In assessing Islam we needs understand the Quran is Muhammad, Muhamad is the Quran. The Hadith is Muhammad, Muhammad is the Hadith. The Allah entity is Muhammad, Muhammad is the Allah entity. All three are made known to us only through Muhammad, the purpose of all three is to legitimate & validate Muhammad, so installing him as sole ruler of the world for all of time.

Thus in evaluating Islam, everything comes back to the integrity, or lack thereof; plus motives, purposes & understandings of Muhammad the man. *In sum,* ***it gets up close & personal!***

In the man Muhammad, we are confronted by a person with an extraordinary criminal record. Dubious & dishonest business dealings, a campaign of relentless seditions constantly slandering people in authority, murderer, brigand, theft, slave-trader, practicing pedophile, terrorism, deceit & expropriating or ~usurping~ the Bible to legitimate himself. How did such become acclaimed by ~some~ as messenger of God?

Firstly Muhammad was a very clever man, while he was uneducated & illiterate IQ is a natural endowment, & if you look at his life & works he can only be a person of high IQ. He was also a product of a dog eat dog world where all competed for advantage, often in a crude & brutal fashion. Some men were physically big & strong, they dominated by their physical strength. Others held wealth or political power, they dominated by their advantages. Muhammad was smarter than most, **he resolved to dominate by outsmarting everybody else**, which he certainly did with ~inventiveness~ & determination. This is dangerous territory, especially in the hands of the one unscrupulous, who seemed to hold a deeply ingrained grudge against mainstream society.

Muhammad was raised as an orphan in a very primitive & basic society where he probably suffered various forms of neglect & abuse. Orphans are often uncared for, we all need someone who cares; from an early age he seems to have invented an imaginary mentor *(later to be named Allah)* who took Muhammad’s side against everybody else. He quickly learned ~I have to look after myself~ yet adults have the power, so the only way he could look after himself was become adroit at inventing stories to manipulate people in order to get what he wanted from them.

(Many years later after a particularly outrageous incident at Medina, where all others were cheated & Muhammad alone profited, one of his wives openly said *~Oh Prophet, how quickly your God hastens to fulfill your every desire~* It seems the one eyed mentor who took Muhammad’s side in all matters was a long standing relationship, perhaps from earliest childhood; as was inventing romances & stories to manipulate & exploit others while advancing himself)

We know little about his adolescence, yet as an orphan he would be held a nobody; he was physically small *& being highly intelligent would have been a somewhat sensitive soul*; plus being **effete** was morally dissolute & exhibited some distinctly effeminate tendencies. We can presume he suffered a rough rite of passage, as the boys sorted out their pecking order in what was a rather primal society.

Certainly he had a deeply ingrained distrust of society for the whole of his life, & was also grudge-bearing towards it. He held his unconscionable using & exploiting of others as ~legitimate~ & in some way fully ~justified~ He believed himself the holder of a ~righteous license~ to misuse others.

It can be said ~hell hath no malignancy like an unloved *(& probably ill-used)* child~

This seems to have motivated him for the whole of his life. He never regretted, recanted or admitted he was wrong in anything; rather he remained unrepentant, unconscionable & unscrupulous to his last breath.

At 25 he contrived to marry into a powerful local family, so pursued his depredations & exploitation of others under their protections. *(An early template for what was later to become Islam)*

Marrying into local power & money did not solve his problems.

Khadijah was a woman of independent accomplishment; an older widow past childbearing, so the family would indulge whatever gave her comfort for her remaining years. Something they would not do for a younger woman of childbearing age or if held a foolish woman. She may have been more a substitute mother than wife. Muhammad has a history of abnormal relationships.

*Khadijah is one of the few founding figures in Islam I have any time for. A forthright, capable & good hearted woman she found a personal project in Muhammad to fill her remaining years; bringing him into a good home, stability & security he had never had. Unfortunately for her efforts Muhammad was by then deeply damaged goods which could not be fixed.*

Once in the family; rather than being accepted as an equal, he would have been told you are just a loser picked up of the street & only here as Khadijah’s toy-boy. Now sit quietly & be grateful; leave the affairs of the world to real men. He would have then sought ~consolation~ in his natural social circle of malcontents in the street, regaling them with insider stories of nefarious dealings by their social leaders, attesting how they wronged his ambitious self; ultimately combining his own discontents with theirs in common cause.

In sum, Muhammad does not have much to recommend him. Yet he did not understand himself as a malcontent & a defective misfit; but as a ~corrective light-force~ righting many wrongs both real & imaginary.

Any study of Robespierre, Lenin, Hitler or Pol Pot reveals a similar picture; they were opportunistic malcontents exploiting wider social concerns for their own ends. Yet each understood themselves as a ~corrective light-force~ & righters of wrongs; it is fair to say at least some of these wrongs actually existed.

Yet they also suffered from their own human failings, so taken jointly & severally each founded mass movements of supposed correction; cures which proved worse than the disease they were claiming to remedy.

By age 40 his seditions & racketeering had become so extensive he was making too many enemies so outgrowing the capacity of his earthly patrons to protect him. Only then did he contrive to become a Prophet, so seeking a divine mandate to continue his racketeering & exploitations under the auspices of a bigger protector. While some adulate him & accept his claims, most others hold he has more of the attributes of messenger of Satan, than messenger of God. Yet on the basis of his highly dubious claims, Islam seeks to be sole ruler of the world; purportedly the only true agency of God.

We can only understand Muhammad as an alienated & disaffected little man, with a grudge against society; while being extraordinarily confident in his own ability to craft a better society. Read the Quran, it constantly defaults to **the endless dark mutterings of the Allah entity,** as to how all these perfidious Infidel dogs will suffer when he catches up with them; then switches to endless romances of the delightful rewards he will give to those who follow Muhammad.

Yet no matter how ardently Muhammad may believe otherwise, **he was wrong to condemn his society** & even more wrong to try to try to subjugate & enslave the world to his own misguided writ.

It is the Bible which is correct in holding human fallibility is redeemed in the atonement of Christ & then written off, *subject to some conditions.*

Yet further, all human endeavors are in some part flawed. Christ is the living body corporate of the pure of heart, those who have had some good life experience to draw of & remain pure of intent despite their faults. Islam is the living body corporate of the impure of heart; those who are disaffected & alienated so have no good life experience to improve society out off.

Where all human effort is in some part flawed; which of the two is likely to produce the **less-flawed** of all possible worlds we could make for ourselves, & which of the two can only bring forth the **more-flawed**? *Look at the credentials of the two different design teams, which is likely to develop the better of all possible societies we might live in?*

Muslims are relentless in pointing out the faults of the wider world as justifying their own alternate worldview. Where these failings not only do exist, but will continue to exist because they are essential to human function. Human failings are essential to function, they were endowed by the Creator himself & Muhammad wrong to presume himself licensed to correct, when he was not even capable of accurate diagnoses. Thus no matter how much Islam protests its cause, it is always a cure worse than any disease it purports to remedy.

The west could say similarly of Robespierre, *sometimes held Mr. Incorruptible,* whose war against normal human failings culminated in a depraved & Godless regime.

On the matter of law; Muhammad committed so many crimes & wrongs he was wide open to rightful prosecution.

After one pivotal & outrageous misdeed where everybody else got cheated & Muhammad alone profited when he was at Medina, HE SEIZED THE MOMENT.

Declaring himself ~infallible~ *Allah’s messenger could do no wrong in the eyes of God, no matter how wrong he be in the eyes of man.* He then proceeded to declare himself beyond all law & a law wholly unto himself. Thus he instituted rule of sharia outlawry *~in lieu~* of rule of law.

When Islam refused to retract from this position, the law abiding world *(to the extent it existed)* **read the outlawry act**; declaring Islam an outlaw faith, in the traditional sense of ~outside the law~ thus external to the considerations & protections of the law. If you have an institutionalized rule of outlawry which refuses to recant or change its ways, invoking the outlawry act is the only response available to the law abiding.

As Islam’s rule of sharia outlawry is contrary to the law of the Biblical God, & contrary to the laws of civilized societies, that is where the matter remains.

The whole of Muhammad’s life, work & understanding concludes in an institutionalized rule of outlawry. Understand Muhammad & his life; some form of outlawry was inevitable.

Muhammad **proclaimed himself** the last of the Prophets, superior to Christ & even as corrector of the errors of those who follow Christ. Yet Christ is the living body corporate of the pure at heart, who despite their human failings understand God quite truly. While Islam is the living body corporate of the alienated & disaffected, the impure at heart who understand God not at all.

Muhammad does NOT transcend Christ nor have authority over him; the collective higher consciousness of humanity as a whole, which is the living body of Christ; transcends & has dominion over the individual efforts of each & every one of us.

We needs ask where Christ is the collective higher consciousness of humanity as a whole; & Muhammad the collective disaffections of humanity as a whole, where both live in & through each & every one of us; which one of the two has the true power to redeem us, raise us up & save us?

Christ responds…

*~I am the light & the way, no-one comes to the Father except through me~*

Evolution of all the great religions is a passage of development; OT primitiveness to higher & broader development. Confucianism for instance is officially accredited as starting with Sun Tzu & ~the art of war~ a primitive & brutal OT social code; then developing progressively through later speakers into a more sophisticated & broadly developed NT ethos. *Still a social code too duty bound to serve the divine right of the incumbent Emperor or incumbent Party for the liking of westerners.*  The same progressively developmental path from basic OT to more sophisticated NT applies to faiths as diverse as Paganism, Hinduism, the Bible, civil religions et al

By comparison Islam is the work of one man Muhammad, an uneducated & illiterate tribal brigand; an alienated & disaffected social misfit with a chip on his shoulder the size of a log

He held humanity had committed some great unspecified wrong against him personally; so he held a divine mandate to subjugate & suppress humanity as a whole; so forcing it to ~submit~ to his own (mis)rule

To Muslims Muhammad is the last, final & ~binding~ word of God; so his works can never be altered or repudiated by others as humanity develops. All other religions have some ~inbuilt capacity~ to adapt & respond as humanity goes forward; Islam ALONE does not

All religions are NOT the same.

Most faiths variously subscribe to humanities natural love & natural reason, so endeavor to craft creditworthy societies on that plane.

Jews & Christians subscribe to Gods (higher) love & ~higher~ reasoning; holding subscribing to such will give rise to more creditworthy outcomes.

Of note is most creditworthy religions subscribe to love & reason as ~constructive enablers~ albeit on two different operating planes.

In binding the two together as one, each would become a spanner in the workings of the other, so jamming up the workings of ALL; leaving humanity with no functional systems in which to build our lives. In Genesis God cast out Ishmael, confident our normative capacities are naturally occurring so Ishmael could go fish for himself & make his own way to the extent of our natural capacities, without any help from a higher God.

The Biblical God then threw his weight behind the Isaac line (you will be my people & I will be your God) on the grounds operating on this higher plane is such a challenge & a struggle, IT NEEDS ALL THE HELP IT CAN GET.

First Jews then Christians committed to serve this higher ethos.

All of which requires us to ask; just who or what is Isaac exactly; just who or what is Ishmael exactly?

In answer Ishmael is accredited as the first born of Abraham so can only be representative of our natural or basic natures. This first had to be established as functionally operational; before our higher consciousness could endeavor to utilize such as a platform to build up off in aspiring to higher things.

Isaac is clearly representative of our higher natures seeking to obtain control & ascendency over our baser or more natural natures. Their sequence of arrival attest Ishmael the first born, & Isaac the second born. Their respective circumstances of conception & birth attest Ishmael an interim model Isaac the legitimated end-product intended from the beginnings.  *Ishmael was conceived naturally; Isaac by divine intervention. As Abraham is accredited the father of nations; this makes them effectively the first born & second born* ***of humanity as a whole.***

Thus Isaac becomes the legitimate succession *(the chosen people of a higher creator)* Ishmael the illegitimate succession. **Yet both remain clear successions**; with Abraham petitioning God *~I wish that Ishmael too stood good in your sight~* & God for his part opening up a well to sustain the departing Hagar & Ishmael, while assuring them they too would continue to prosper, *but prosper separately from Him.*

The Biblical faiths aspire to raise humanity up to *~better than we would otherwise be~* How do we know whether we are succeeding or the degree of such; unless the living body corporate of Ishmael *~what we would otherwise be~* continues to exist as a **real time** reference point to measure our efforts *~relative to~*

Jews & Christians are the proven inheritors of the Isaac Covenant; commitment to serve the higher Biblical God.

Faiths as diverse as Paganism, ancient Egyptian & Aztec religions, Hinduism, Confucianism, Atheism & Civil Religions the proven heirs & successors of the Ishmael Covenant. Despite Muhammad’s self-serving claims to the contrary; Islam is the heir & successor of NEITHER; the only major religion which is NOT an Abrahamic faith.

Muslims do not love or reason with Allah, rather they submit to his edicts out of **fear**. He is a capricious & arbitrary petty despot who will destroy humans if in any way displeased. Most of the things that displease him are so petty & absurd they are laughable, but Muslims take them with dreadful seriousness. Love & reason (on any plane) are NET POSITIVES so ~constructive enablers~ of human endeavor, fear is a NET NEGATIVE so a ~self-destructive disabler~ of human endeavor.

**Muhammad himself is a troubling case study.**

Biblical figures had their human failings, but were constant in their efforts to raise society UP to work on some higher plane; Muhammad is more user-abuser.

His romances & contradictions are in some ways similar to a psychiatric case; but he is too ~consistent~ in advancing himself at everyone else’s expense to be a psychiatric.

He shows the symptoms of a ~trauma case~ where people themselves misused & abused by others as their own ~formative experience~ buy into the legitimacy of misuse & abuse. They then go on to misuse & abuse others under various pretexts deemed legitimate. Primal societies cyclically repress all their citizens in turn as they need to keep all a bit down in order to operate in their mean conditions. Yet as a person with some undesirable personal traits, we can presume Muhammad more picked on than most, & as a sensitive soul the one most likely to take it personally & deeply resent it.

*No wonder he was alienated, & contemptuously distrusting of all people; holding all humanity complicit in some great wrong committed against him. He then held ~nobody cares for me, stuff’em all, I will look after myself~ He plotted some sort of remedial action; yet as we can only build out of our own experience & what we ourselves know; his remedy was even more user-abuser & contemptuous of human worth; than the wrongs he sought to remedy.*

He was not against misuse & abuse so long as it did not apply to him; & by extension those followers who submitted to his (mis)rule. At the same time he openly abused & misused all others who did not so submit; claiming a mandate from his Allah entity to do so. Like all abusers he is contemptuous of basic human worth; humans can only be redeemed in submission to his own (mis)rule.

Yet user-abuser cultures are no respecters of ~them & us~ boundaries; so he bequeathed his followers with a ritual ethos of misusage & self-abuse equally harmful to his followers, as it is harmful to those of us who do not subscribe to his claim to be a Prophet of God.

In positing the difference between Christianity & Islam, there **may be** no difference in aspiration but huge difference in ability to ~deliver~

Christianity is based on the socially caring who themselves have good lives; effecting a transfer of life-building skills to those who do not. As the donors had good lives to begin with, they have better skills to transfer. While subject to intermittent human failings; the resultant Christianity is a cure, dependent on extent of uptake; always in some part better than the disease it seeks to remedy.

Muhammad too seems to have sought divine aid to bring humanity to order so to curb misuse or rejection of himself. Yet Muhammad had no good life, you cannot give what you do not have, & he had no better life skills to transfer. The resultant Islam is a cure, again dependent on extent of uptake; always in some part worse than the disease it purports to remedy.

**On extent of uptake**, in all religions it depends on the resolve & commitment of those who advance the faith. It is affected by current circumstances or ~felt need~ for change; & depends on the degree of willingness or depth or resistance of the faiths respective followers to adopt the precepts of a particular faith. Some ~cherry-pick~ their faith to adopt only its easier demands, others take up the whole in full. These are the variables which determine moderates & the fully committed. *There are many so called moderate Muslims; yet Muhammad is so defective, even moderate take-up is fatally flawed.*

**In summary...** God & society knows all humans are a variable mix of strengths & virtues, fallibilities & failings; so examines all humans to determine the mix of each. Most important in this evaluation, do virtues exceed failings & if so by how much; or do failings exceed virtues & if so by how much? Where perfection is available to no-body, & damned without a single redeeming merit also possible in none; this is the only evaluative criteria we can apply. Both God & society generally are determined & robust in exercising these evaluative assessments, of our individual & collective worth.

In the case of the peoples of Isaac, followers of the Biblical God; the OT Prophets & NT Disciples of Christ all had their human failings transparently posted in the Bible for all to see. Yet these were ~transcended~ by their commitment to variously serve a higher God, in a manner which ensured their positives exceeded their negatives. When these were spurned, rejected, vilified or ~martyred~ it could not have happened to a group of people less deserving of it. *Bad news for followers of the Biblical God; we may sometimes be disparaged for our faith. Good news we will be better people than we would otherwise be if we uphold it, the world in some part a better place because of it.*

In the case of the peoples of Ishmael, followers of lesser Gods; most of their mainstream religious & social leaders too had their human failings, but were striving to form some type of creditworthy society at their level of understanding. When these too were sometimes rejected, spurned vilified or killed, it could not have happened to a group of people, not particularly deserving of it. *Bad news for Ishmael, you cannot be better people no matter which of the many non-Biblical faiths you adopt.* ***Good news*** *you cannot be worse people either as all faiths operating on Ishmaels normative plane of consciousness are as good & as bad as each other. The condition normal may vary its social codes & rituals, but remains equally the same in outcomes regardless.*

In the case of Islam we know Muhammad was raised as an orphan in a primitive society; the possible wrongs & abuses of which invite our humanist & Christian consideration as to the extent they may have adversely affected his character.

Yet this consideration is limited in extent; not all orphans turn out badly, not all children raised in a good home turn out well. More particularly, when Khadijah bought Muhammad in from the cold at the age of 25; he was given a good home & every opportunity to turn his life around, **& he didn’t.**

In the finish we are all accountable *(both to God & to humanity generally)* for what we make of our lives. Muhammad spent his whole life inventing stories & contrivances, manipulating, exploiting & misusing others, in a bid to advance & enshrine himself. If he was rejected, spurned & vilified by many people both in his time & since; **it could not have happened to a more deserving kind of guy**.

*I have no good news for Muslims, only bad news, bad news* ***& yet more bad news****. If you follow Muhammad you can only be in some part worse people than you would otherwise be; & the world a worse place for having Islam in it.*  ***The yet more bad news,*** *while followers of the Biblical God are redeemed & saved, followers of the non-Biblical faiths of Ishmael not especially saved but not particularly damned either (the condition ~normal~ seems in some type of holding pattern);* ***Islam is the only faith of the certainly damned.***

Ken Maynard… revised & updated version June-2016… close