees and two feet. Shastang, 8 parts of the body: forehead, nose, 2 hands, 2 knees and 2 feet.

And Sujood is the best part of the Salaah. It is mentioned in several places in the Qur'an. And further more regarding Makkah the mention of Makkah is even there in the Hindu scriptures. The word mentioned for Makkah in Hinduism is Ellah Spad. Ellah as I said is God and Spad means place. So Ellah Spad is one of the place of Tirtha, place of Pilgrimage which is mentioned in Rig Veda book no.3 Hymn no. 29 verse no. 4. Ellah Spad in the Sanskrit dictionary Ellah Spad is, place of God, House of God, it's a place of Tirtha, place of pilgrimage. Same thing as mentioned in the Qur'an in Surah Ali Imran chapter 3 verse 96 the first place of worship was Bakkah which is another name for Makkah, so Makkah is even mentioned in the Hindu scriptures and it says that this Ellah Spad will be in the Naba Prathvi, means the centre of the earth as I told you Kaabah is in the centre of the earth. And further more a few verses later Rig Veda book no. 3, hymn no. 29 verse no. 11 says it talks about Narasansha, the Prophet whose name called the Praise worthy, so because this Prophet is also mentioned along with Ellah Spad its very clear cut that one of the places that the Hindus should go for Pilgrimage is the Makkah. Hope that answers the question.

Ashraf Mohammady: Can we have the next question from brother on my right?

Ashraf Mohammady: Yes brother. Can you pose your question?

Questioner: Dr. Mahadevan, practicing Medical practitioner. Day before yesterday, I attended Mr. Abdur Raheem Green's lecture. There was a question posed to him by a medical student. She asked about paradise. Those who practice Islam, go to paradise and rest of the people go to the hell. He said ..aah.. the answer given by Mr. Abdur Raheem Green was not convincing. Can you please explain? Thank you!

Dr. Zakir: Brother asked the question, somebody asked Br. Abdur Raheem Green that those who practice Islam will go to paradise those who don't practice Islam will go to Hell. The answer wasn't convincing. I wasn't there. I'm sure Br. Abdur Raheem Green may have given a very convincing reply, maybe you didn't understand certain of his points. I know him, he's a very good speaker Maasha Allah. But regarding the reply that will Muslims go to Jannah and non Muslims go to hell. Brother the requirement to go to Jannah is given in Surah Al Asr Chapter. No. 103 verse no. 1 to 3. It says

“Wal 'Asr, Innal Insaana Lafee Khusr, Illal Lazeena Aamanoo Wa 'Amilus Saalihaati Wa Tawaasaw Bilhaqqi Wa Tawaasaw Bissabr”

“By the token of time, Man is verily in the state of loss except those who have faith, those who have righteous deeds, those who exhort people to Truth i.e. those who do Daw'ah and those who exhort people to patience and perseverance.”

The requirement for any human being to go to Jannah is 4 things. Emaan-faith, what I discussed pillars of Emaan, Righteous deed, exhorting people to truth and exhorting people to patience and perseverance. If any of these 4 is missing, under normal circumstances you shall not go to Jannah.

Only by calling yourself Abdullah, Mohammad, Sultan, Zakir will not take you to Jannah. Just by saying I'm a Muslim you'll not go to Jannah. I said in my talk Allah says in Surah Ankaboot chapter 29 verse no. 2 Just by saying you believe, just by saying I'm a Mo'min, I'm a Muslim, Do you think you'll go to Jannah? Allah will surely test you. So just by saying I'm a Muslim you'll not go to Jannah, a person who practices Islam. Islam comes from the root word Salam which means Peace it also means submitting your will to God. A person who submits his will to God is called a Muslim. So the person who follows the religion or submitting his will to Almighty God is a Muslim. So anyone who submits his will to Almighty God, whatever his name may be, he will go to Jannah. So criteria to go to Jannah is having Eeman in all the pillars I mentioned. Almighty God is there, about the Messengers, about the hereafter, about His books, etc. Doing righteous deed and submitting your will to Almighty God. If you submit your will to Almighty God in Arabic it is called as religion of Islam. But it doesn't mean that if you live in Pakistan or live in Saudi Arabia, you'll go to Jannah, No. All the people in Saudi Arabia, all in Pakistan, Allahu Alam, Allah alone knows whether they'll go to Jannah or not. The person who'll go to Paradise, brother, is the one who obeys the commandments of Almighty God. The person who obeys the commandments of Almighty God and I discussed many in my talk, If you obey these commandments of Almighty God, just by name, calling yourself Muslim or Mohammed or Abdullah that will not take you to Jannah it is not compulsory to

change your name. The name Green, is not a Muslim name so that doesn't mean he'll not go to Jannah. We pray to Him that may the brother, In Sha Allah, though he has reverted, he was a Christian so the name will not take you to Jannah your deeds will take you. Believing, your deeds, exhorting people to truth and exhorting people to patience and perseverance. If your deeds are right, your Eeman is right, and you exhort people to truth, patience and perseverance, In Sha Allah any human being he shall go to Jannah. Hope that answers the question.

SIMILARITIES BETWEEN HINDUISM AND ISLAM – PART 2

by Dr Zakir Naik

LESSON 7 – QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION – PART 2

Ashraf Mohammady: Next question from brother at my right.

Questioner: I'm here again brother. Some people call, the religious people call God by his name and some other call, super power and scientists say Cosmic energy and Para psychology it says super conscious, so super conscious that..this Para psychology subject itself proves that God is existing, It is always there.

Ashraf Mohammady: Brother can you please...ahh repeat..

Questioner: What I'm trying.. what I'm trying to say

Ashraf Mohammady: can you please repeat your question slowly?

Questioner: Somebody.. See people call God according to their knowledge, the level of knowledge, right? So if somebody calls super conscious, some people say super power, Supreme Being and all that. So let me take the term.. Sup.. Cosmic Energy. The energy which existed from the beginning and which created the world according to the scientists I'm talking to you because, you know, does some people say it's a fabricated one, it was fabricated by the Roman Emperor, Constantine, in A.D. 325 in Nisaya Conference they fabricated the teachings. And in that they say God rested on the 7th day, I don't want to mention the religion's name. And if the cosmic energy is going to rest suddenly everything will collapse within few moments and I would like to know what this cos.. Cosmic energy was doing before the creation. And right from the creation till the end of the human race and what is it going to do after this?

Dr. Zakir: The brother's asked...

Questioner: after the ...existence.. existence of this world:

Ashraf Mohammady thank you. I think the speaker has got the question.

Dr Zakir: The brother's asked a question that some people call super conscious, some people super power, some people call cosmic energy, brother whatever name you give it, it should be a correct name, if it's a wrong name you don't accept it. Some people give a correct name super Power, no problem, super being, no problem. Certain names may be correct, certain names may not be correct. one of the names you say is that scientists say cosmic energy and one of the religions say that Almighty God rested on the 7th day. You're giving a quotation from the bible

Book of Genesis chapter no. 2 verse no. 2 Almighty God rested on the 7th day so if cosmic energy rests whole thing will collapse I agree with you.

So we disagree with that scripture and regarding calling God cosmic energy I don't agree. God is the creator of the energy of the universe. He's not cosmic energy, He's more superior than that. He's created everything and everything is dependant on Him. So as far as the religious scripture who says God rested. We don't agree. God doesn't require rest. Allah says in the Qur'an in Ayatal Qursi Chapter no. 2 verse 255 that "Allah does not require to sleep, He does not require to rest"

So Almighty God does not require rest. This definition of Almighty God is wrong. The right definition if you read in the Qur'an He says He doesn't require rest and if you give any name which is a correct attribute we've got no objection. If you give wrong attribute, there's a problem. Today scientists are not eliminating God; they're eliminating models of God. Hope that answers the question.

Ashraf Mohammady: I would request our non Muslim brothers and sisters to please come up and stand near the mike so that we are able to identify and give you a chance to pose the question. Yes brother.

Questioner: My name is Kelly Selvin. Sir.. Sorry Dr. already say the last messenger is...last Messenger is Muhammad Nabi. I heard through my friend that Jesus Christ come again. Is it true or not?

Dr Zakir: The brother's asked a question that Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) is the last Nabi, last Prophet but one of his friend's said Jesus Christ will come again. Yes that is mentioned in the Bible also Jesus Christ peace be upon him come again. Its even mentioned in various verses of the Qur'an including Surah Maidah Chapter no. 5 verse no. 116 and there are no less than 70 Sahih Ahadith mentioning about Jesus Christ (Peace be upon him) will come but the reason why Jesus Christ (Peace be upon him) will come again is because Jesus Christ (Peace be upon him) was the only Messenger of Almighty God whose followers as a whole mistook him that he claimed divinity. There is no other Messenger whose followers as a whole they mistook that he claimed divinity.

But the Christians most of them they mistook that Jesus Christ (Peace be upon him) he claimed divinity so that's the reason Allah (Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala) raised him up alive.

He'll come in his second coming as Allah says in Surah Maidah Chapter no.5 verse no. 116

"On that day you be my witness Ya Allah (Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala), Oh God, I never told them to worship me but I said, Ani'budul Laaha, worship Allah, Rabbeee Wa Rabbakum, whose my Lord and your Lord."

So in his second coming he will come to testify that I never told you to worship me but I told you to worship only one God. So when his second coming he will not bring a new law he will come as an Ummat of Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam). He will follow the same law of the Qur'an and the Hadith, he will not teach anything

new. He'll come to testify only to the Christians that I never claimed divinity and he will follow the law of the Qur'an and the Sahih Hadith.

Questioner: you said the final messenger is Muhammad Nabi, again the Jesus Christ will be come no?

Dr. Zakir: that's right. In his second coming he will not get any new message. Messenger means who gets a message. He will not come as a Rasool. He will come to testify to the Christians I never claimed divinity. He'll not get a new message. The message that got, the Injeel, was there about 2000 years back that has been corrupted now Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) came so even Prophet Jesus (Peace be upon him) when he comes back he will follow the message of the Qur'an and the message of Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) So as a messenger in following the message the last is Prophet Muhammad Peace be upon him. Hope that answers the question.

Ashraf Mohammady: please pose your question.

Questioner: Ya.. my name is Ambresh. I got a question. What you think, why God created us? Do you think he created us to send here for test in order to categorize us for heaven or hell?

Dr. Zakir: Brother's asked the question that why did God create us and on the second day of this conference I gave a talk on purpose of creation for about 1 hour 15 minutes. I don't intend to repeat the lecture. One of the reasons is that God created us for the test for the hereafter. This life, as Qur'an says in Surah Mulk 67, verse no. 2

"Allazee Khalaqal Mawta Walhayaata"

"He's created Death and Life to test which of us is good in deeds"

And besides that one of His unique creation is He created the Human beings, who have a free will. We can either obey Almighty God or we may disobey Almighty God. We have been given the free will and Almighty God asked us before we came in this world. "Who would like to become a human being" so we opted for that. You and I in the previous life before we came to this world. We opted for that. So based on that Almighty God gave us a free will. Now after we get the free will we either have the option to Obey God or to Disobey God. If we obey God we get Jannah if you disobey God then you don't get Jannah. So this life is a test for the hereafter. Other creations, angels don't have a free will they always obey Allah (Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala) so we opted for the test. We opted for the test so we are undergoing the test. So based on this test, we will get our reward or punishment.

Allah says in Surah Dhariyaat Chapter no. 51 verse 56, Allah says,

Wa Maa Khalaqtul Jinna Wal Insa Illaa Liya'budoon. that

"We have created Jinn & the Men not but to worship me."

So one of the reasons for our creation is worship and there is the test for the hereafter. Allah (Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala) does not require us to worship Him. Whether we worship Him or not, he is yet Great it will not diminish Him, it will not make him superior. We are undergoing the test for our benefit, we opted. It is like I opted to appear for the medical examination, I opted. So the teacher she corrected, okay fine, and I passed the test. So similarly brother, we opted and we are undergoing the test and for the complete answer you can refer to my video cassette 'The Purpose of Creation'

Ashraf Mohammady: Do we have a question from the sister's side.

Questioner: Ya there's a question.

Ashraf Mohammady: a non Muslim.

Questioner: from the non-Muslim sister. Assalaamu Alaikum!

Ashraf Mohammady: Walaykum Assalaam!

Questioner: When a Muslim is in a non-Muslim's house at the time of prayer, at the time of Salaah can he or she do his prayer in their house? Or what is the right was to do it? And can a Muslim take Prasad from the temples?

Dr Zakir: Sister's asked 2 questions. No. 1 is can a Muslim pray in the house of a non Muslim? As long as there's nothing which is wrong in the house, as long as there's no idol in the front. As long as the place, you're praying, is a clean place you can pray in any part of the world. Our beloved Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said that, it's mentioned in Sahih Bukhari Vol. no. 1 in the Book of Salaah that

"The whole world is a Mosque for the believers."

So as long as the place is clean and doesn't break any rule of the Shariah, there's no idol in front, you can very well pray.

Regarding taking Prasad, Prasad is a food which is given by the Hindus in the name of deities and Gods. Allah says in the Qur'an in no less than 4 different places, in Surah Baqarah Chapter no. 2 verse no. 173, in Surah Maidah Chapter no. 5 verse no. 3, in Surah An'am Chapter no. 6 verse no. 145 and in Surah Nahal Chapter no..16 verse no. 115

"Hurrimat 'Alaikumul Maitatu Waddamu Wa Lahmul Khinzeeri Wa Maaa Uhillah Lighiril Laahi Bihee"

"Forbidden to you for food are dead meat, blood, the flesh of swine and any food on which any name besides Allah's name is taken."

So eating Prasad is Haram. It's not permitted in Islam. But we know many Muslims, you know, we don't want to offend, we don't want to offend our non-Muslims so what

they do, some of the Muslims, they say Bismillah and have it. So tomorrow you'll say Bismillah and have alcohol, after that you'll say Bismillah and have Pork. Eating any food on which any name besides Allah's name is taken is prohibited in Islam. How to deal with them, you can refer to my video cassette Dawah or Destruction. It shows you a way how to convince the non Muslims regarding the concept of Prasad and how to convince them through their scriptures about the true concept. Hope that answers the question.

Ashraf: okay, we have a non Muslim brother at that mike. Can we have the question from you. Yes.

Questioner: Ah. Good evening. My name is Shriram. I'm a Hindu.. ahh... Without practicing Islam.... Do you mean to say it is difficult by practicing Christianity or by Hinduism to go to... attain the paradise, after death?

Dr. Zakir: Brother's asked a very god question. That without practicing Islam, can you practice Christianity and Hinduism, can you go to paradise or you cannot go to Paradise? Brother as I said the Qur'an says in Surah Ali Imran in chapter no.3 verse no. 19

Innad Deena 'Indal Laahil Islaam.

"The only religion acceptable to Almighty God is submitting your will to Almighty God"

If you read Christianity, the word 'Christianity' is not there in the whole Bible. Like Hinduism is not there in the Hindu scriptures. The word Christianity doesn't exist. It's not there in the Bible. The word Christian was used first time in the book of Acts by the people to describe the followers of Jesus Christ Peace be upon him. It was a nick name given by people of Antioch in the Book of Acts if you read. Christian, the word Christianity is not there in the Bible. So Jesus Christ Peace be upon him preached nothing but Islam. Therefore he is going to come in the second coming to testify there's nothing like Christianity. Abraham Peace be upon him, Qur'an says in Surah Ali Imran in Chapter no. 3 verse 67 He was not a Jew or a Christian, he was a Muslim. Abraham (Peace be upon him) taught Islam. Moses (Peace be upon him) taught Islam. Again Islam, don't think Islam is okay fine, I have to have a Muslim name, I have to live in an Arab country. I've to have a Zakir name or Abdul.. (no) Islam means submitting your will to Almighty God. If you submit your will to Almighty God, you're a Muslim. Jesus Christ (Peace be upon him) said, it's mentioned in

Gospel of John Chapter no. 5 verse no. 30

"I can of my own self do nothing, as I hear I judge and my judgment is just for I seek not my will but the will of Almighty God."

Anyone who says I follow not my will but the will of Almighty God, he's a Muslim. So Jesus Christ (Peace be upon him) was a Muslim. He preached Islam. I've given a talk on similarities between Islam and Christianity. And I've proved that even in Christianity, they say believe in one God, don't believe in Trinity, don't make images of Almighty God, God is not begotten. All from the Bible... From the bible I've proved how to offer Salaah, from the Bible about Zakaat, about Hajj, should not have

Alcohol, about Modesty from the Bible. So even Jesus Christ (Peace be upon him) he did not come to preach Christianity, he came to preach Islam.

And Almighty God is the same God for all the Human Beings. He has only given 1 religion, no other religion, All these are corrupted form of the original religion. Like how the brother said Sufism, even that's a corrupted form of Islam. It is not Islam at all. What we have to follow is true Islam, the Qur'an and the Sahih Ahadith. And all the messengers, they taught only Islam. So if you follow Jesus Christ (Peace be upon him) by going to the scriptures. Jesus Christ never said worship me, he never claimed Divinity, in fact there's not a single unequivocal statement, in the complete Bible, where Jesus Christ (Peace be upon him) himself says that he's God or where he says Worship me. But the Christians say you cannot enter paradise until you believe Jesus Christ died for your sin. He was Almighty God. There's not a single unequivocal statement in the complete Bible where Jesus Christ (Peace be upon him) himself says that he's God or where he says worship me. If any Christian can show me any statement in the Bible where Jesus Christ (Peace be upon him) himself says that I am God or where he says worship me, I'm ready to accept Christianity today.

In fact Jesus Christ (Peace be upon him) said, it's mentioned in the Gospel of John Chapter no. 14 v no. 28 he said
"My Father is Greater than I"

Gospel of John Chapter no. 10 verse no. 29
"My father is greater than All."

Gospel of Matthew Chapter no. 12 verse no. 28
"I with the sprit of God, I cast out Devil."

Gospel of Luke Chapter no. 11 verse no. 20
"I with the finger of God cast out of Devil"

Gospel of John Chapter no. 5 verse no. 30
"I can of my own self do nothing, as I hear I judge and my judgment is just for I seek not my will but the will of my father."

He submitted his will to Almighty God. He was a Muslim.

It's clearly mentioned in the book of Acts Chapter no. 2 verse no. 22 he said

"Ye men of Israel listen to this, Jesus of Nazareth, A man approved of God amongst you by wonders and miracles which God did by him and you were witnessed to it"

A man approved of God amongst you by wonders and miracles which God did by him and you were witnessed to it. So if you say a Christian means a person who follows the teachings of Jesus Christ (Peace be upon him) then I say we Muslims are more Christian than the Christians themselves.

The Bible says don't have pork; the bible says women should cover their head. It's mentioned in the 1st Corinthians, 1st Corinthians Chapter No. 11 verse no. 5 to 7

“The woman who does not cover her head, her head should be shaved off”

So brother, all the messengers of Almighty God they taught nothing but Islam. Islam is submitting your will to Almighty God. So if you submit your will to Almighty God, you'll go to Paradise, if you don't submit you'll not go. Hope that answers the question.

Ashraf Mohammady: we have time for one last question. If we have a non Muslim brother. Yes. You can ask a question.

Questioner: Ah... Respected Sir, my question is...

Ashraf Mohammady: can you please speak slowly and, in the mike, so that we can hear the question clearly.

Questioner: I want to know your description, like you know, like Qur'an's description of Heaven.

Dr. Zakir: Brother wants to know the Qur'an's description of heaven. And I mentioned in short. Heaven is a place, it's called as Jannah. The translation of Jannah in Arabic into English is Garden. It's talking about bliss, a place of bliss where it gives a description that there'll be rivers flowing beneath your feet. Rivers of honey, rivers of milk. Talking about fruits, Pomegranates etc. this place is your reward in the next life.

Questioner: Sir, Respected Sir.

Dr. Zakir: yes, you said you wanted the description of Jannah.

Questioner: Ah.. yes sir, respected sir, how will we be in heaven? Like we'll be like normal human beings or like. I mean

Dr. Zakir: Haan...! The brother's asked how

Questioner: and one more thing sir, like, if we cant find heaven here, I don't think we'll be able to find heaven anywhere. I mean..I just want an opinion.

Dr. Zakir: The brother's... how will we be, how will be? Will be the same? Brother here we require many things there it is different. We will not be the same there we'll be in a different form. How we'll be Allahu Alam. We'll be different we won't have these evil thoughts coming. If you enter Jannah,

Questioner: I'm talking about ears, like, eyes and nose our, our mind or our soul as such, I mean as you described. How will it be?

Dr. Zakir: that you'll come to know, In Sha Allah, when you go to Jannah. So you and I pray that we go to Jannah, In Sha Allah.

Questioner: then, then you're taking me to some place where.. like... you don't have any description. I mean...

Dr. Zakir: Sorry?

Questioner: you're taking me to some place which you can't describe... I mean, how...

Dr. Zakir: that's what I told you. You asked me the description, I started giving the description then you told me not of the place, how will I be? How will I be? Will I have a beard? Will I be young?

Questioner: No, I'm not talking beard or anything as such. I'm talking about your, your soul, your mind.

Dr. Zakir: Our soul will be there. Allah says in the Qur'an in Surah Ale Imran Chapter no.3 verse 185

"Kullu Nafsin Zaaa'iqatul Mawt"

"Every soul shall taste death."

Our soul will be there, our body will not be there. Our soul is there, will be there but how we'll be resurrected, like a old woman who dies at the age of 80 how will she be resurrected? Young or old? Allahu Alam. It'll be different.

Questioner: I mean, I'm not talking about the body as such, okay you're talking about the soul.

Dr Zakir: Soul will be there.

Questioner: you're telling soul is responsible for everything; soul is responsible for all this thinking,

Dr. Zakir: that's it.

Questioner: ...for all these actions and all these things.

Dr. Zakir: that's right brother.

Questioner: I mean how do you, if I go to heaven I'll think about like I have 70 virgins whom I can have sex, okay. I can think of like I can have some other place better than heaven. I mean it'll be like going on. I mean.. how can.. how will it end? And basically the evils are due to man's error. I mean...

Dr. Zakir: that's right!

Questioner: how.. how I'm sure in the heaven...I mean.. I'll be happy with the same mind and soul?

Dr. Zakir Naik: That's what I told you brother, how you'll be sure? I told you if this book, there's something like logic. If I verify this book, 80% of this book, I have verified to be 100% correct. Remaining 20% is ambiguous. Neither right neither wrong. So I as a person of logic and a medical Doctor, my logic says that when 80% is 100% correct, 20% is ambiguous. Ambiguous, not known.

Questioner: If we yet Sir, like, any, any religious book is ... is difficult to refute.. I mean you take Hindu...

Dr. Zakir: Brother you're saying it's difficult to refute, you can hear my video cassettes, you can hear my video cassette, I had a debate with Dr. William Campbell in Chicago on the topic of Qur'an and Bible in the light of science. You see, If I want I can refute many books but today my job here is not to refute, to come to common terms. If I want I can give a talk on the differences in Hinduism. I can speak about the scientific errors in Hinduism, in the Bible. My job is not that. What I have done is a presentation on the commonalities in Islam and Hinduism. What I've spoken is the established truth what is mentioned in the Vedas. I have picked it up and presented to the people. If you agree with Vedas, you follow. If you don't agree the choice is yours. So even the Vedas speak about the Swarg, about Narg. About heaven & hell. You like it you accept it, don't like it don't accept it. We'll come to know on the Day of Judgment who's right.

Chairman: Thank you very much brothers and sisters! Jazaak Allahu Khair. Now I request Brother Green to make a vote of thanks. Brother Green.

Abdur Raheem Green: I would like to thank the people of Chennai to have coming for this marvelous talk by Dr. Zakir Naik. We learnt a lot tonight, Alhamdulillah. And I hope we are all going to use this knowledge for the benefit to... In Sha Allah let other people know about this beautiful religion of Islam. And we have one..We'd also like to congratulate all the brothers and sisters who part took in making this fantastic exhibition such a great success.

Alhamdulillah Rabbil Aalameen. Allah Huma Salli Ala Muhammadi, Wa Ala Alihi Asahabi Wasallim.

Chairman: Thank you very much! Jazaak Allahu Khair brothers and sisters!