

## **General Introduction**

Praise be to Allah Lord of the worlds, the most Gracious, the Compassionate, the Creator of heavens and earth, the Creator of all things, the All-Knowing. And blessings and peace be upon His Messenger Muhammad the seal of the prophets and messengers.

Thanks are due to Allah for guiding and helping me with the task of clarifying the religion of Islam to non Muslims. May Allah guide us all to His right path.

I begin the books I wrote about Islam by quoting a Koranic verse narrating what Moses said to his Lord:

**"O my Lord! Expand for me my breast.**

**Make my task easy for me.**

**And unloose the knot upon my tongue that they may understand what I have to say."** (Taha 25, 26).

Some of the biggest misconceptions that many non-Muslims have about Islam have to do with the word "Allah". Many non-Muslims have come to believe that Muslims worship a different God than that of the Christians and Jews. This is totally wrong, since "Allah" is simply the Arabic word for "God".

There are several anti-Islamic westerners, who are obviously not on the side of truth, that want to get people to believe that 'Allah' is just some Arabian 'god' and that Islam has no common roots with the other Abrahamic religions (i.e, Judaism and Christianity). To say that Muslims worship a different 'God' because they call him 'Allah' is just as illogical as saying that French people worship another God because they use the word 'Dieu'.

Muslims believe that there is only one God. His name in English is God, in French: Dieu, in Italian: Dio, in German: Gott, in Spanish: Dios, in Portuguese: Deus, in Hebrew: El and Ilâh, in Aramaic: Alaha, in Arabic: Allah and also Ilâh.

It is interesting to note that the Aramaic word "Alaha", which is the word for God in the language that Jesus spoke, is certainly more similar in sound to the word "Allah" than the English word "God". This also holds true for the various Hebrew words for God, which is "El" and "Ilâh", and the plural form "Elohim". The reason for these similarities is that Aramaic, Hebrew and Arabic are all Semitic languages with common origin. God of the Arabic Bible is called Allah. All Christian Arabs use the term Allah to refer to God.

Allah described himself in the Koran with other beautiful names. In the Koran, we have these names indicated in numerous verses, such as the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful,

Cherisher and Sustainer of the worlds, the Compassionate, the King, the Holy, the Source of Peace, the preserver of Security, the Protector, the Mighty, the Overpowering, the Great in Majesty, the Creator, the Maker, the Fashioner, the Forgiver, the Dominant, the Bestower, the Provider, the decider, the Knower, etc..  
Bringing such names to remembrance is part of Muslims' prayer and praise.

As Muslims contemplate Allah's nature, they can use the most beautiful names they can think of to express Allah's attributes. In Islam Allah can be invoked either by His great name 'Allah' or by one of the 99 names. Allah says in the Koran:

**Say: "Call upon Allah, or call upon the Merciful; whichever you call upon, to Him belong the Names Most Beautiful (Al-Isrâ', 110).**

The Prophet's companion Abu Huraira narrated that the Prophet said:

**"Allah has ninety nine Names, and whoever believes in their meanings and acts accordingly, will enter paradise; and Allah is Witr (one) and loves the Witr."** (Sahih al-Bukhari, vol. 8, Hadith No. 419).

The word Allah does not have a plural or gender. Allah does not have any associate or partner, and He does not beget nor was he begotten.

Because the name "Allah" has been mentioned in the Koran more than 2600 times, and since the meanings of all the beautiful names are found in the name "Allah", and the word Allah is a contraction of the word "Ilâh", and Allah is the proper name in Arabic for the One and Only true God - the Creator and Sustainer of the universe - I shall use the word "Allah" in this book in preference for the word "God".

Death is the inescapable reality that hovers over the head of each one of us. Each and everyone will die. People should not forget that they come into this world naked and penniless and leave it in the same way.

The purpose of life is certainly not to live up to the US Army's slogan on TV commercials "Be all you can be". This will not solve the life puzzle.

The purpose of life in Islam has been clearly defined. Allah informs us in the Koran that the purpose of our existence is to worship Him alone:

**"I have not created jinn and mankind except that they should worship Me"** (Adh-Dhariyat, 56).

It is common knowledge that the prolonged political conflict throughout the ages between the Muslim world and the West gave an excellent opportunity to the Christian clergy to

create a lasting hatred of Muslims in the mind of westerners, so much that even today, the most enlightened Europeans and Americans find it difficult to rise above their inherited prejudices against Islam.

The blind partiality of the European orientalists in their research about Islam added fuel to the fire. They didn't investigate Islam as a mere object of scientific research, but rather considered it as a prosecutor standing before his judges. The scientific technique they adopted hardly ever investigated the true essence of Islam and the importance of its Message to the world, but start almost in every case, from a forgone conclusion dictated by hatred and prejudice.

Nowadays, hired writers can make a prestigious living by slandering Islam and denigrating Muslims. These writers are heavily financed by organizations known by their enmity to Islam, like some in the mainstream media, political organizations and religious groups. Not a week goes by without biased articles appearing in American and European newspapers slandering Islam and describing it with backwardness and terrorism. The so-called specialist writers, semi-academics or rightwing propagandists, though are totally ignorant about Islam, they deliberately misinform and misguide their readers by spreading outright lies.

After September 11, 2001 and the so many insults that had been heaped upon Islam I felt it was my duty to break down the barriers of falsehood. I wrote 11 books about Islam with the purpose of removing the blinkers which have rendered it difficult for many westerners to understand Islam. The facts about Islam are honestly presented without sugarcoating. After all, spreading the Message of Islam is a duty incumbent upon all Muslims.

The books are a huge compilation of Islamic materials arranged chronologically. The books contain 50 chapters with 172 references covering 626 pages. The books deal with important Islamic topics such as: the condition of the world before Islam; the Covenant between Allah and His servants; the Doctrine of Trinity and its development; Arianism; comments on the doctrine of trinity by Christian scholars and researchers; the true religion of Jesus; why Muhammad came after Jesus; the mission of Muhammad and his message; what Islam truly is; how Islam looks at contemporary Judaism and Christianity; prophesies of Prophet Muhammad in the Torah of Moses and the gospel of Jesus; Corruption of Old and New Testaments supported by the research of Christian scholars; Chosen People; the Koran and its authenticity; the Sunna of the Prophet; Universality of Islam; Islam came to reform previous altered religions; manner and appearance of the Prophet; Muhammad the mighty Prophet; Hell and Heaven in the Koran; Things and deeds prohibited in Islam; tolerance, inheritance, wealth, women, the veil, sex, polygamy, democracy human rights, Jihad in Islam; Islamic economy and its resurgence in modern time, The road to paradise; wisdom of creation from the view point of Islam; Muhammad in the eyes of the renowned historians, philosophers and leaders of the West; why Jews and Christians embrace Islam; Islam as a religion is under attack; the recompense of those attacking Islam; Islamic

Christian dialogue; Christendom must reform Christianity before it's too late - in addition to several other important issues.

The facts presented in these books are so clear, so documented that belying or disproving them is a kind of impossibility.

The books represent only a drop in the ocean, a tip of the top of the iceberg, for Islam is a complete code of life, a whole life to live. One must live the religion completely in order to feel its greatness and its Message of divine mercy to all mankind.

All praise is due to Allah for His explicit and implicit favors upon me. His grace on me is ever great; He enabled me to finish the books I have been laboring over for the last 8 years.

The Prophet of Islam said:

**"When a person dies, all his deeds cease except for these three: perpetual charity (benefiting the poor), a beneficial knowledge (benefiting humanity), and a child who invokes Allah for him."**

I hope my books would serve as a beneficial knowledge to the readers who are willing to know the truth about Islam.