

當基督徒遇上穆斯林

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早期伊斯蘭教與基督徒的歷史相遇

- 《古蘭經》中的耶穌基督
- 兩教的思想差異

Christianity that Messenger Muhammad Knew

- Arabia Region (Hijaz/Hejaz, mainly Makkah and Medinah)
 - Polytheism, Jahiliyya (Ignorance)
- Byzantine Empire (Eastern Roman Empire) – Gassanid tribe (伽珊尼德王国)
 - In the south of Palestine
 - The **Monophysites**
- Sasanian Empire – Lakhmid tribe (拉赫姆王國)
 - In Iraq
 - The **Nestorians**
- Abyssinian Empire

Abyssinian Empire

- The South of the Arabia
- Himyarite
- Before 500CE – Judaism
- Around 525CE, Ethiopians (Abyssinian) invaded (Byzantines' support) – Christianity established
- Probably **Monophysites**
- Christianity was there as late as 9th century



Christianity in the East

- Creed of Nicaea 尼西亞信經 in 325CE
 - Status of Christ (Christ in Trinity)
- Creed of Chalcedon 迦克墩信經 in 451CE
 - Two Natures in One Person (of Christ)
- Disagreement among Christians

。我們跟隨聖教父，同心合意教人認識同一位子，我們的主耶穌基督，是神性完全、人性亦完全者。他真是上帝，也真是人，具有理性的靈魂，也具有身體。按神性說，他與父同體。按人性說，他與我們同體。在凡事上與我們一樣，祇是沒有罪。按神性說，在萬世之前，為父所生。按人性說，在晚近時日，為求拯救我們，由上帝之母，童女瑪利亞所生。是同一基督，是子，是主。是獨生的，具有二性，不相混亂，不相交換，不能分開，不能離散。二性的區別不因聯合而消失，各性的特點反得以保存，會合於一個位格，一個實質之內，而非分離成為兩個位格。卻是同一位子，獨生的道、神、主耶穌基督，正如眾先知論到他自始所宣講的，主耶穌基督自己所教訓我們的，諸聖教父的信經所傳給我們的。

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Main Groups of Eastern Christianity

1. The Orthodox/Chalcedonians, known as Melchites, *al-Malkiyya* (king), in the Byzantine Empire
2. The Nestorians (中國大秦景教), *al-Nasturiyya*, after the name of Nestorius (386-451CE), Bishop of Constantinople 428-431CE) , in the Persian Empire
3. The Monophysites/Jacobites
Mainly in Syria (Syriac Orthodox)
And in Egypt (Coptic Orthodox)

Oriental Orthodox Churches =\= 正教會 (Eastern Orthodox Church)

- 東方教會 (Oriental Christian Churches)，敘利亞有 Jacobites，埃及有 Coptics，伊拉克、伊朗有 Nestorians。簡單來說，她們與西方的基督宗教傳統的宗教分別是對耶穌神性和人性之間的了解，西方教會認為兩性相通但沒有混淆，東方教會則持兩性合一論 (如 Jacobites, Coptics) 或兩性不通論 (Nestorians)，拜占庭教會 (Byzantine Church) 視東方教會為異端，但出於政治上的需要，在中東地區與波斯帝國爭霸，她要與東方教會合作

Did Messenger Muhammad Know Christianity?

- Definitely YES
- Christian Monk Bahira (talk later)
- His first wife, Khadijah, her relatives, Waraqa ibn Nawfal and Salman were Christians
- But how much did he know about Christianity?

Uncertain!

- The Arabic Bible was probably not yet existed
- The oldest Arabic translation of the Bible
- The Mt. Sinai Arabic Codex 151
- Dated 867 CE.

Messenger Muhammad

- Meeting with Christian Monk Bahira when he was 12 in Syria
- Bahira “looked at his (Messenger Muhammad) back and saw the seal of prophethood between his shoulders in the very place described in his book (the Bible) (Sira p.80)”

The Life of Messenger Muhammad (PBUH/SAW)

- Take care by his uncle, Abu Talib, head of the relatively weak Makkan clan of Hashim, a division of the dominant Quraysh tribe.
- Born in a noble tribe of Makkah in 570 CE. Meeting with Christian Monk Bahira when he was 12

In Makkah/Mecca – Messenger Muhammad was a preacher

- Marriage with Khadijah海迪徹, a rich widow, when he was 25.
- Unlettered Messenger received Revelation in 610 (40 year old) on Mount Hira (96:1-5).
- He proclaimed Islam publicly, beginning a period of intense opposition in 613.

Emigration of Muslims to Abyssinia.

- 614-15 CE, dispatched refugees two times to Abyssinia since there was a serious persecution of Muslims in Makkah
- Abyssinian King helped the persecuted Muslims at that time and refused to deport them to Quraysh tribe
- The first positive **Christian-Muslim Relation**

In Medina/Madinah – Messenger Muhammad was a political leader

- The Hijra to Medina in 622 (the first year of Islamic calendar).
- Conquest of Makkah in 629/30
- Death of Messenger Muhammad in 632

- Four Rightly Guided Caliph 正統哈里發 (公元 632-661)
 - Abu Baker (632-4) (2 yrs only)
 - 'Umar ibn al-Khattab (634-44)
 - 'Uthman ibn 'Affan (644-56)
 - 'Ali ibn Abi Talib (656-61)

- Except Abu Baker, all other caliphs were assassinated.

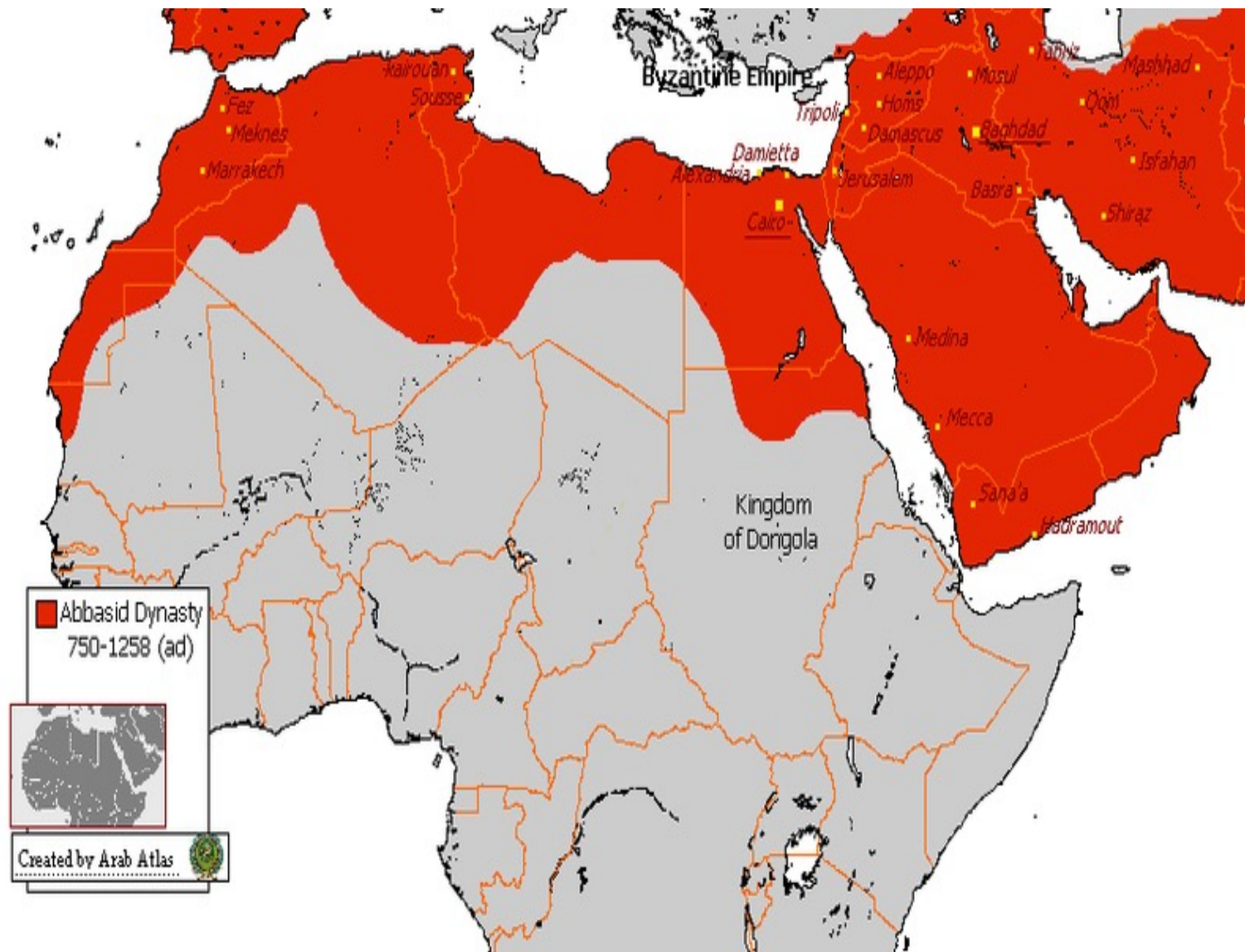
Expansion of Islamic Abode

- 632: Messenger Muhammad dies; a large part of Arabia is under Muslim control or allied with Muslims
- 633-34: Muslims begin conquest of Iraq and Syria
- 638: Fall of Jerusalem to Muslims
- 649-50: Conquest of Persepolis, capital of Persis (Fars) and centre of Zoroastrianism.
- 651: Complete Fall of Sassanid Empire to Muslims

- 711: Muslims begin conquest of Spain
- 732: Frank Christians (General Charles Martel) withstand the advance of Muslims into France (Tours/Poitiers)
- The Civil War – ‘Abbasid Revolution overthrown Umayyad Empire (744-50)
- Umayyad in Spain (756 – 1031)

Brief History of Islam

- Pre-Islamic Period
- Messenger Muhammad 穆罕默德生平 (公元 570-632)
 - Mecca (麥加) as Preacher
 - Medina (麥地那) as Political Leader
- Four Rightly Guided Caliph 正統哈里發 (公元 632-661)
- Umayyad Empire 倭馬亞王朝 (公元661-750)
- Abbasid Empire 阿拔斯王朝 (公元750-1258)



- (奧斯曼王朝/鄂圖曼帝國) The Ottoman Empire (1281-1924)
 - Capture Constantinople (1453) and the whole of the Balkans and Hungary (1526) – the end of Byzantine Empire
 - Rule most of the North Africa and Middle Eastern regions including Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine and Iraq.
- (薩非王朝) The Safavid Empire (1501-1732)
- 立什葉派為國教
 - 卡扎爾王朝 Iranian Qajar dynasty (1794 to 1925)
 - 巴列維王朝 Pahlavi dynasty (1925-1979)
 - Islamic Republic of Iran (1979-)
- (莫臥兒帝國) The Mughal Empire in India (1526-1858)
- Colonization from European Power (18-19th Century)

《古蘭經》中的耶穌基督

- 她說：「**我的主啊！任何人都沒有和我接觸過，我怎麼會有兒子呢？**」天神說：「真主要如此創造他所意欲的人。當他判決一件事的時候，他只對那件事說聲『有』，它就有了。」他要教他書法和智慧，《討拉特》和《引支勒》， (3:47-48)
- 在真主看來，**爾撒確是象阿丹一樣的**。他用土創造阿丹，然後他對他說：「有」，他就有了。(3:59)
- 又因為他們不信爾撒，並且對麥爾彥捏造一個重大的誹謗。(4:156)

- 那時，真主將說麥爾彥之子爾撒 (Son of Mary, Jesus) 啊！
- 你當記憶我所賜你和你母親的恩典。當時，我曾以玄
- 靈扶助你，你在搖籃裏，在壯年時，對人說話。當時，
- 我曾教你書法、智慧、《討拉特》和《引支勒》。
- 當時，你奉我的命令，用泥捏一隻像鳥樣的東西，你吹氣在裏面，它就奉我的命令而飛動。你曾奉我的命令而治療天然盲和大麻瘋。你又奉我的命令而使死人復活。當時，我曾阻止以色列的後裔傷害你。當時，你曾昭示他們許多跡象，他們中不信道的人說：「這只是明顯的魔術。」 (5:110)

◦他說：「我只是你的主的使者，我來給你一個純潔的兒子。」
(19:19)

◦「真主不會收養兒子——讚頌真主、超絕萬物——當他判決一件事的時候，他只對那件事說：『有』，它就有了。」(19:35)

。當時，真主對爾撒說：「我必定要使你壽終，要把你擢升到我那裏，要為你滌清不信道者的誣衊，要使信仰你的人，在不信仰你的人之上，直到復活日。然後你們只歸於我，我要為你們判決你們所爭論的是非。
(3:55)

。又因為他們說：「我們確已殺死麥爾彥之子麥西哈 Messiah 爾撒，真主的使者。」他們沒有殺死他，也沒有把他釘死在十字架上，但他們不明白這件事的真相。為爾撒而爭論的人，對於他的被殺害，確是在迷惑之中。他們對於這件事，毫無認識，不過根據猜想罷了。他們沒能確實地殺死他不然，真主已把他擢升到自己那裏。真主是萬能的，是至睿的。其實，是安拉把他提升到他(主)(自己的身邊)。安拉是大能的、大智的。確是安拉教他升至自己了。安拉是優勝的，明哲的。
(4:157-158)

Messenger Muhammad “after” Jesus?

- “But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the **Counselor** will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned. (John 16:7-11)

- "...Jesus, the son of Mary said: 'O children of Israel! I am the apostle of Allah (sent) to you, confirming the Taurat (which came) before me and giving glad tidings of a Messenger to come after me, whose name shall be **Ahmad**' " (Qur'an 61:6)
- **Parakletos** (counselor / comforter)
- **Periklutos** (the one to be praised)

信奉天經的人啊！你們對於自己的宗教不要過份，對於真主不要說無理的話，麥西哈?爾撒——麥爾彥之子，只是真主的使者，只是他授予麥爾彥的一句話 (Word of God)，只是從他發出的精神；故你們當確信真主和他的眾使者，你們不要說三位。你們當停止謬說，這對於你們是有益的。真主是獨一的主宰，讚頌真主，超絕萬物，他絕無子嗣，天地萬物只是他的。真主足為見證。(4:171)

妄言真主確是三位中的一位的人，確已不信道了。除獨一的主宰外，絕無應受崇拜的。如果他們不停止妄言，那末，他們中不信道的人，必遭痛苦的刑罰。(5:73)

當時，真主將說：「麥爾彥之子爾撒啊！你曾對眾人說過這句話嗎？『你們當舍真主而以我和我母親為主宰』。」他說：「我讚頌你超絕萬物，我不會說出我不該說的話。如果我說了，那你一定知道。你知道我心裏的事，我卻不知道你心裏的事。你確是深知一切幽玄的。(5:116)

- 妄言真主就是麥爾彥之子麥西哈的人，確已不信道了。你說：
「如果真主欲毀滅麥西哈和他的母親麥爾彥，以及大地上的一切人，那麼，誰能干涉真主 - 絲毫呢？」天地萬物的國權，只是真主的，他創造他所欲創造的。真主對於萬事是全能的。
(5:17)

回顧伊斯蘭教與基督教的一般差異

◦ **Six Articles of Faith** 六信

1. **One God** 信真主獨一
2. The Angels of God 信天使
3. **The Books of God**, especially the Qur'an 信經典
4. **The Prophets** of God, esp. Muhammad 信先知(信使者)
5. **The Day of Judgment** (or the After-life) 信後世
6. The **Supremacy of God's will** (or Predestination) 信前定

◦ **The Five Pillars** 五功

1. *Shahada*: Profession of Faith 證信
2. *Salat*: Daily Prayer 禮拜
3. *Zakat*: Alms-giving 天課
4. *Siyam*: Fasting 齋戒
5. *Hajj*: Pilgrimage 朝覲

- **One God 真主獨一 (Tawhid) 與三位一體 (Trinity)**
- For Islam -
 - Simplicity (Occam's Razor Argument)
 - Understandable
- For Christianity -
 - Richness of God
 - God in Relation
 - More Dynamic in terms of Involvement in Christian communities and the world

- **The Books of God**

- For Islam

- The Holy Qur'an is the Verbatim of God's Speech
- Consistence, without any discrepancy are what Muslims emphasize
- For Muslims in general, more focus on recital of the Qur'an

- For Christianity

- The Holy Bible is the Testimony of Christ Event or Salvation History
- Discrepancy reflects the Richness and Multi-dimensional of Christ-ness and Traditions of Early Christianity, e.g., Matthew - King; Mark- Servant; Luke - Human; John - God.
- More focus on understanding of the Bible

- **The Prophets**

- For Islam

- Messenger Muhammad is the Seal of All Prophets (the Most Important but the Last one)
- Human Only
- There is no such a thing called "Son of God" under the concept of Tawhid

- For Christianity

- Jesus Christ is not "Just" a prophet but Son of God
- The Second Person of Trinity
- By status, He should compare with the Holy Qur'an (Incarnation vs. Inlibration) instead of Prophet Muhammad

- No matter How Muslims "Respect" Jesus, they still distort or disgrace our understanding of Jesus Christ

- **The Day of Judgement**

- Resurrection

- For Islam

- "Everyone" will resurrect at the end of the world including Jesus, since it is one of the Islamic creeds (six articles of belief)

- For Christianity

- The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is "Special" as compare with the resurrection of others
- 林前15:20 但基督已經從死裡復活、成為睡了之人初熟的果子 (so the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is Cause and ours is the Consequence)

- The End of this temporal world, which is not eternal and the end of human suffering and God (Justice, Judgment) returns finally!

- Paradise and Hell

- **Supremacy of God's will**

- Creation-centered, not Evolution

- Sovereignty of God

- Human world needs God Guidance and humans cannot worship idols (including wealth and power)

- What about Human nature under the will of God?

- **Supremacy of God's will - Human Nature**

- For Islam

- No Original Sin
- Human Predicament - Forgetfulness of God
- Hadith: Every child is born according to fitra. Then its parents make it into a Christian, a Jew, or a Zoroastrian
- Fitra: there is a human disposition to know God, the Tawhid

- For Christianity

- Original Sin - Separation between God and Humans
- Human Inability (Lutheran tradition) to know God, Grace-oriented

FinallyPlease Remember

- Most Muslims they don't like to hear that Islam is a copy or mixture of Judaism or Christianity
- For them, Islam is a primordial religion (原初宗教) starting from the first contact or covenant between God and human (i.e. Adam or Abraham as many say Abrahamic Faith)