

Muhammad Was Hijacked.

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There is an interesting parallel between what happened to the teaching of the early Christian church and the teaching of Muhammad. Both were hijacked for political ends.

For the first three hundred years of the history of the Christian church individual churches were independent and flourishing. There was no over-all hierarchy. Unity was a matter of agreement. But then, partly at least for political reasons, the Emperor Constantine began to interfere in its affairs, introducing false ideas into the church by the simple means of forcing pagan priests to convert to their own form of Christianity (which we could call pagan Christianity) and thus introducing pagan elements into the church. From that gradually grew the monolithic monster of the Roman Catholic church in the Middle Ages which had virtually dispensed with the Bible and with the Jesus Christ as revealed in the Gospels, and were responsible for large amounts of persecution and violence against their opponents.

A similar thing has happened with the prophetic teaching of Muhammad. Muhammad was a visionary who urged the reading of the Bible, which he called 'The Book', and to read the Torah (the Law of Moses) and the Injil (the Evangel) i.e. the New Testament. It is clear that in doing so he did not consider that they were distorted in his day, otherwise he would not have urged them to read them.

"It was We who revealed the Taurat (Torah - Law - to Moses); therein was guidance and light ... If any do fail to judge by the light of what Allah hath revealed, they are (no better than) unbelievers. ... We sent Jesus, the son of Mariam, confirming the Taurat (Torah - Law) that had come before him: We sent him the Injeel (Gospel/Evangel): Therein was guidance and light ... a guidance and an admonition to those who fear Allah. Let the people of the Injeel (Gospel/Evangel) judge by what Allah hath revealed therein. If any do fail to judge by the light of what Allah hath revealed, they are (no better than) those who rebel. Judge what Allah hath revealed, and follow not their vain desires." (Surah Ma-ida 5:47,49,50,52). How could an inspired prophet call on them to consult them if he thought them unreliable?

"Say ye: We believe in Allah, and the revelation given to us, and to Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac, Jacob, and the Tribes, and that given to Moses(Musa),and Jesus (Isa), and that given to all prophets from their Lord: we make no difference between one and another of them." (Surah al-Baqara 2:136). If these books were lost, how were they to consult them?

It is clear from this that Muhammad supported their teaching and was satisfied that accurate copies could be read in his day. As we have copies today of the New Testament, and of parts of the Old Testament, which were written hundred of years prior to Muhammad, there is no possible justification at all (apart from political) for modern Muslims to claim that we do not have the very Book, Torah, and Injil of which Muhammad spoke. In consequence much of what Muhammad taught as a result of his prophetic thinking should be seen in the light of his total acceptance of the Christian Bible, that is, as clarification of Biblical doctrines which had become distorted. For example, Muhammad never denied that the one God (Allah), while one, was also triune in His Being. What he quite correctly denied was that the Trinity was to be bastardised into being seen as composed of God (Allah), Isa (Jesus) and Mariam (Mary the mother of Jesus), the heresy that prevailed in his part of the world in his day, and which he was refuting. He was concerned that God (Allah) should not be intermingled with human beings in some kind of half-divine-half human demi-god, or that God should have been seen as having had a son at a point in time. He was not refuting the fact that God had become man in Jesus Christ, or that Christ was co-eternal within the triune God. That was rather the position taken by later Muslims for political ends, in order to justify continuing to tax both Christians and Jews.

Sadly much of his teaching was lost when for political reasons the Caliph Usman arranged for all copies of the Quran produced by Muhammad's closest disciples to be burned, arranging for a committee to refashion the Quran in order that it might say what he wanted it to say. As a result large portions of the original Quran were lost, and what remained is as fashioned for his ends, something which has suited influential Muslim leaders ever since. And whilst it is still true that different versions of the Quran in Arabic are used in different parts of the world, these were all affected by the loss of so much Quranic material. Paralleling the Roman Catholic church of the Middle Ages Muslims have ever since persecuted and shown violence towards anyone who questioned their position.

If the Muslim authorities would release for examination the ancient copies of the Quran which have been made inaccessible to genuine scholars, we would probably discover a totally different Quran (depending on whether they came before the days of Usman or afterwards). For further information on textual variants go to [Textual Variants](#).