

Religion CBA 1: A Person of Commitment



Prophet Muhammad: The Founder Of Islam

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Why I chose Muhammad as my Person of Commitment

- I chose him as my 'Person of Commitment' because I think he had strong values and beliefs which had a positive impact on his actions and worldviews which ultimately led to having a positive impact on the world
- Prophet Muhammad worked very hard to live out his beliefs and to have a positive impact on the world.
- I think he was a very hardworking person who cared a lot about the world and the people in it.
- I think he is very inspiring as he was successful on both religious and secular levels
- These are the main reasons why I chose him

Intro: Who was Prophet Muhammad?

- Prophet Muhammad is a prophet in Islam who lived in Makkah in Saudi Arabia in the 7th century
- He was born on approx. the 22nd of April 570 CE (Islamic Date: 12th Rabi-ul-Awwal)
- Before he started preaching about Islam, he used to pray in "The Cave of Light" where the angel Gabriel (Jibril in Arabic) came to him and told him to spread the message of Allah (God)
- He started to preach but was opposed by the pagan Arabs who did not appreciate him talking about women's rights and against idolatry
- Muhammad migrated to the city of Madinah and started to peacefully spread Islam there

- He spread God's true word saying women have the same rights as men, abolishing slavery and to care for animals and the earth
- He passed away on approx. the 6th of June 632 CE (Islamic Date: 12th Rabi-ul-Awwal) He was 63 years old

Religious Beliefs and Values of Prophet Muhammad

1. Prophet Muhammad believed that problems and issues should be solved by talking/negotiating and not by war like how the pre-Islamic Arab tribes used to do
2. He believed all human beings were equal and being from a noble lineage or family didn't make a difference.
3. Everyone is equal in the eyes of Allah
4. He believed that racism should not have a place in the world
5. He valued honesty, kindness and forgiveness to all people

How Muhammad lived out these beliefs and values

1. When the Ka'bah was destroyed after a flood in Makkah, tribes in Makkah were on the brink of war over deciding who would put the Black Stone in the wall of the Ka'bah. Prophet Muhammad decided that every tribe leader should hold a corner of a robe, put the Black Stone in the middle and insert it together. This shows us how Prophet Muhammad preferred problem solving rather than fighting and war
2. Prophet Muhammad himself was from a very noble lineage, being a direct descendant of Prophet Ibrahim (Abraham) but still he spent his working life as a shepherd tending to sheep and

goats. He also said that “In the eyes of Allah, all people are equal, like the teeth of a comb, no one higher than the other.”

3. “All humans are descended from Adam and Eve,” said Muhammad in his last known public speech. “There is no superiority of an Arab over a non-Arab, or of a non-Arab over an Arab, and no superiority of a white person over a black person or of a black person over a white person, except on the basis of personal piety and righteousness.”

4. When Muhammad left Makkah to go to a town 90 km east of Makkah called Taif to preach Islam, he was rejected and abused by stones and rocks while he left. The angel Jibril (Gabriel) appeared to Muhammad and asked him if he wanted the angels to crush Taif between two mountains. He replied, “No, I forgive

them, even if these people do not accept Islam, I do hope from Allah that there will be persons from among their progeny who would worship Allah and serve His cause". This shows he always forgave people, even his oppressors

Personal Thoughts So Far About Prophet Muhammad :

1. I think he was a person committed to his beliefs as he wanted to change society from bad to good and succeeded
2. I admire his mercifulness, kindness, generosity, forgiveness and compassion as they are good attributes for a role model to have
3. He was trusted by all his companions because of his honesty which makes me admire him as I also try to be honest

Who & What Influenced Muhammad's Beliefs:

- He was influenced by the revelation he received on "The Mountain Of Light" in Makkah by Allah(God) through the angel Jibril(Gabriel)
- The pre-Islamic Arab political and legal system was in chaos. There was no proper law and order, people were killed for no reason and inhumane punishments were used against slaves. This majorly influenced Prophet Muhammad to bring about change.

Prophet Muhammad's Positive Impact on The World:

- The impact of Prophet Muhammad has persisted through time, with Islam becoming the world's second-largest religion. The continued growth of the Muslim population, along with the influence of Islamic culture and values, is proof of the lasting impact of Muhammad's teachings. This legacy continues to shape the lives of billions of people across the globe, ensuring that the influence of the Prophet remains relevant in today's world.
- He was successful on both religious and secular levels.
He was successful on secular levels as he brought all the tribes in Arabia together under peace and did not force anyone to accept Islam

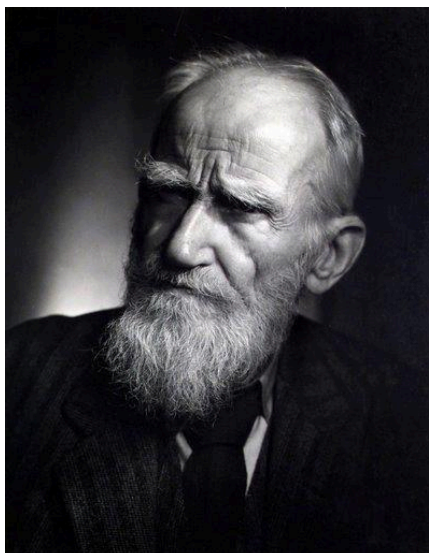
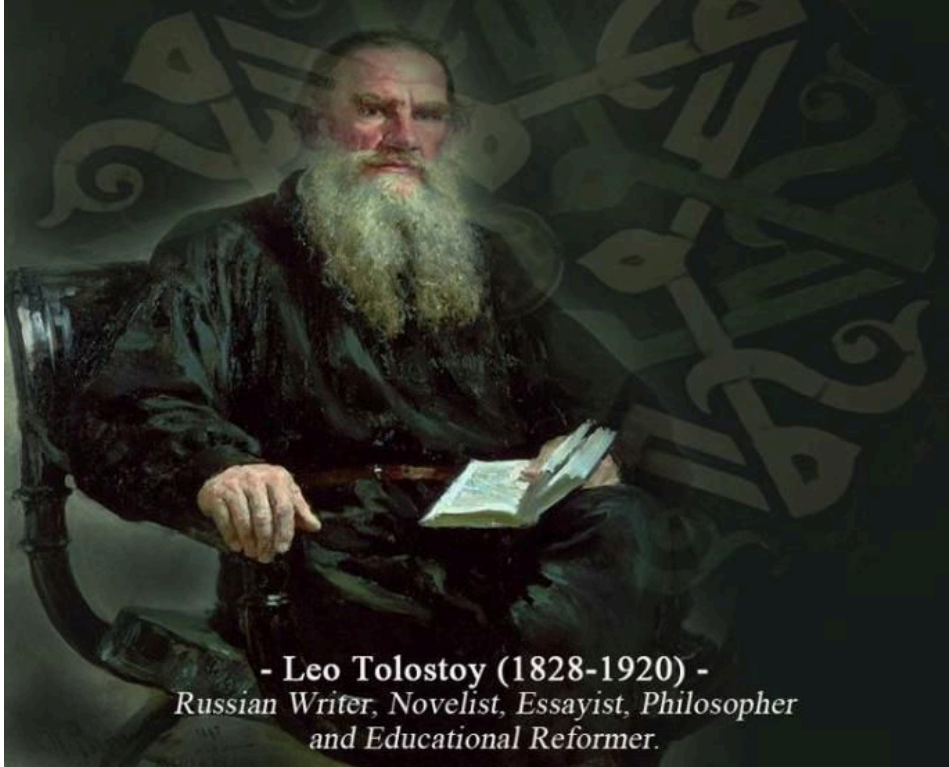
- *He restored to the weak and granted their rights, manumitted slaves, elevated the status of the people, and did away with oppressive practices against women.*

Conclusion & Final Reflection:

- Throughout this CBA, I have learned more about Prophet Muhammad and I really liked it as I could also share my opinions
- I now understand factors that influenced Prophet Muhammad
- I also understand his religious Beliefs and values
- Overall, I enjoyed this project/CBA and I found it really interesting, fun and a bit challenging.

Quotes about Prophet Muhammad:

“There is no doubt that Prophet Muhammed is one of the greatest reformers who served the social framework profoundly. It suffices him that he led a whole nation to the enlightenment of truth and made it more inclined towards tranquility and peace, prefer modesty and prevented it from shedding blood and giving human sacrifices (though this was never proved against Arabs before Islam) and widely opened to it the gate to development and civilization. This is a great deed that only a strong man can do and a man like that deserves to be regarded with respect and admiration”



Who is muhammad?

George Bernard Shaw said about him: "He must be called the Savior of Humanity. I believe that if a man like him were to assume the dictatorship of the modern world, he would succeed in solving its problems in a way that would bring it much-needed peace and happiness". (The Genuine Islam, Singapore, Vol. 1, No. 8, 1936)

Quotes about Prophet Muhammad:

- Thomas Carlyle⁽¹⁷⁹⁵⁻¹⁸⁸¹⁾

“How one man single handedly, could weld warring tribes and wandering Bedouins into a most powerful and civilised nation in less than two decades is worth admiration”

- Johann Wolfgang von Goethe⁽¹⁷⁴⁹⁻¹⁸³²⁾

“He is a prophet and not a poet and therefore his Quran is to be seen as Divine law and not as a book of a human being; made for education entertainment”

Sources

websites

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<https://yaqeeninstitute.org/read/paper/the-accomplishments-of-prophet-muhammad>

Books

1. ***The Noble Life of The Prophet volume 1 2 & 3*** Dr Ali Muhammad-al-Sallabi
The Prophet of Islam-Muhammad Biography and Pocket Guide.
2. ***Muhammad: A Very Short Introduction***
By Jonathan A.C. Brown

All Pictures By Me And My Family