Islam & Judaism

Inter-faith Harmony



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MBA (Executive), B.Sc, LL.B

This book is dedicated

To

The Pakistan Army

Islam

&

Judaism

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The Author

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Series introduction

Suppose, a person is living in an isolated island and he has tasted only bananas in his whole life. Although he has heard about other fruits like mangoes, apples and grapes but never tasted them. If he claims that bananas is the best fruit on this planet, yes, he can claim but his claim is not based on any logic or rational because he has never tasted other fruits in this world. In the same way, well is the whole world for a frog living in it.

Similarly, people follow the religion of their parent and they consider that their religion is right and superior and all other religions are wrong and inferior, without having any knowledge about them. The purpose of this book is to create positive attitude about other religions and their followers.

Verses from the Holy Quran and the Old Testament (Jewish Bible) are put together in a logical sequence so that readers can understanding both the religions and also pursue righteousness to achieve the ultimate goal of Eternal life. Mostly, people are wasting their precious time on useless, unproductive and worthless issues. We should concentrate in

improving our own spiritual life and try to fulfill various obligations and responsibilities which our own religion demands. Some scholars talk less in the favour of their own religion but talk more against other religion. No person has any right to criticize other faith. Our words and actions should strengthen love not hatred in the society. If a person is hurting others by his words, then he should understand that his words are not from the Almighty God. May God gives us wisdom and power to shed away all types of evil and wickedness in our lives and enable us to pursue holiness, goodness and purity which God demands from every human being.

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God

In the Holy Quran and in the Old Testament (Jewish Bible) the concept of one God is very simple and clear. When words like only, alone, and, no other God is used, then we should not have any doubt about the oneness of God. In Ex 3:14 God replied to Moses, I am the one who always is; just tell the Israelites, I am has sent me to you. Here we can see words "I am" is used not "we are". Verses from the Holy Quran and the Old Testament (Jewish Bible) will help us to understand the nature of God. Now it is the responsibility of every intellectual, irrespective of his religious background, to find out what is wrong and what is right. I leave it to the reader to ponder and decide. In this era, every person believes what he would like to believe and one person can not force or drill his own ideas in the minds of others against their will. Generally people would like to give their opinion nearly on every issue without reading the Holy books in depth. Our faith should not be based on man made teachings but should be based on verses of the Holy books. Above all, obedience to Almighty God is more important than spending our precious time in discussing the substance of God.

One

Islam: Your God is one God; there is no God except him, the beneficent, and the merciful. 2:163

Your God is one God. 16:22

Lo! Thy Lord is surely one. 37:4

Judaism: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Dt 6:4 He is one who made heaven and earth, the sea, and every thing in them. Ps 146:6

Alone

Islam: You alone we worship, and you alone we ask for help.1:4

Judaism: You alone are the Lord. Ne 9:6

Only

Islam: The one and only true God and to Him we all surrender ourselves. 2:133

He is only one God. 6:19

We believe in only one Allah. 40:84

Judaism: "Am I only a God nearby", declares the Lord, and not a God far away? Jer 23:23

People of Israel, remember this, the Lord and only the Lord, is your God. Dt 6:4

No other God

Islam: Allah (Himself) is witness that there is no God except

Him. 3:18

There is no God Save Him. 28:88

There is no God Save Him. 40:3

Judaism: You shall have no other gods before me.

Ex 20:3

I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God.

Isa 44:6

Equal

Islam: Nor is there anyone equal to Him.

Judaism: Who is equal? Says the Holy one. Isa 40:25

Rivals

22:22 **Islam:** So do not set up rivals to Allah.

Judaism: Do not bow down to any idol or worship it,

because I am the Lord your God and I tolerate no rivals.

Ex 20:5

Alongside

Islam: And cry not unto any other God along with Allah.

28:88

Judaism: Do not make any gods to be alongside me.

Ex 20:23

Besides

Islam: We cry unto no God beside Him. 18:14

Knowest thou not that it is Allah unto whom belongeth the Sovereignty of the heavens and earth; and ye have not, beside

Allah any friend or helper? 2:107

Judaism: Worship no God besides me. Ex 20:3

There is no God besides me. Dt 32:39

Compare

Islam: And there is none comparable unto Him. 112:4

Judaism: To whom will you compare me or count me equal? Isa 46:5

Who can be compared with you in majesty? Ez 31:2

Creator

Islam: Allah is creator of all things. 39:62

Judaism: In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. Gen 1:1

Eternal

Islam: Allah! There is no God except Him, the Alive, the Eternal. 3:2

Judaism: The Lord, the Eternal God. Gen 21:33

Almighty

Islam: He is Allah, the one, the Almighty. 40:16

Judaism: O Lord God Almighty, who is like you? You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness surrounds you. Ps 89:8

Everlasting

Islam: Allah is of infinite bounty. 3:174

Judaism: Stand up and praise the Lord your God, who is from everlasting to everlasting. Ne 9:5

Most High

Islam: So the power to command is for Allah, the Most High, and the Supreme. 40:12

Judaism: I will be glad and rejoice in you, I will sing praise to your name, O Most High. Ps 9:2

Mighty

Islam: He is the Mighty, the Wise. 14:4

Judaism: O Lord God, who is like you? You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness surrounds you. Ps 89:8

Dominant

Islam: And He is Dominant over all His servants. And He is the All-Wise, the All Knowing. 6:18

Judaism: For, dominion belongs to the Lord and he rules over the nations. Ps 22:8

Sovereign

Islam: Unto Allah belonged the sovereignty of the heavens and the earth. 3:189

Judaism: The Most High is sovereign. Da 4:25

Throne

Islam: There is no God except Him. In Him have I put my trust and He is Lord of the Tremendous Throne. 9:129

Judaism: God is seated on his holy throne. Ps 47:8

Your throne, O God, will last for ever. Ps 45:6

Partners

Islam: Set not up with Allah any other God (O man) lest thou sit down reproved forsaken. 17:22

And serve Allah. Ascribe nothing as partner unto Him. 4:36

Make none sharer of the worship due unto his Lord. 18:110

Judaism: Do not make any gods to be alongside me.

Ex 20:23

You shall have no other gods before me. Ex 20:3

Comparison

Islam: And there is none comparable unto Him. 112:4

Judaism: To whom, then, will you compare God?

Isa 40:18

All things

Islam: Lo! You are able to do all things. 66:8

Judaism: I know that you can do all things. Job 42:2

All-knowing

Islam: And He is Dominant over all His servants. And He is the All-wise, the All-knowing. 6:18

Judaism: Do not keep talking so proudly or let your mouth speak such arrogance, for the Lord is a God who knows and by him deeds are weighed. 1Sam 2:3

Belongs to the Lord

Islam: Unto him belong whatsoever is in the heavens and whatsoever is in the earth. 2:255

Judaism: Everything under heaven belongs to me.

Job 41:11

The whole earth is mine. Ex 19:5

Friend

Islam: God is your protecting friend. A Blessed patron, and a Blessed Helper. 22:78

Judaism: Friendship with the Lord is reserved for those who fear him. Ps 25:14

Protector

Islam: But Allah is your protector and He is the Best of helpers. 3:150

Judaism: For the Lord loves the just and will not forsake his faithful ones. They will be protected forever, but offspring of the wicked will be cut off.

Ps 37:28

Helper

Islam: If Allah is your helper none can overcome you, and if He withdraws his help from you, who is there who can help you. 3:160

Judaism: God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Ps 46:1

Merciful

Islam: Your God is one God; there is no God except him, the Beneficent, the Merciful. 2:163

Judaism: Yet he was merciful; he forgave their iniquities and did not destroy them. Time after time he restrained his anger and did not stir up his full wrath. Ps 78:38

Kind

Islam: Allah is a Lord of kindness to (His) creatures. 2: 251

Judaism: God is kind to the ungrateful and wicked.

Lk 6:35

Repentance

Islam: The repentance, acceptance of which Allah has undertaken is of those who commit a sin in foolishness and thereafter repent forthwith. So these are the people to whom Allah turns (in mercy), and verily Allah is the All knowing, the All wise.

4:17

Judaism: The Lord will allow those who repent to return to him. Sir 17:24

Each of you must turn from wicked ways and reform your actions.

Jer 35:15

Turn to God

Islam: Truly Allah loves those who turn unto Him. 2:222

Judaism: Return to the Most High and turn away from sin. Sir 17:26

Evil

Islam: Gardens of Eden which they enter, underneath which rivers flow, herein they have what they will. Thus Allah repayeth those who ward off (evil). 16:31

Judaism: The face of the Lord is against those who do evil, to cut off the memory of them from the earth. Ps 34:16

Seek good, not evil that you may live. Am 5:14

Adultery

Islam: And do not go near adultery, surely it is a great obscenity. And a most evil path. 17:32

Judaism: Do not commit adultery. Ex 20:14

Lewdness

Islam: Say; Allah, verily, enjoined (instruct) not lewdness.

7:28

The devil promised you destitution and enjoined on you lewdness. 2:268

Judaism: Now your impurity is lewdness. Ez 24:13

Wine

Islam: That is what Satan wants to sow enmity and hatred among you by means of wine and gambling, and keep you from the remembrance of Allah and from prayer. Are you not then going to desist? 5:91

Judaism: Wine is a mocker and beer a brawler, whoever is led astray by them is not wise. Pr 20:1

Interest

Islam: O you who believe! Do not devour interest by doubling and redoubling it, and keep fearing Allah that perhaps you may prosper. 3:130

Judaism: He does not lend at usury or take excessive interest. That man is righteous; he will surely live, declares the sovereign Lord. Ez 18:8,9

Unjust

Islam: And so far those are who are unjust they are firewood for hell. 72:15

Judaism: Woe to him who builds his realm by unjust gain to set his nest on high to escape the clothes of ruin! Hab 2:9

Scales

Islam: A give full measure when you measure out anything and weigh with even balance. That is the better way and has a good result as well. 17:35

Judaism: The Lord abhors (reject) dishonest scales, but accurate weights are his delight. Pr 11:1

Speech

Islam: Allah loveth not the utterance of harsh speech. 4:148

Judaism: Don't fall into the habit of coarse (rough), profane talk, it is sinful. Sir 23:13

Conversation

Islam: Successful indeed are the believers, and who shun vain conversation. 23:1,3

Judaism: A gossip betrays a confidence; so avoid a man who talks too much. Pr 20:19

Slander

Islam: And if a slander from the devil wound thee, then seek refuge in Allah. Lo! He is Hearer, knower. 7:200

Judaism: Do not go about spreading slander among your people. Do not do anything that endangers your neighbor's life.

Lev 19:16

Mock

Islam: O you who believe! Let not a folk deride (mock) a folk who may be better than they (are), nor women (deride) women who may be better than they are.

49:11

Judaism: If you are wise your wisdom will reward you if you are a mocker you alone will suffer. Pr 9:12

Fools mock at making amends for sin but goodwill is found among the upright. Pr 14:9

Lies

Islam: The curse of Allah upon those who lie. 3:61

Judaism: The truthful lips endure forever but a lying tongue lasts only a moment. Pr 12:19

Hypocrisy

Islam: Allah has promised the hypocrites, men and women, and the disbelievers the fire of hell, abiding therein for ever.

9:68

Judaism: Be careful about what you say, and don't be a hypocrite. Sir 1:29

Thoughts

Islam: O you who believe! If ye keep your duty to Allah, He will give you discrimination (between right and wrong) and will rid you of your evil thoughts and deeds and will forgive you. 8:29

Judaism: O Jerusalem, wash the evil from your heart and be saved. How long will you harbour wicked thoughts?

Jer 4:14

Pride

Islam: Lo! Allah loves not such as are proud and boastful. 4:36

Judaism: God will crush the arrogance of the proud and the haughtiness of the mighty. Isa 13:11

Wicked

Islam: And lo! The wicked verily will be in hell. 82:14

Judaism: I, the Lord will punish the world for its evil and the wicked for their sin. Isa 13:11

Forgiveness

Islam: Forgiveness is only incumbent on Allah toward those who do evil in ignorance (and) then turn quickly (in repentance) to Allah. These are they toward whom Allah relented. Allah is ever knower, wise.

4:17

Judaism: Lord, if you kept a record of our sins, who, O Lord could ever survive? But you offer forgiveness that we might learn to fear you. Ps 130:3,4

O Lord, you are so good, so ready to forgive, so full of unfailing love for all who ask your aid. Ps 86:5

Forgive others

Islam: And we prescribed for them therein. The life for the life and the eye for the eye and the nose for the nose and the ear for the ear and the tooth for the tooth and for wounds retaliation. But whose forget it (in the way of charity) it shall be expiation for him.

5:45

Judaism: If you forgive someone who has wronged you, your sins will be forgiven when you pray. Sir 28:2

Path

Islam: Show us the straight path. 1:5

Judaism: Lead me in a straight path. Ps 27:11

Light

Islam: Lo! We did reveal the Torah wherein is guidance and a light. 5:44

Judaism: The unfolding of your words gives light it gives understanding to the simple. Ps 119:130

Purify

Islam: Therein are men who like to remain purified and clean. And Allah loves those who are clean and pure. 9:108

Judaism: How can a young person stay pure? By obeying your word and following its rules. Ps 119:9

Darkness to light

Islam: He may bring forth those who believe and do good works from darkness unto light. 65:11

Judaism: The Lord turns my darkness into light.

2-Sa 22:29

Righteous

Islam: The righteous man is he who ward off (evil). 2:189

Judaism: Misfortune pursues the sinner, but prosperity is the reward of the righteous. Pr 13:21

In the way of righteousness there is life, along that path is immortality. Pr 12:28

Fear of the Lord

Islam: O people! Fear your Lord; verily the tremor of the Hour (of Resurrection) is a thing most severe. 22:1

Judaism: He who fears the Lord is a fountain of life turning a man from the snares of death. Pr 14:27

Obedience

Islam: Keep your duty to Allah and obey me. 3:50

Judaism: If we are careful to obey all this law before the Lord our God, as he has commanded us that will be our righteousness. Dt 6:25

Conduct

Islam: Lo! The noblest of you, in the sight of Allah is the best in conduct. 49:13

Judaism: I, the Lord search the heart and examine the mind, to reward a man according to his conduct, according to what his deeds deserve. Jer 17:10

Doing right

Islam: For such of them as do right and ward off (evil), there is great reward. 3:172

Judaism: Stop doing wrong, learn to do right. Is 1:16,17

Good works

Islam: So vie (compete) with one another in good works.

2:148

Judaism: Honest deeds are like a tree that bears marvelous fruit. Wis 13:15

When you do a good deed, make sure you know who is benefiting from it, then what you do will not be wasted.

Sir 12:1

Goodness

Islam: Those who followed them in goodness - Allah is well pleased with them and they are well pleased with Him. 9:100

Judaism: The Lord approves of those who are good but he condemns those who plan wickedness. Pr 12:2

Wisdom

Islam: He bestows wisdom upon whom He will, and whosoever is granted wisdom he is indeed granted abundant good, and none accepts admonition except of understanding. 2:269

Judaism: For the Lord gives wisdom and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. Pr 2:6

Blessed is the man who finds wisdom. Pr 3:13

Peace

Islam: Lo! He (Allah) loves not the aggressors. 7:55

Judaism: When you march up to attack a city, make its people an offer of peace. Dt 20:10

Neighbour

Islam: (Show) kindness onto the neighbour who is of kin (unto you) and the neighbour who is not of kin. 4:36

Judaism: Do not testify falsely against your neighbour.

Ex 20:16

Do not covet your neighbour's house. Ex 20:17

Kindness

Islam: And Forget not kindness among yourselves. 2:237

Judaism: Blessed is he who is kind to the needy. Pr 14:21

Generosity

Islam: The alms (charitable donation) are only for the poor and the needy. 9:60

Judaism: A generous man will himself be blessed. Pr 22:9

Generosity will save you from death and will wash away all your sins. Tob 12:9

Justice

Islam: My Lord enjoins (command) justice. 7:29

Judaism: Learn to do right! Seek justice encourage the

oppressed. Isa 1:17

Doing Good

Islam: Spend your wealth for the cause of Allah, and be not cast by your own hands to ruin and do good. Lo! Allah love the beneficent. 2:195

Judaism: Do what is right and good in the Lord's sight, so that it may go well with you. Dt 6:18

Parents

Islam: We have enjoined on man kindness to parents. 29:8

Judaism: Honour your father and mother then you will live a long, full life in the land the Lord your God will give you. Ex 20:12

Children

Islam: (Show) Kindness unto near kindred. 4:36

Judaism: Teach your children to choose the right path. When they are older, they will remain upon it. Pr 22:6

Bring up your children to do what is right. Tob 14:9

Modesty

Islam: And tell the believing women to lower their gaze and be modest. 24:31

Judaism: Keep your self-respect but remain modest.

Sir 10:28

The reputation of a modest person goes before him, as lightning before thunder. Sir 32:10

Humble

Islam: And seek help through patience and prayer, and without doubt prayer is an exacting discipline but not (hard) to those who are humble and God fearing. 2:45

Judaism: God crowns the humble with salvation. Ps 149:4 God mocks proud mockers but give grace to the humble.

Pr 3:34

Cleanness

Islam: Truly Allah loves those who have a care for cleanness.

2:222

Judaism: The Lord has dealt with me according to my righteousness; according to the cleanness of my hand he has rewarded me. Ps 18:20

Eating

Islam: Eat of that which Allah hath bestowed on you as food lawful and good. 5:88

Judaism: Eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare. Isa 55:2

Prayers

Islam: Be guardians of your prayers and of the midmost prayer and stand up with devotion to Allah. 2:238

Judaism: The Lord is far from the wicked but he hears the prayers of the righteous. Pr 15:29

If anyone turns a deaf ear to the law, even his prayers are detestable. Pr 28:9

Worship

Islam: And your Lord has commanded that you should worship none but Him alone. 17:23

You alone we worship and you alone we ask for help. 1:4

Judaism: You must fear the Lord your God and worship him and cling to him. Dt 10:20

Thankful

Islam: Allah will reward the thankful. 3:144

Judaism: O Lord my God, I (David) will give you thanks

forever. Ps 30:12

Give thanks to him (God). Ps 100:4

I (David) give you thanks, O Lord, with all my heart. Ps 138:1

Serve the Lord

Islam: O my people! Serve Allah, ye have no other God save Him. 11:84

Judaism: Serve the Lord with all your heart and with all your soul. Dt 11:13

Steadfast

Islam: Allah is with the steadfast. 8:66

Judaism: You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind

is steadfast. Is 26:3

Guardian

Islam: He is guardian over all things. 39:62

Judaism: For, he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. Ps 91:11

Watch

Islam: There are degrees (of grace and reprobation) with Allah, and Allah is seer of what you do. 3:163

Judaism: For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish. Ps 1:6

Success

Islam: These depend on guidance from their Lord. These are the successful. 2:5

Judaism: Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you, do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go.

Jos 1:7

Humbles and Exalts

Islam: You exalt whom you will, and you abase whom you will. 3:26

Judaism: The Lord sends poverty and wealth, he humbles and he exalts. 1Sa 2:7

Return

Islam: Then unto your Lord is your return. 6:165

Judaism: The dust returns to the ground it came from and the spirit returns to God who gave it. Ecc 12:7

Gathered

Islam: He (God) it is unto whom ye will be gathered. 6:72

Judaism: Therefore wait for me; declares the Lord, for the day I will stand up to testify. I have decided to assemble the nations, to gather the Kingdoms. Zep 3:8

Judgment

Islam: The day, when we gather the righteous to the presence of the Lord Most- kind as honoured guests - And (on that day) drive the guilty to hell like thirsty beasts. 19:85, 86

Judaism: For God will bring every deed into Judgment, including every hidden thing weather it is good or evil.

Ecc 12:14

Sharing

Islam: Whosoever goeth right it is only for (the good of) his own soul that goeth right and whosoever erreth, erreth only to its hurt. No laden soul can bear another's load. 17:15

Judaism: The soul who sins is the one who will die. The son will not share the guilt of the father, nor will the father share the guilt of the son. The righteousness of righteous man will be credited to him and the wickedness of the wicked will be charged against him. Ez 18:20

Good

Islam: Lo! The mercy of Allah is nigh unto the good. 7:56

Judaism: The Lord approves of those who are good, but he condemns those who plan wickedness. Pr 12:2

Reward

Islam: So Today no soul will be wronged in the least, nor will be rewarded but for what you used to do. 36:54

Judaism: Every righteous person will be rewarded; everyone will get what he deserves. Sir 16:16

Irrespective of our religious background, we should try to act upon these verses to improve our conduct, rather than wasting time in finding faults and errors in other religions. We can learn valuable and important lessons from every religion of this world. Let us pray to God that he may forgive our sins and give us wisdom and power to live according to his will. May! God bless all of us.

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