



YOUR GOD
AND OUR GOD
IS **ONE.**

THE PROOF IS HERE.

UNITY OF RELIGIONS

If you look at planet Earth from outer space, it looks like a giant blue ball floating in space. If you look closely, you will find no walls or boundaries separating peoples and nations. Aliens probably see it as a beautiful home of the human family. Beautiful it is! But sadly, a divided house.



Humankind is a divided lot. It's a no-brainer. We are divided by national boundaries, language, economic status, religion, caste, creed, race, color, gender, ethnicity, culture, history, and geography! Perhaps we are also united by an equal number of reasons. Religion undoubtedly tops the list of major divisive factors in human society. (from page 45- 46, Religion and Numbers).

Ignorance about *God, the Creator*, blinders of religion, and religious illiteracy, keeps humanity divided. To make matters worse, our preachers too are ignorant about other religions. They never tell us anything good about other religions. They always harp on the differences, rather than the commonality between religions. Those who attend religious sermons would have experienced, at some time, how our preachers distort the core beliefs of other religions, portraying them as false or corrupted religions. They spend precious time proving the infallibility of their own religion, scriptures, and God while rubbishing other Gods, religions, and scriptures. If only they had applied the same energy and zeal in finding common ground between different religions, our world would have been a much better place. But such behavior of our preachers is normal. Their theological training “programs” them that way. *Thus, all religions are fighting to increase their following and win as many hearts and minds as possible. It's a battle for the minds and hearts. Same as the cola wars. In that sense, religions are just “brands”, competing and fighting for supremacy.*

During my search for *the Universal God*, I discovered many similarities between different religions, similarities that point to the Unity of Religions. Let's check ten great examples of “Unity of Religions”.

Ten great examples of “Unity of Religions”:

1. Similar religious practices in Judaism and Islam.

- i. Both religions promote unity in their community by greetings of peace. The Judaic greeting “Shalom” means “peace” in Hebrew. The Islamic greeting “As-salāmu alaykum” means “peace be upon you” in Arabic.
- ii. Congregational prayers: Exclusive use of Hebrew in Jewish prayers and exclusive use of Arabic in Islamic prayers. Also, there is no instrumental music, men and women are segregated, and men cover their heads during prayers in both religions.
- iii. Judaic prayer begins with, “May it be Thy Will”, which is similar to the frequent use of “Inshallah” by Muslims, which means “If God so Wills”.
- iv. Daily mandatory prayers: Islam prescribes five daily mandatory prayers for Muslims. Judaism prescribes three daily mandatory prayers for Jews.
- v. Angels and prophets: The Tanakh (the Hebrew Bible) and the Talmud (rabbinic literature) of the Jews and the Holy Quran of Muslims mention Mikhael (Michael) and Jibril (Gabriel) as angels of God. Scriptures of both religions contain several accounts of biblical figures such as Adam, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, David, and Solomon.
- vi. Circumcision: As per the Torah of Judaism, male newborns are required to be circumcised. Although not ordained explicitly in the Quran, male circumcision is common among Muslims.
- vii. Permissible food: Jews “keep kosher,” meaning they eat only “kosher foods.” Muslims eat only “halal (permissible)” food and avoid haram (prohibited) food. Jews and Muslims avoid pork because pork is “not kosher” and is a forbidden food in Islam.
- viii. Proclamation of faith at the time of death:
 Jews: “Hear O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is ONE.”
 Muslims: “I bear witness that there is no God but God,
 and Muhammad is His messenger.”
- ix. Final rites: Cremation is prohibited in Judaism and Islam.

2. Similar warning against killing innocent civilians in Judaism and Islam.

- **Whoever destroys a soul it is considered as if he destroyed an entire world. And whoever saves a life, it is considered as if he saved an entire world.** (Jerusalem Talmud, Sanhedrin 4:1, 22a)
- **On that account, We ordained for the Children of Israel that if anyone slew a person... it would be as if he slew the whole people: and if anyone saved a life, it would be as if he saved the life of the whole people.**(Quran, Surah 5, verse 32).

- 3. Only one life: Jews, Christians, and Muslims believe they live only one life, and whatever good or evil they do in this life would determine how they spend their eternal life after death.
- 4. Equivalence of Christian and Islamic names²¹.

Names in the Bible and the Quran	
Jesus	Issa
Mary	Mariam
Adam	Aadam
Eve	Haoua
Moses	Musa
Aaron	Harun
John the Baptist	Yahya
Abraham	Ibrahim
David	Dawood
Solomon	Suleiman
Goliath	Jalooth
Cain	Qabil
Abel	Habil
Issac	Issak
Joseph	Yusuf
Gabriel	Jibril
Jonah	Yunus
Jacob	Yakub
Job	Ayyub
Noah	Nuh
Michael	Mikaeel
Zechariah	Zakariyyā
Attributes of God, the Creator	
Eternal	Al-Baqi
Omnipotent	Al-Muqtadir
Omniscient	Al-Alim
Omnipresent	Al-Wasi

5. Similar clothing in Christianity and Islam:



Robes of Christian clergy



Thobes of Arabs



Habit, worn by Catholic nuns.
(with and without face veil)



Burqa, worn by Muslim women.
(with and without face veil)

Note: Catholic nuns (Capuchin nuns and Carmelites) wear black habit, black head veil, and a face veil. Such clothing was once considered a symbol of modesty and virtuousness among Christians.

6. Similar messages in the Bible and the Quran.

Who is God?

- I am the First, and I am the Last, apart from me there is no God... (Bible: Isaiah 44:6)
- He is the First and the Last, the Evident and the Immanent, and He has full knowledge of all things. (Quran: Surah 57:3)

The same God in Christianity and Islam.

- God says to Moses, "I am *the God of your father*, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. (Bible: Exodus 3:6)
- When he (Jacob) asked his sons, "Whom will you worship after my death?" They replied, "We will worship your God, the *God of your fathers*, Abraham, Ishmael, and Isaac. (Quran: Surah 2:133)

God is with us.

- For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them. (Bible: Matthew 18:20, NIV)
- There is in no private conversation (among) three, but He is the fourth... He is with them (in knowledge) wherever they are. (Quran: Surah 58:7)

God answers prayers.

- Call unto me, and I will answer thee. (Bible: Jeremiah 33:3 KJV)
- Call upon me, and I will answer your prayer. (Quran: Surah 40:60)

Creation of man

- And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul. (Bible: Gen 2, 7 KJV)
- We created man from sounding clay, from mud molded into shape. (Quran: Surah 15:26)

Kindness to parents

- Honor thy father and thy mother, as the Lord thy God hath commanded thee, that thy days may be prolonged... (Bible: Deuteronomy 5:16 KJV)
- Thy Lord has decreed that you worship none but Him and that you be kind to parents. Whether one or both of them attain old age in thy life, say not to them a word of contempt, nor repel them, but address them in terms of honor. (Quran: Surah 17:23)

Crime and punishment

- And if any mischief follows, then thou shalt give life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burning for burning, wound for wound, stripe for stripe. (Bible: Exodus 21:23-25).
- And We prescribed for them therein: The life for the life, and the eye for the eye, and the nose for the nose, and the ear for the ear, and the tooth for the tooth, and for wounds retaliation. But whoso forgoeth it (in the way of charity) it shall be expiation for him. (Quran: Surah 5:45)

Adultery

- And the man that committeth adultery with another man's wife, even he that committeth adultery with his neighbor's wife, the adulterer, and the adulteress shall surely be put to death. (Bible: Leviticus 20:10 KJV)
- The woman and the man, guilty of adultery or fornication - flog each of them with a hundred stripes... (Quran: Surah 24:2)

Providing sustenance to all creatures

- Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns, yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are you not much better than they? (Bible: Matthew 6:26 KJV)
- How many are the creatures that carry not their own sustenance? It is God Who feeds them and you, for He hears and knows all things. (Quran: Surah 29:60)

Prohibited foods

- And the swine, though he divide the hoof, and be cloven footed, yet he cheweth not the cud, he is unclean to you. Of their flesh, shall ye not eat. (Bible: Leviticus 11:7, 8 KJV)
- He has only forbidden you dead meat and blood and the flesh of swine and that on which any other name has been invoked besides that of God. (Quran: Surah 2:173)

Worshipping other Gods

- You shall not make idols for yourselves or erect an image or pillar, and you shall not set up a figured stone in your land to bow down to it, for I am the LORD your God. (Bible: Leviticus 26:1 ESV)
- Your Lord has decreed that you worship none but Him. (Quran: S 17:23)

7. The same fundamental prayer to *God, the Creator*, seeking guidance for good and protection against evil.

Hindu prayer (Gayatri Mantra, Rig Veda 3.62.10, Rig Veda 3:63:20, Yajur Veda 3.35.22.9, Yajur Veda 36:3 and Sām Veda 6: 3:10:1):

Oh God! Thou art the giver of life,

Remover of pain & sorrow, The bestower of happiness.

Oh! Creator of the Universe, may we receive Thy supreme sin-destroying light.

May Thou guide our intellect in the right direction.

Christian prayer (The Lord's prayer, Matthew 6: 9-13):

Our Father in Heaven hallowed be Thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from all evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the Power and Glory, forever and ever, amen.

Islamic prayer (Al Fatiah, Surah 1:1-7):

In the name of God, most Gracious, Most Merciful

Praise be to God, the *Cherisher and Sustainer of the Worlds*,

Most Gracious, most Merciful.

Master of the Day of Judgment,

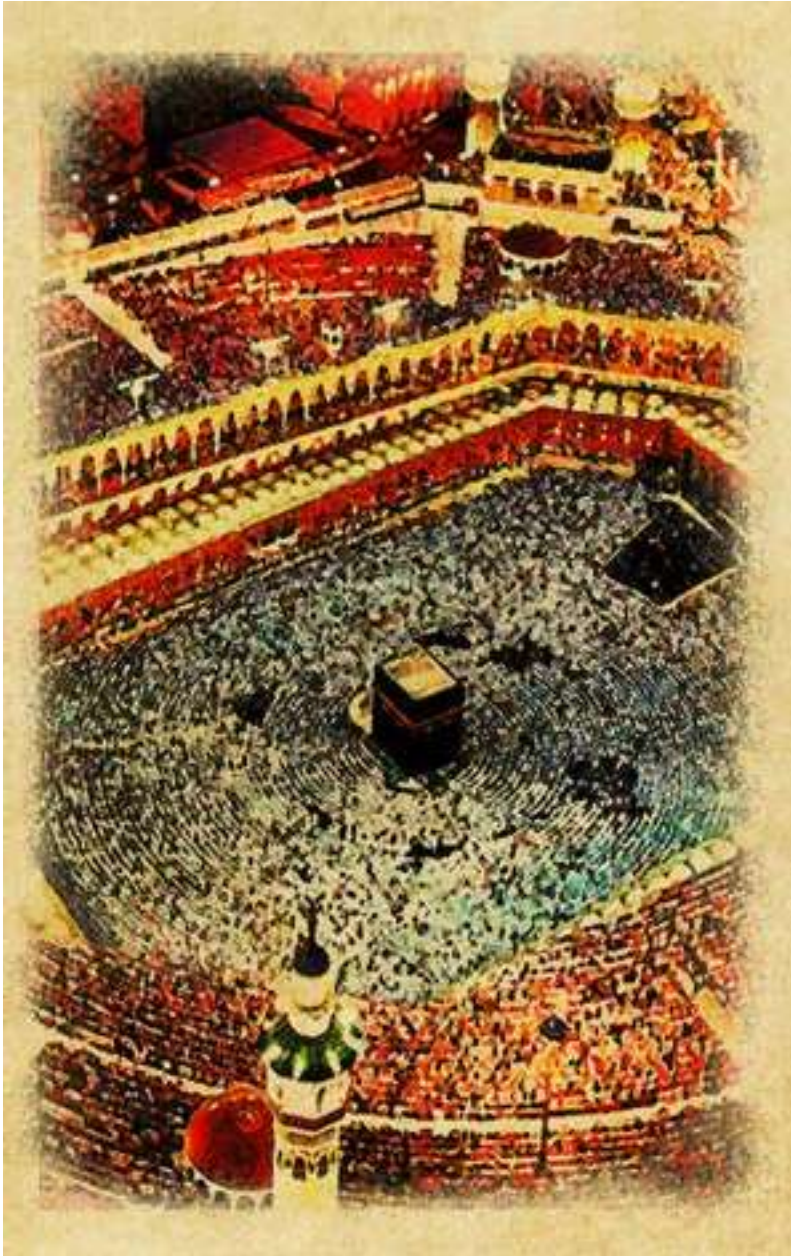
Thee do we worship; and thine aid we seek. Show us the straight way,

The way of those on whom Thou hast bestowed Thy Grace.

Those whose portion is not wrath and who go not astray.

8. Islamic beliefs with reference to Christian beliefs.

- a) Muslims confirm that they worship *the same living God*, Who created Adam and Eve, the God of Abraham, Moses, Isaac, Jacob, and Noah.
- b) Muslims also confirm they worship *the same living God* the Christians call "our Father in Heaven". The big difference is that Muslims address Him as "Rabb" or "Lord" in Arabic, while Christians address Him as "Abb" or "Father". Muslims don't attribute any filial relation to God because it imposes limitations on God, Who has no limitations.
- c) Islam refers to the angel Gabriel as the 'Holy Spirit' (Ruh Al- Qudus). He is the angel who brings God's revelations to prophets and messengers. In contrast, Christians consider the "Holy Spirit" as part of the Trinity.
- d) Christians say 'Amen' (so be it) at the end of prayers and supplications. Muslims say 'Ameen' (so be it) at the end of Al Fatiah and supplications.
- e) The holiest shrine of Islam (in Mecca) was originally built by Abraham.



The holiest shrine of Islam in Mecca was built by Abraham (as revealed in the Quran).

Abraham is honored as a friend of God in both the Bible and the Quran:

- You, Israel, my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the offspring of Abraham, my friend. (Bible, Isaiah 41.8)
- ...for God did take Abraham for a friend. (Quran, Surah 4, verse 125)

9. Similar names and attributes of *God, the Creator* in Hinduism and Islam.

Hinduism	Islam	Meaning
Achintya	Al-Batin	Hidden, Inconceivable
Advaita	Al-Wahid	One without a second
Adi (ādi)	Al-Awwal	The First
Anādi	Al-Awwal	Beginningless
Anant/ Nitya	Al-Baqi	Eternal/Everlasting
Akshara	Al-Badi	Imperishable
Sarvajna	Al-Alim	Omniscient, All-Knowing
Sarvavyapi (Sarvagata)	Al -Wasi	Omnipresent, All-pervading
Sat	Al-Haqq	The Truth

10. Similarity of beliefs in Hinduism and Islam

a. *Similar description of God, the Creator*

- > Grasping without hands, moving without feet, He sees without eyes, hears without ears. He knows (all) that is to be known, but none can know Him. They call Him the First (Al-Awwal), the Great (Al-Azim), and the all-pervasive Entity (Al-Wasi). (Svet. Upanishad Ch. 3, Verse 19).
- > No vision can grasp Him, but His grasp is over all. He is above all comprehension yet is acquainted with all things. (Holy Quran, S 6 V 103)

b. *Similarity of Islamic and Hindu names*

- i) Abdullah (Abd Allah) = Ishwardas (Ishwar-das) = Servant of God
- ii) Noor Ullah = Om Prakash = Light of God

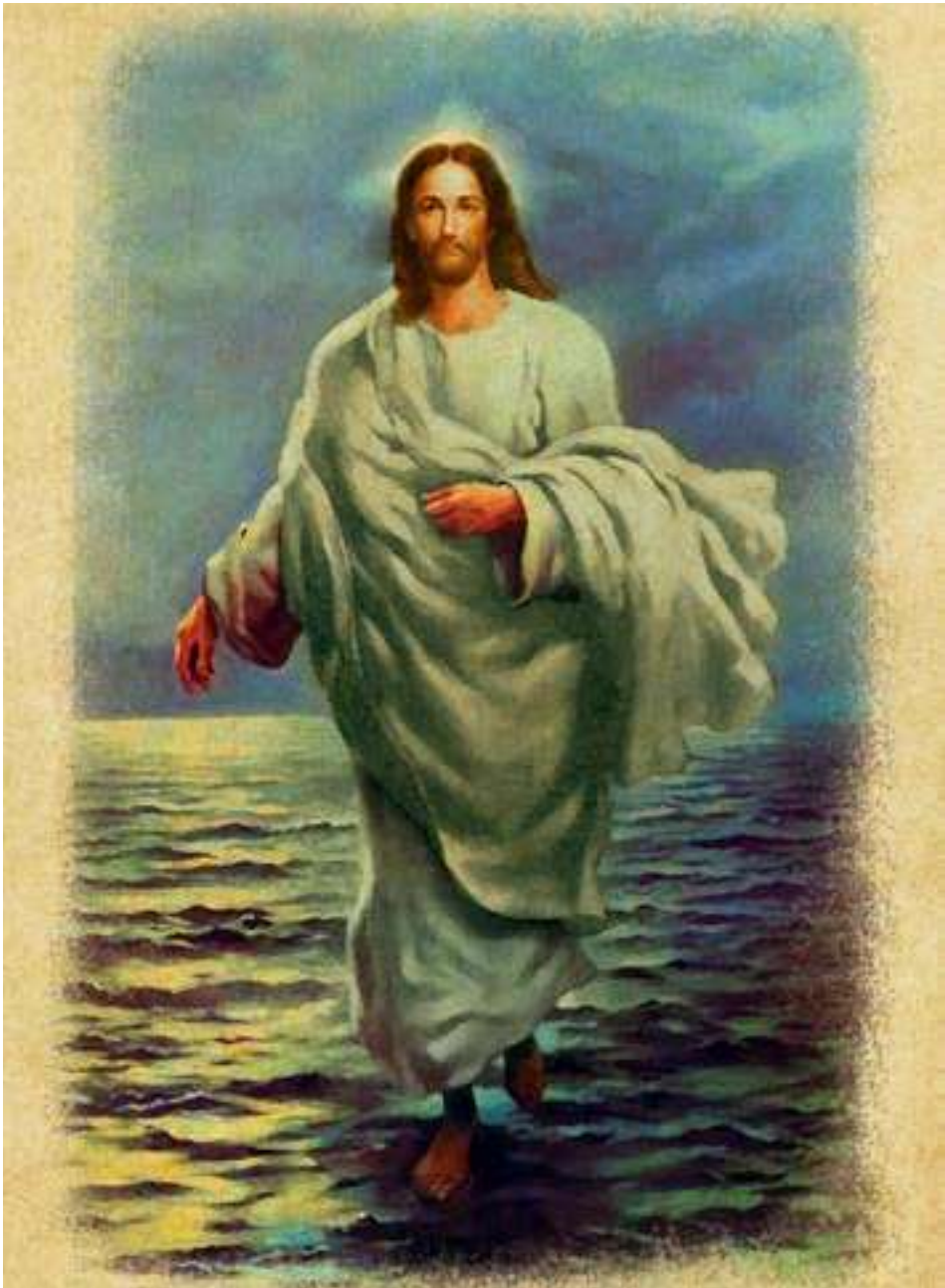
c. *Similar prayer timing*

- i) Hindus offer their first prayer of the day at Brahma muhurta (The Creator's Hour) between dawn and sunrise.
- ii) Muslims also offer their first obligatory prayer of the day (Fajr), between dawn and sunrise.

d. *Modest clothing for women*

Hindus and Muslims have traditionally encouraged modest clothing for their women and have culturally censured immodest display of body parts.





The second coming of Jesus (as promised by our Father in Heaven)
(God Speak 3.32) And (Jesus) shall be a Sign (for the coming of) the Hour (of Judgment).
Therefore, have no doubt about the (Hour), but follow Me, this is the straight way.