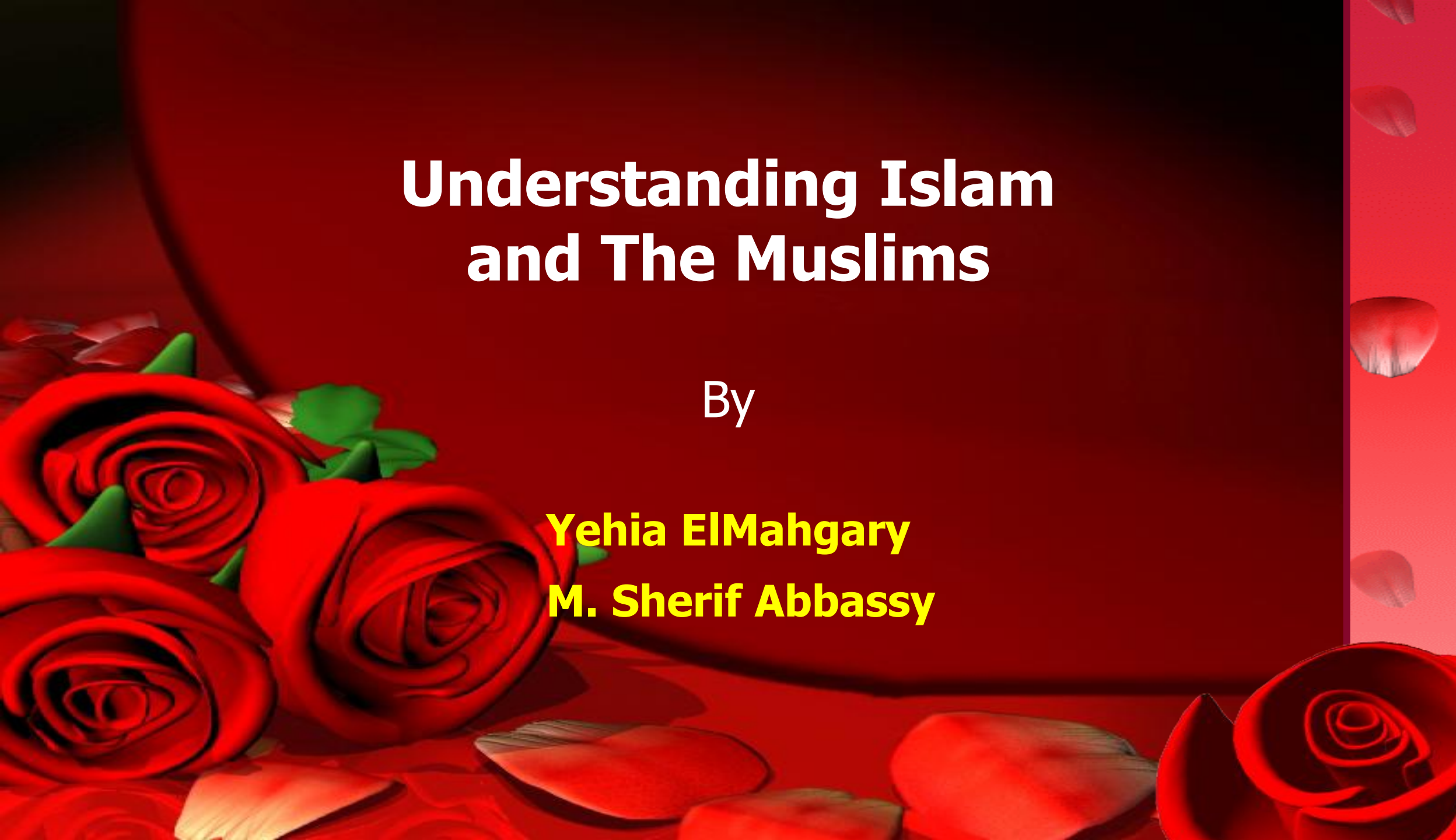


Understanding Islam and The Muslims

By

Yehia ElMahgary
M. Sherif Abbassy



FAQ



What is Islam?

What does 'Islam' mean?

*The Arabic word 'Islam' simply means 'submission',
and derives from a word meaning 'peace'.*

In a religious context it means complete submission to the will of God.

Ideal
System of
Living for
All of
Mankind



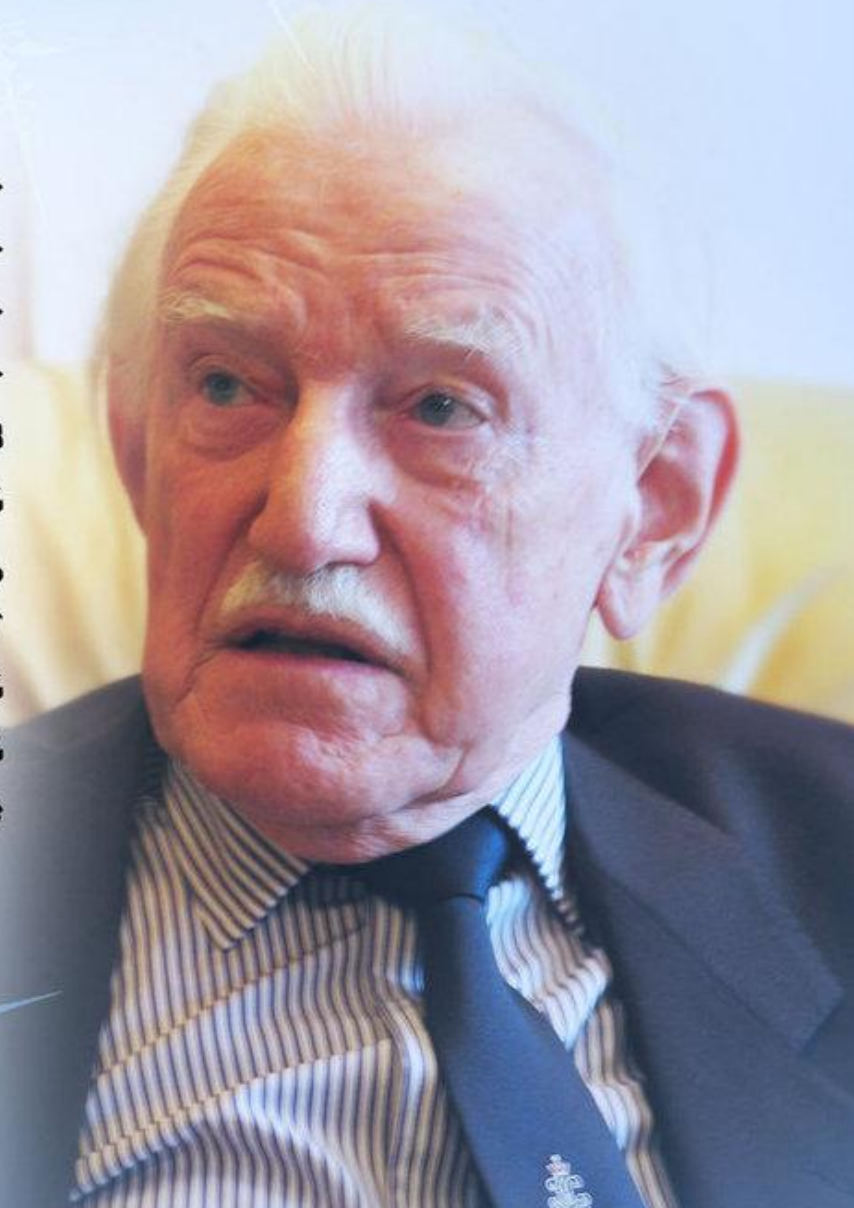
Islam is not a new religion, but the same truth that God revealed through all His prophets to every people.

For a fifth of the world's population, Islam is both a religion and a complete way of life. Muslims follow a religion of peace, mercy, and forgiveness, and the vast majority have nothing to do with the extremely grave events which have come to be associated with their faith.

HERBERT HOBOHM (NOW AMAN HOBOHM):

German diplomat, missionary and social worker. An intellectual who has been serving the German diplomatic missions in various parts of the world. He embraced Islam in 1941.


"I have lived under different systems of life and have had the opportunity of studying various ideologies, but have come to the conclusion that none is as perfect as Islam. None of the systems has got a complete code of a noble life, Only Islam has it and that is why good men embrace it. Islam is not theoretical; it is practical. It means complete submission to the will of God."





Who are the Muslims?



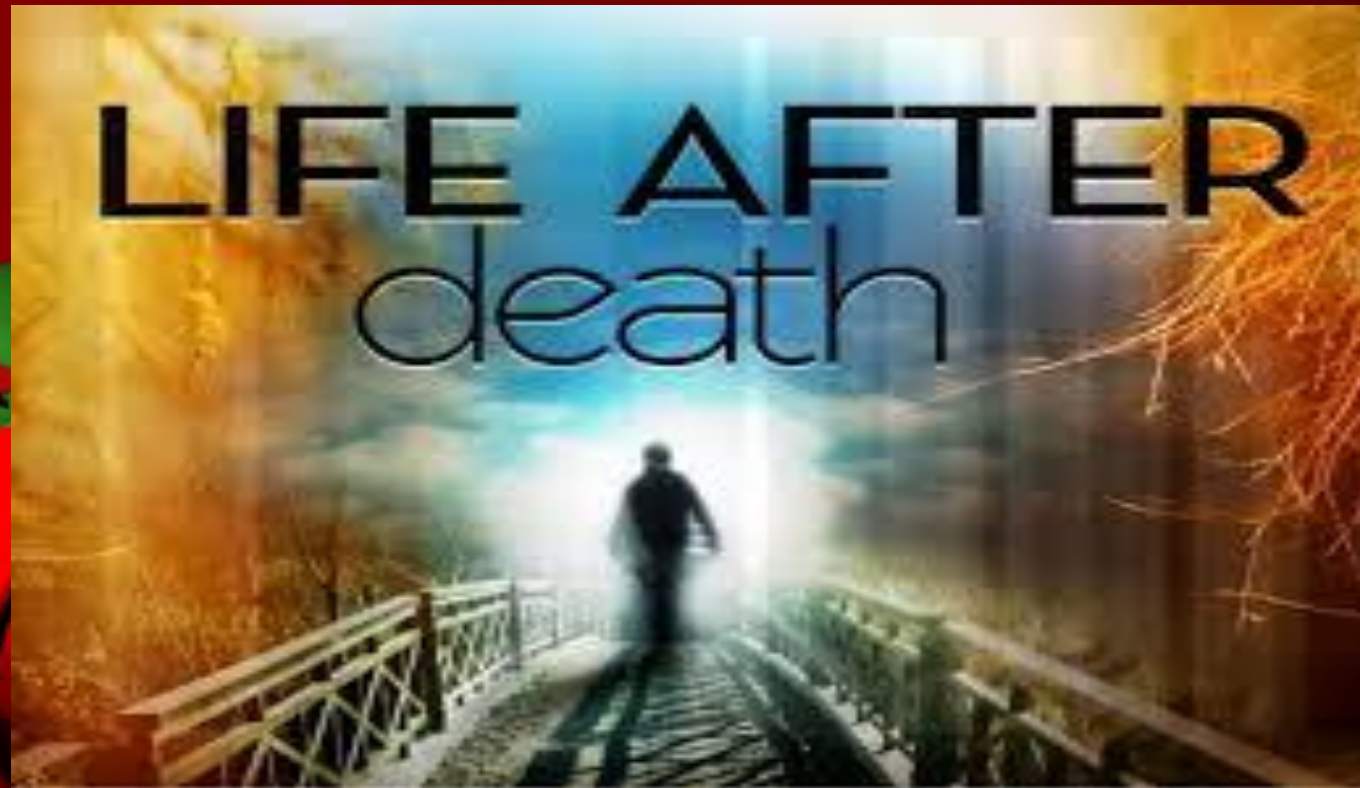
The background of the slide features a dense arrangement of red roses and scattered petals. The roses are in various stages of bloom, with some showing deep red petals and others appearing as soft, out-of-focus petals. The overall color palette is a rich, vibrant red, creating a romantic and elegant atmosphere. The text is overlaid on this background in a clean, white, sans-serif font.

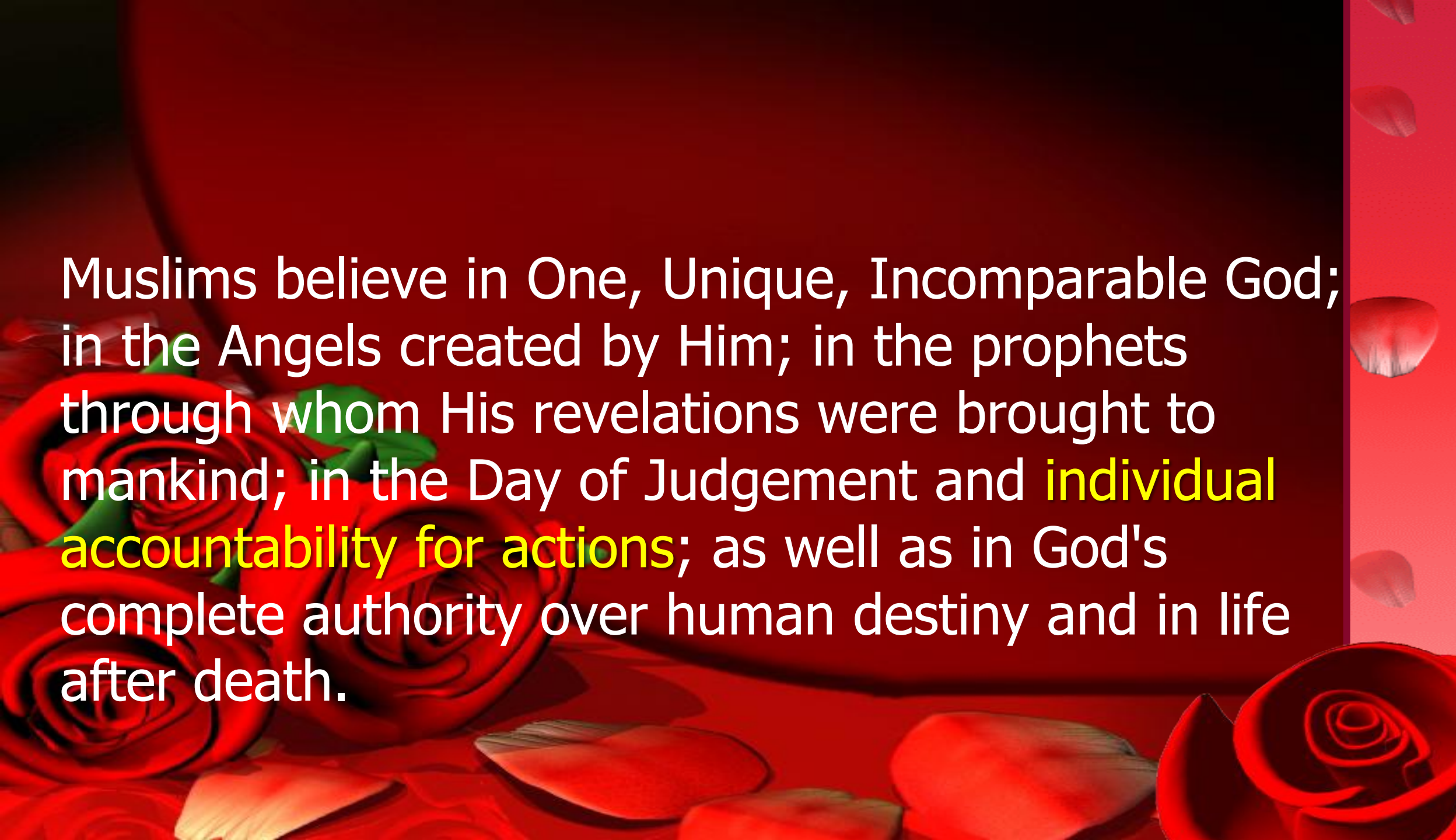
More than One billion and a half people from a vast range of races, nationalities and cultures across the globe -- from the southern Philippines to Nigeria -- are united by their common Islamic faith. About 18% live in the Arab world.

The world's largest Muslim community today .. is in Indonesia (soon to be surpassed by India);

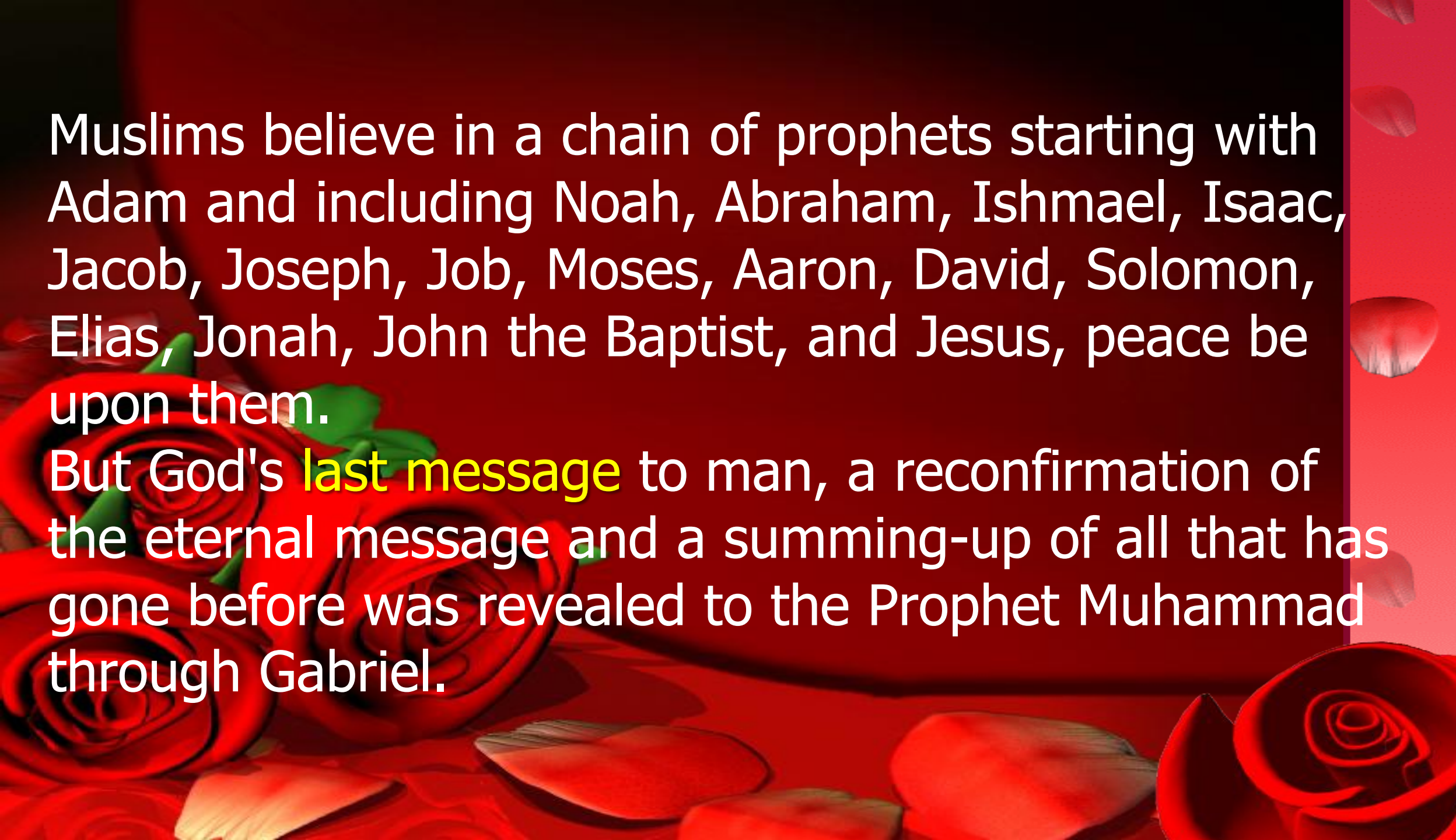
Substantial parts of Asia and most of Africa are Muslim, while significant minorities are to be found in the Soviet Union, China, North and South America, Australia, and Europe.

What do Muslims believe in?





Muslims believe in One, Unique, Incomparable God; in the Angels created by Him; in the prophets through whom His revelations were brought to mankind; in the Day of Judgement and **individual accountability for actions**; as well as in God's complete authority over human destiny and in life after death.

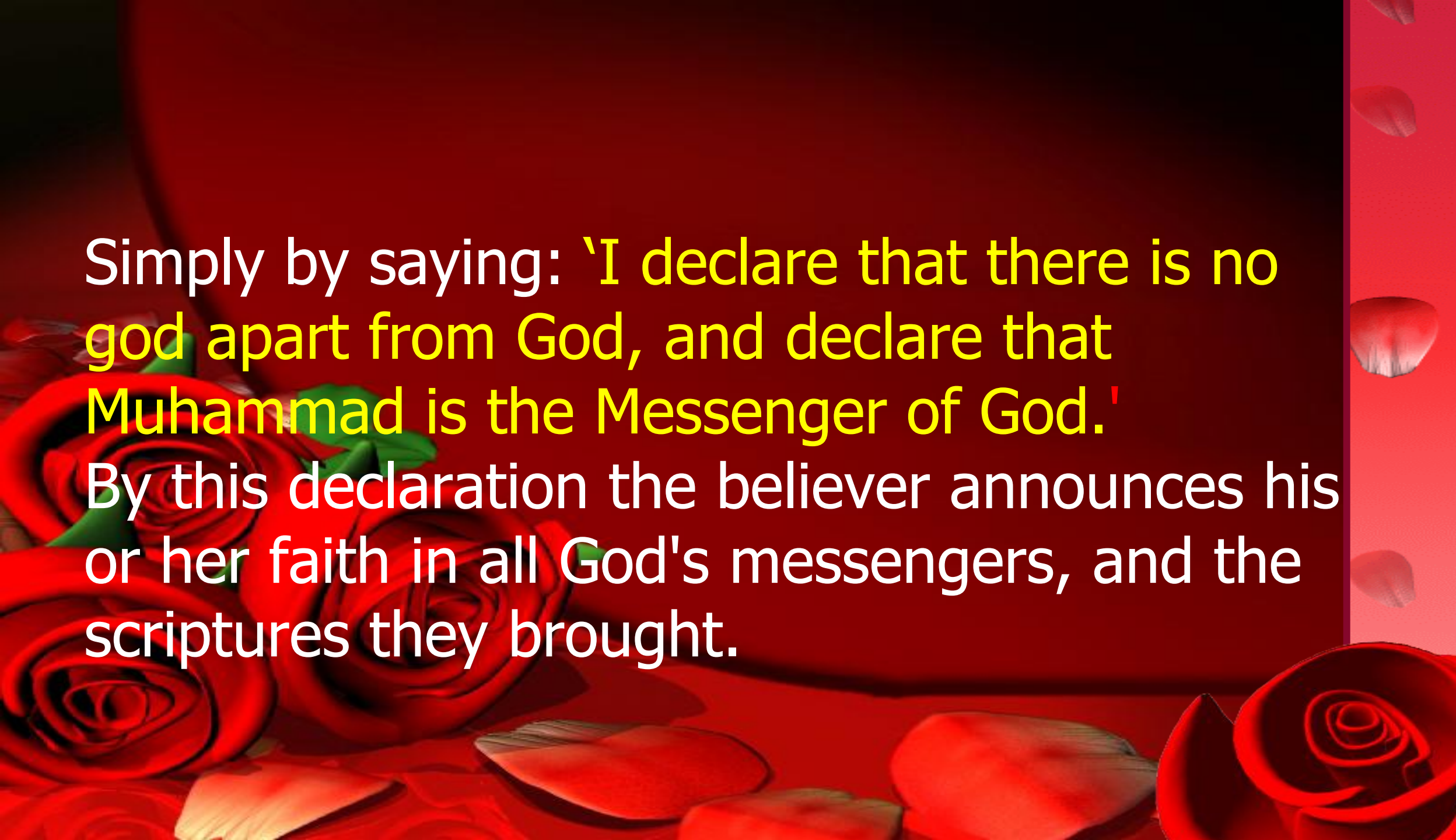


Muslims believe in a chain of prophets starting with Adam and including Noah, Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Job, Moses, Aaron, David, Solomon, Elias, Jonah, John the Baptist, and Jesus, peace be upon them.

But God's **last message** to man, a reconfirmation of the eternal message and a summing-up of all that has gone before was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad through Gabriel.

How does someone become a Muslim?





Simply by saying: 'I declare that there is no god apart from God, and declare that Muhammad is the Messenger of God.'

By this declaration the believer announces his or her faith in all God's messengers, and the scriptures they brought.

WILFRIED HOFMANN (NOW MURAD HOFFMANN):

Ph.D. in law (Harvard); German social scientist and diplomat; He embraced Islam in 1980.

"For some time now, striving for more and more precision and brevity, I have tried to put on paper in a systematic way, all philosophical truths, which in my view, can be ascertained beyond reasonable doubt. In the course of this effort it dawned on me that the typical attitude of an agnostic is not an intelligent one; that man simply cannot escape a decision to believe; that the createdness of what exists around us is obvious; that Islam undoubtedly finds itself in the greatest harmony with overall reality. Thus I realize, not without shock, that step by step, in spite of myself and almost unconsciously, in feeling and thinking I have grown into a Muslim. Only one last step remained to be taken: to formalize my conversion. As of today I am a Muslim. I have arrived."



District Judge in England
Marilyn Mornington
convert to Islam



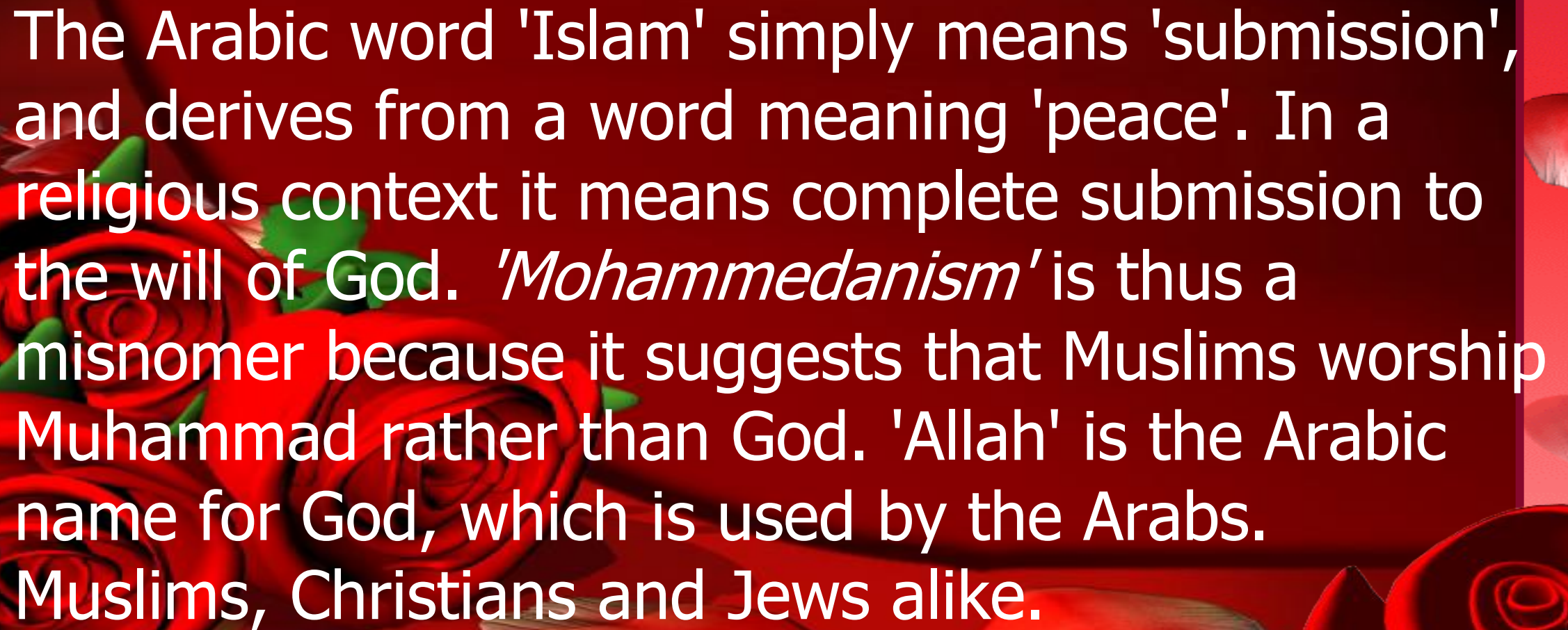
"Allah subhanau wata'ala had His eyes on me ... He led me down a path from where there was no turning back from, because the more I got to know about Islam, about Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, [the more] it became obvious to me that this is where I wanted to belong and it is what I wanted to be."

http://www.islamicbulletin.com/services/new_muslims/mornington.htm

For ten to twelve years prior to her conversion to Islam, she had been working on the issue of violence against women and children in general, and also among Muslims in particular. In order to understand the issue better among the Muslim community, she began to read about Islam and associate with Muslims. "I was also very comfortable with the family life and the stories of the wives of the prophet and the companions", she remarked later. Her research led her to a point when the choice became obvious.

What does Islam mean?

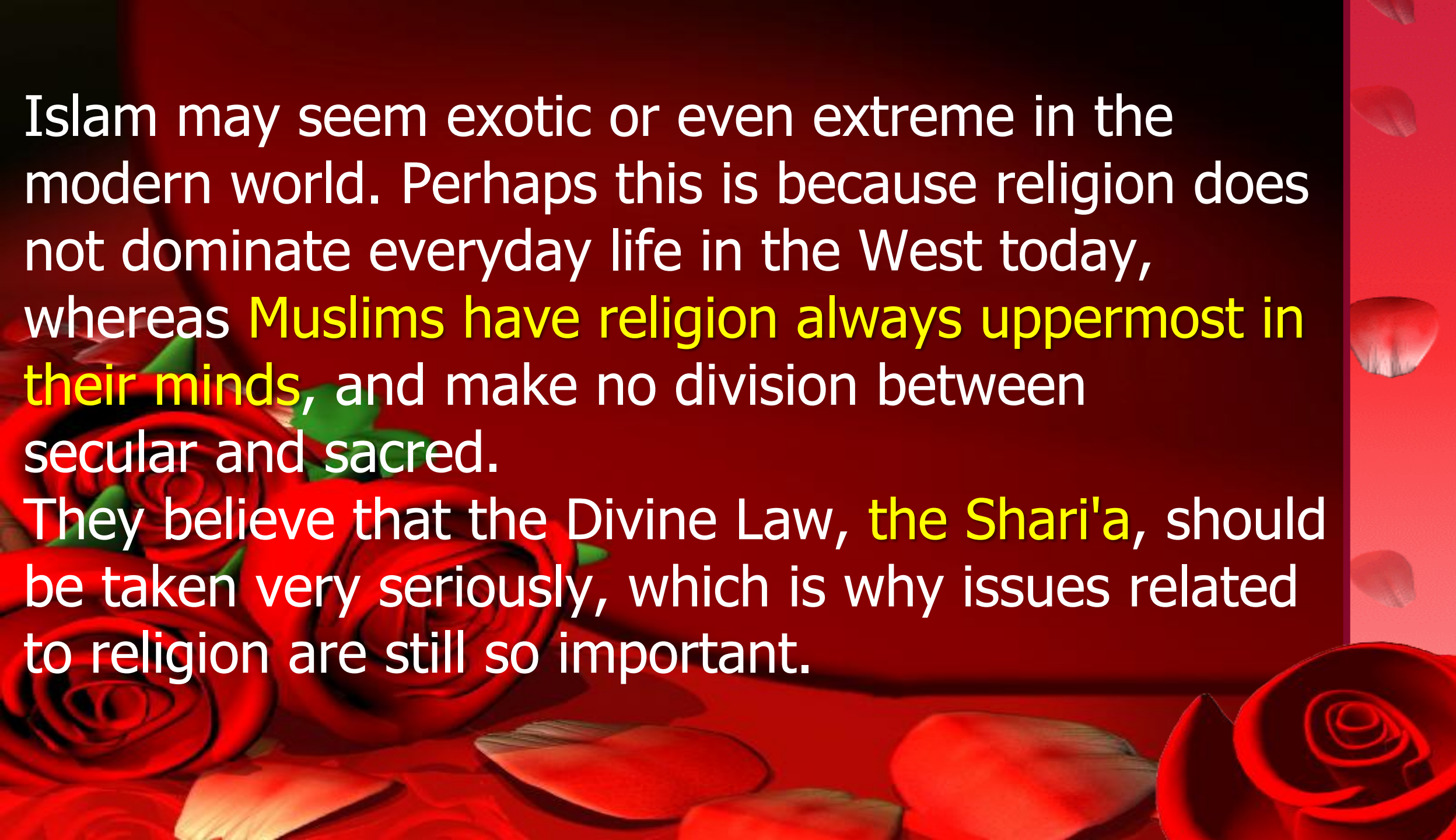




The Arabic word 'Islam' simply means 'submission', and derives from a word meaning 'peace'. In a religious context it means complete submission to the will of God. *'Mohammedanism'* is thus a misnomer because it suggests that Muslims worship Muhammad rather than God. 'Allah' is the Arabic name for God, which is used by the Arabs. Muslims, Christians and Jews alike.

Why does Islam often seem strange?

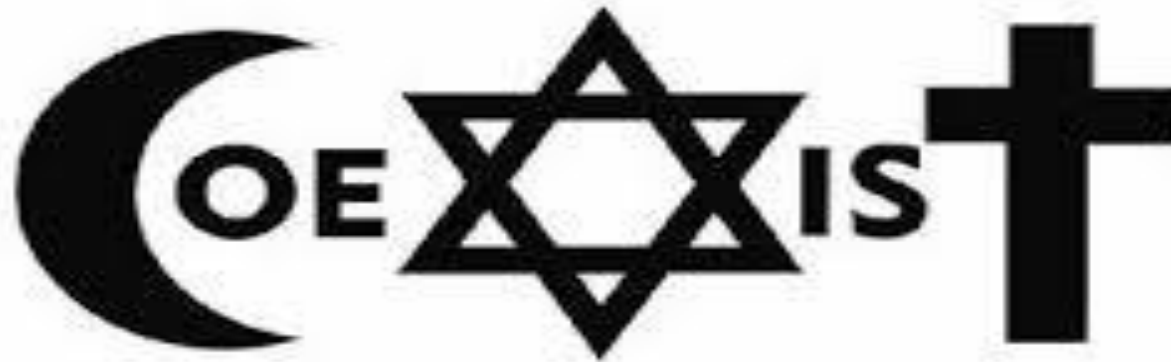




Islam may seem exotic or even extreme in the modern world. Perhaps this is because religion does not dominate everyday life in the West today, whereas **Muslims have religion always uppermost in their minds**, and make no division between secular and sacred.

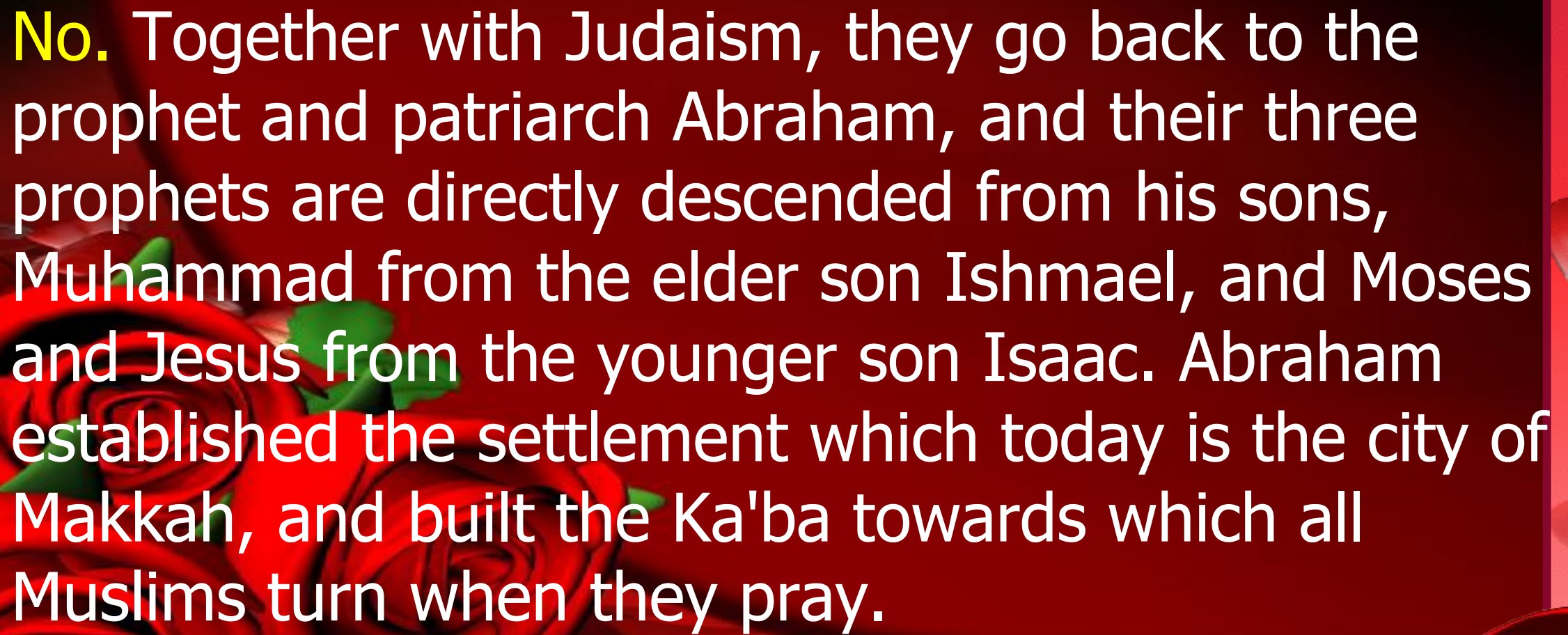
They believe that the Divine Law, **the Shari'a**, should be taken very seriously, which is why issues related to religion are still so important.

Do Islam and Christianity have different origins?



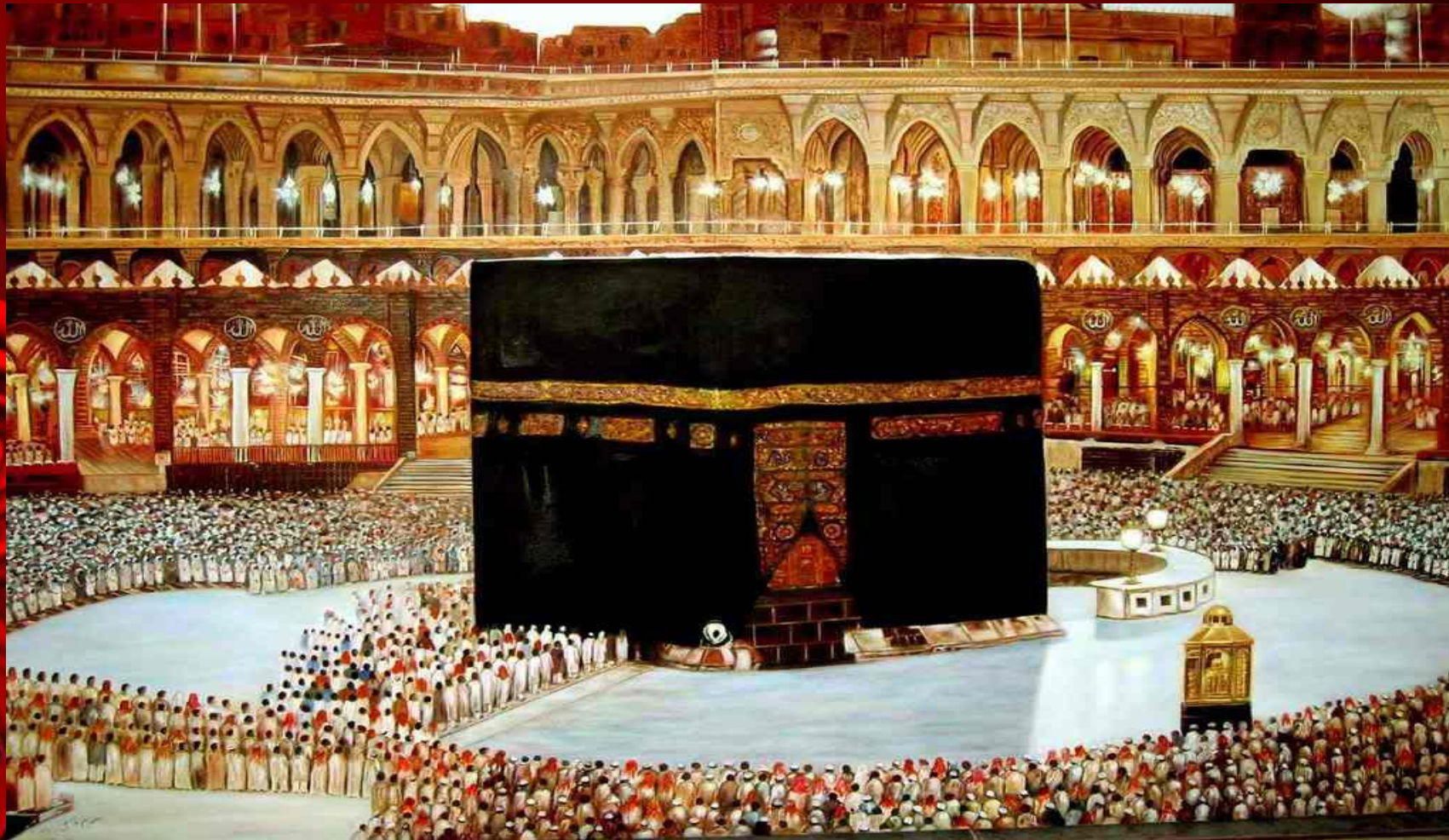
COEXISTENCE

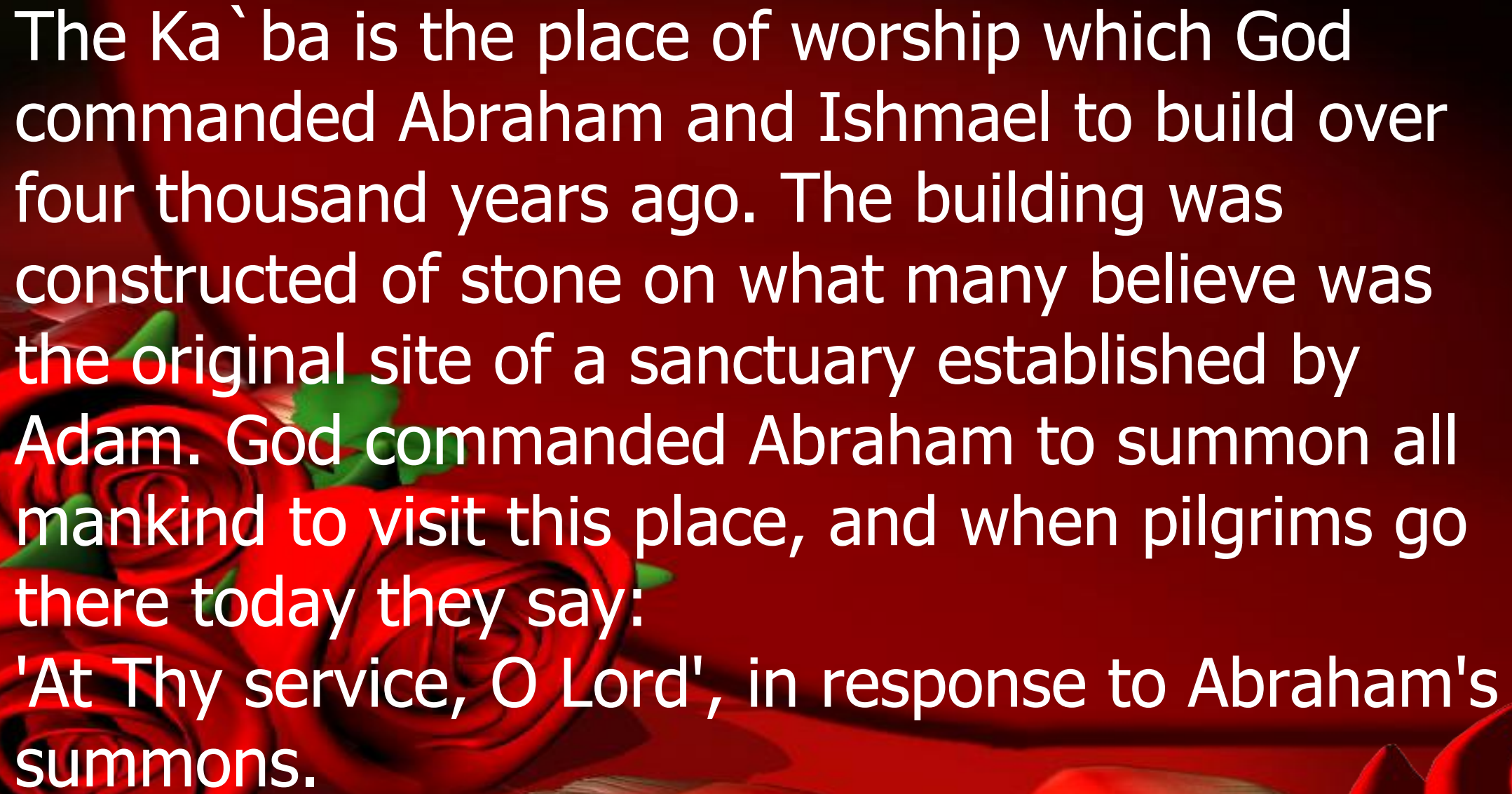
MUSLIMS, JEWS, AND CHRISTIANS
FOR PEACE, TOLERANCE AND COEXISTANCE



No. Together with Judaism, they go back to the prophet and patriarch Abraham, and their three prophets are directly descended from his sons, Muhammad from the elder son Ishmael, and Moses and Jesus from the younger son Isaac. Abraham established the settlement which today is the city of Makkah, and built the Ka'ba towards which all Muslims turn when they pray.

What is the Ka`ba?

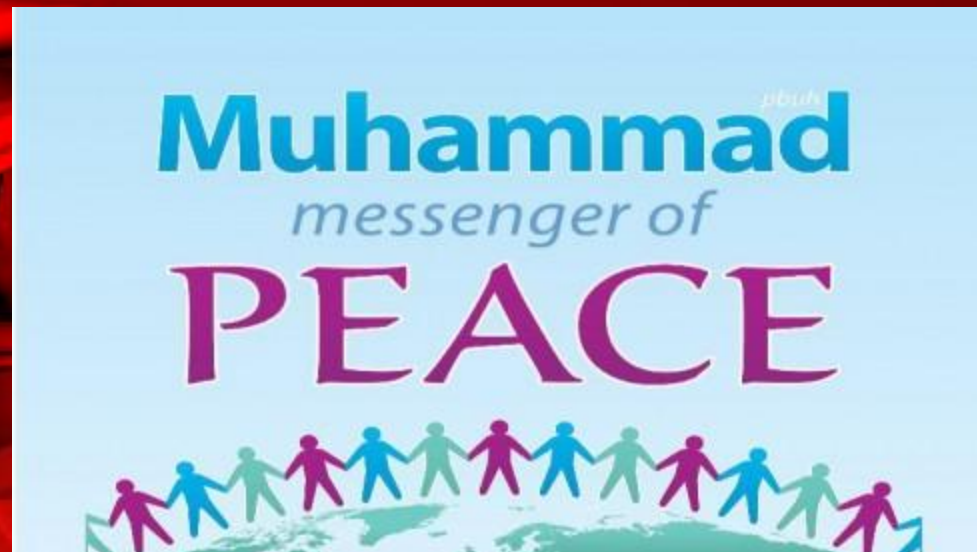


The background of the slide features a dense arrangement of red roses and scattered petals. The roses are in various stages of bloom, with some showing the characteristic spiral pattern of the petals. The petals are scattered across the surface, some appearing as individual layers and others as small clusters. The overall color palette is a rich, vibrant red, with some darker and lighter shades creating depth and texture. The lighting is soft, highlighting the delicate edges of the petals and the smooth curves of the rose heads.

The Ka`ba is the place of worship which God commanded Abraham and Ishmael to build over four thousand years ago. The building was constructed of stone on what many believe was the original site of a sanctuary established by Adam. God commanded Abraham to summon all mankind to visit this place, and when pilgrims go there today they say:
'At Thy service, O Lord', in response to Abraham's summons.



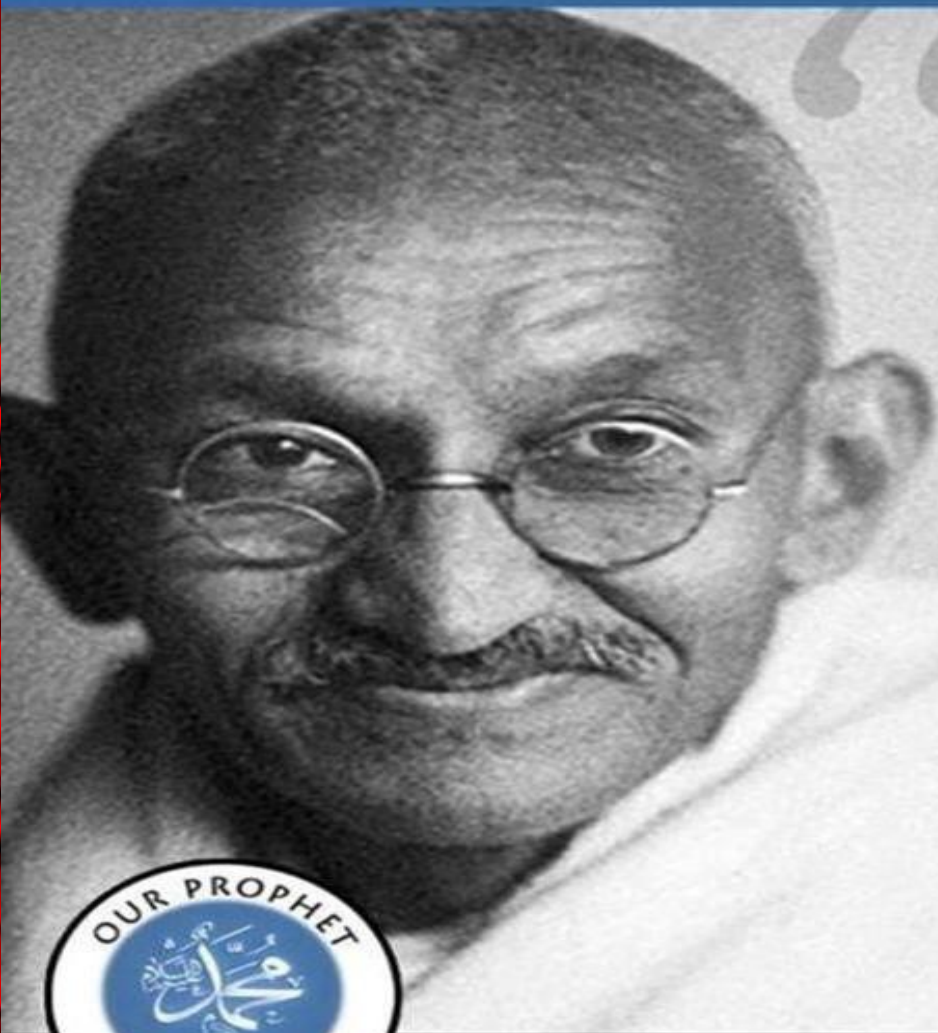
Who is Muhammad?



1

NON-MUSLIM VIEWS ABOUT MUHAMMAD

PEACE BE UPON HIM



I wanted to know the best of the life of one who holds today an undisputed sway over the hearts of millions of mankind.... I became more than ever convinced that it was not the sword that won a place for Islam in those days in the scheme of life. It was the rigid simplicity, the utter self-effacement of the Prophet the scrupulous regard for pledges, his intense devotion to his friends and followers, his intrepidity, his fearlessness, his absolute trust in God and in his own mission. These and not the sword carried everything before them and surmounted every obstacle. When I closed the second volume (of the Prophet's biography), I was sorry there was not more for me to read of that great life.

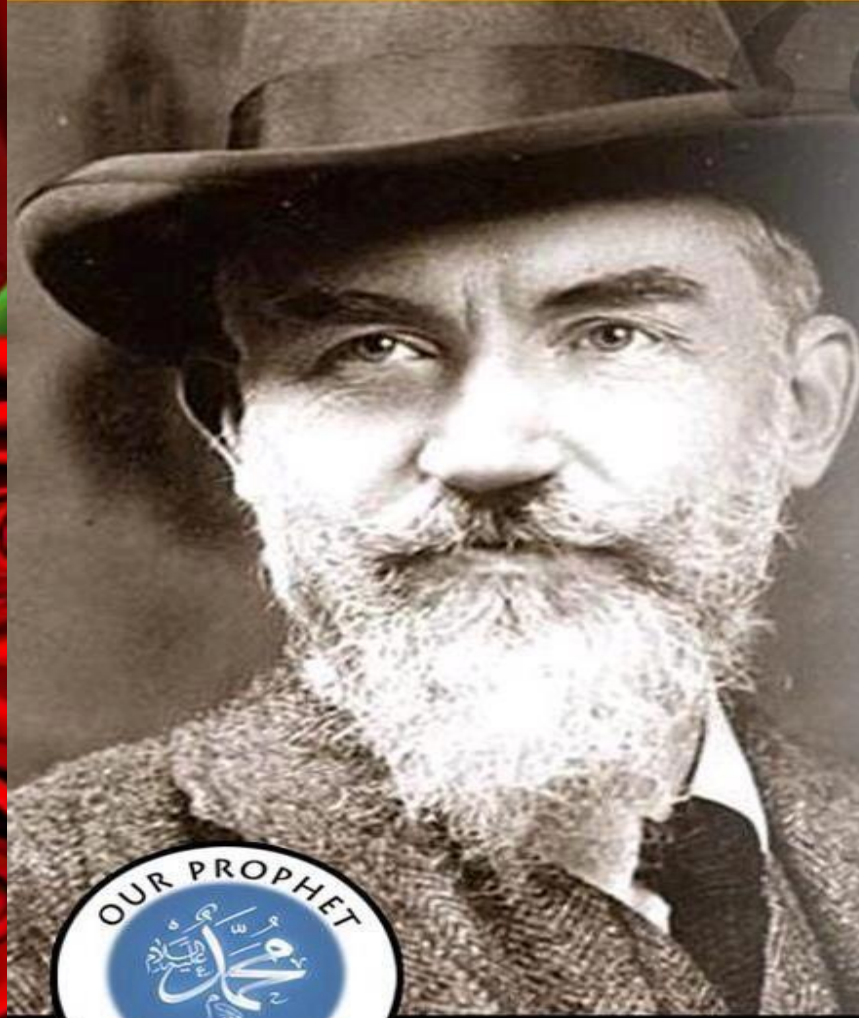
Mahatma Gandhi



2

NON-MUSLIM VIEWS ABOUT MUHAMMAD

PEACE BE UPON HIM



I have always held the religion of Muhammad in high estimation because of its wonderful vitality. It is the only religion which appears to me to possess that assimilating capacity to the changing phase of existence which can make itself appeal to every age. I have studied him - the wonderful man and in my opinion far from being an anti-Christ, he must be called the Savior of Humanity.

Sir George Bernard Shaw



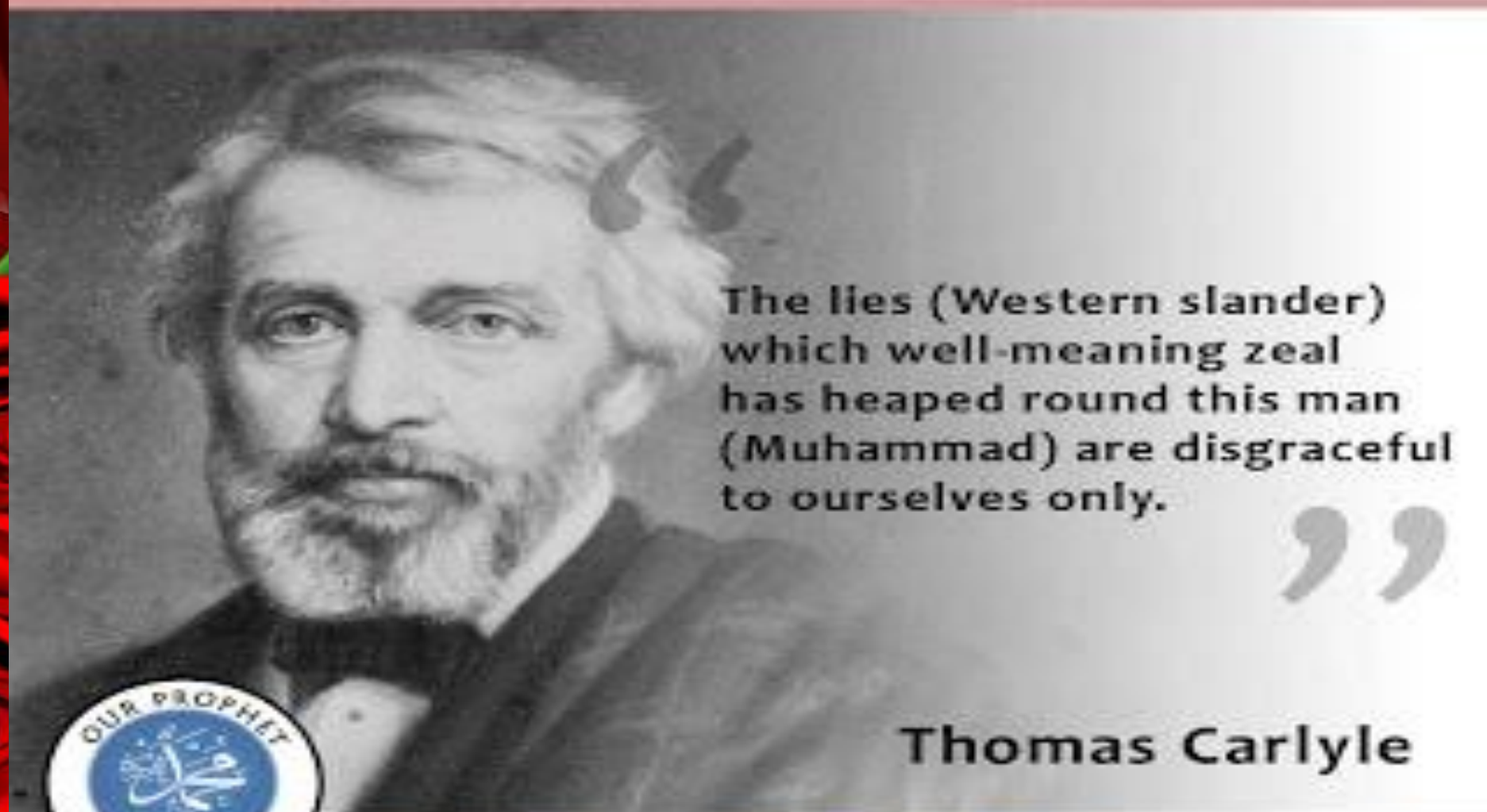
facebook.com/OurProphetOurHonour



3

NON-MUSLIM VIEWS ABOUT MUHAMMAD

PEACE BE UPON HIM



The lies (Western slander) which well-meaning zeal has heaped round this man (Muhammad) are disgraceful to ourselves only.

Thomas Carlyle



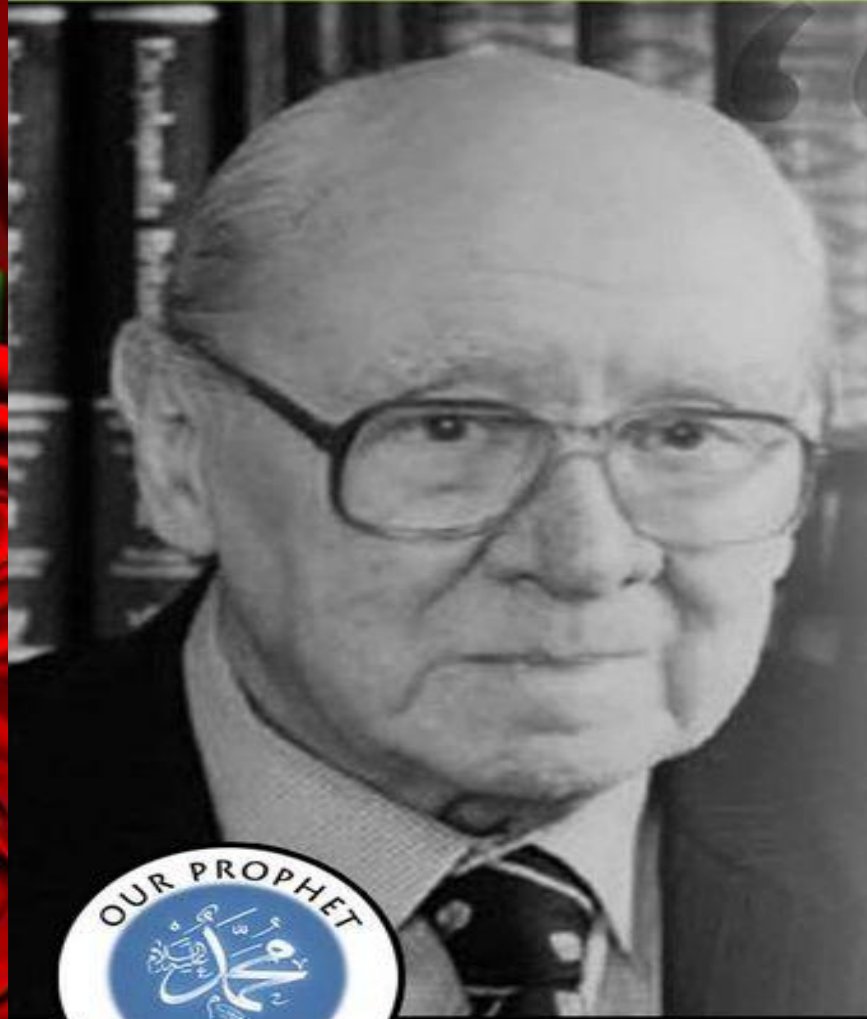
facebook.com/OurProphetOurHonour



4

NON-MUSLIM VIEWS ABOUT MUHAMMAD

PEACE BE UPON HIM



His readiness to undergo persecution for his beliefs, the high moral character of the men who believed in him and looked up to him as a leader, and the greatness of his ultimate achievement - all argue his fundamental integrity. To suppose Muhammad an impostor raises more problems that it solves. Moreover, none of the great figures of history is so poorly appreciated in the West as Muhammad... Thus, not merely must we credit Muhammad with essential honesty and integrity of purpose, if we are to understand him at all; if we are to correct the errors we have inherited from the past, we must not forget the conclusive proof is a much stricter requirement than a show of plausibility, and in a matter such as this only to be attained with difficulty.

W. Montgomery Watt



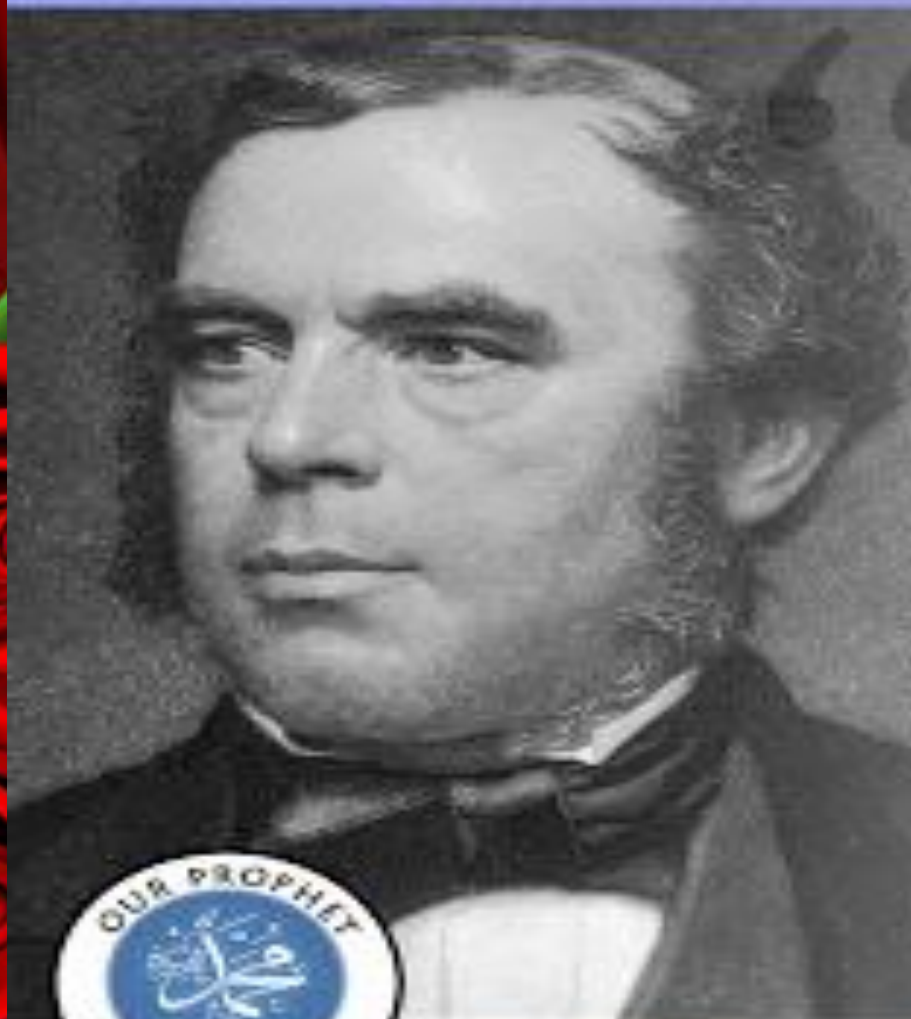
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5

NON-MUSLIM VIEWS ABOUT MUHAMMAD

PEACE BE UPON HIM



“Four years after the death of Justinian, A.D. 569, was born in Mecca, in Arabia, the man who, of all men, has exercised the greatest influence upon the human race... To be the religious head of many empires, to guide the daily life of one-third of the human race, may perhaps justify the title of a Messenger of God.”

Dr. William Draper



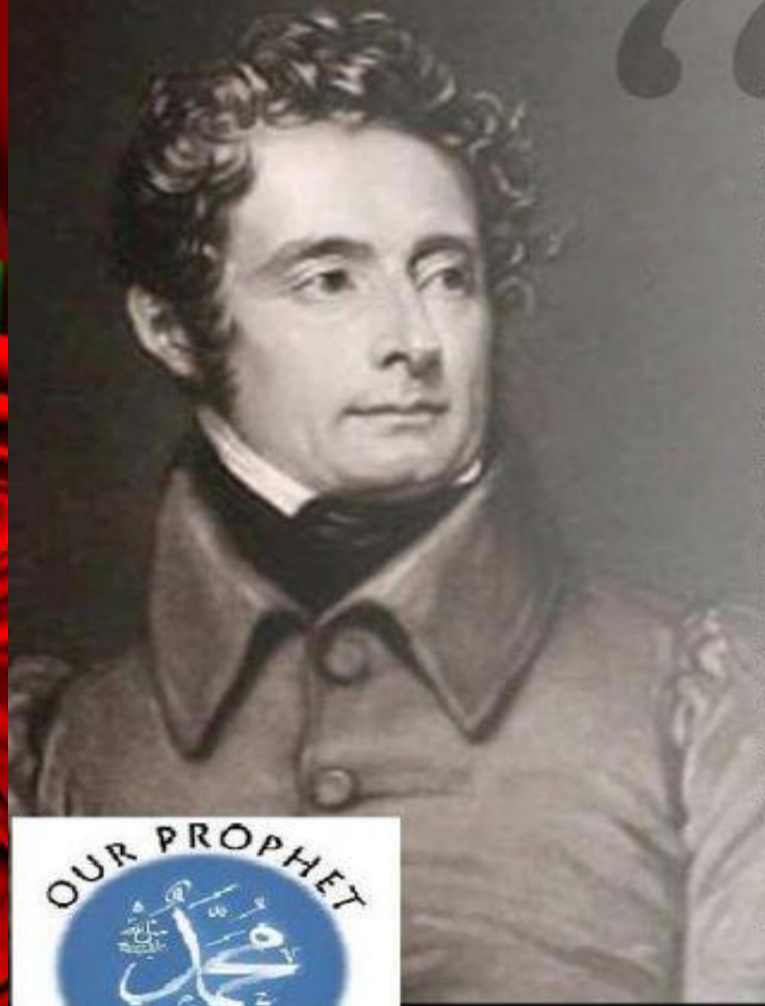
facebook.com/OurProphetOurHonour



6

NON-MUSLIM VIEWS ABOUT MUHAMMAD

PEACE BE UPON HIM



“ If greatness of purpose, smallness of means, and astonishing results are the three criteria of a human genius, who could dare compare any great man in history with Muhammad? The most famous men created arms, laws, and empires only. They founded, if anything at all, no more than material powers which often crumbled away before their eyes. This man moved not only armies, legislations, empires, peoples, dynasties, but millions of men in one-third of the then inhabited world; and more than that, he moved the altars, the gods, the religions, the ideas, the beliefs and the souls. ”

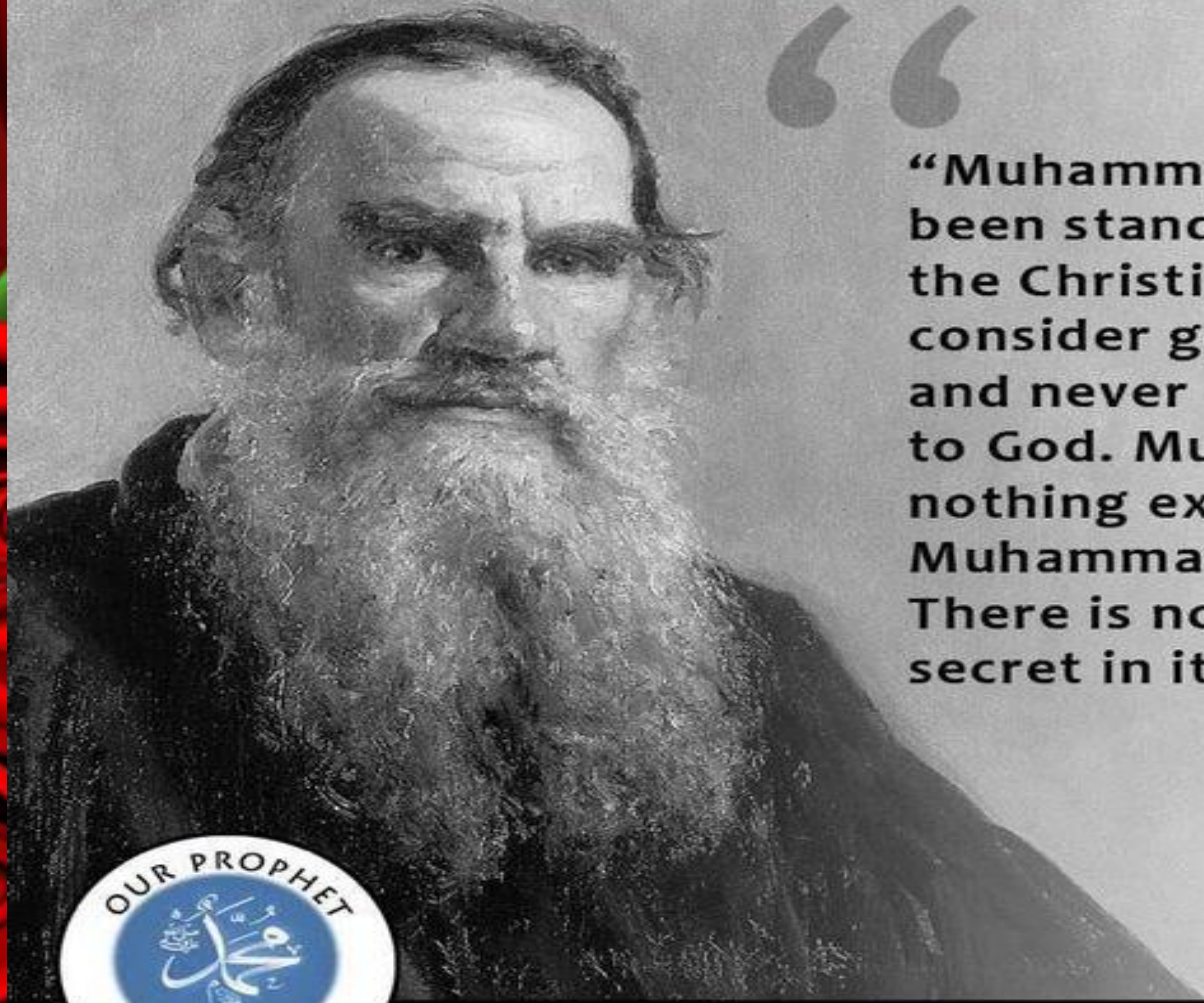
Alphonse de LaMartaine



7

NON-MUSLIM VIEWS ABOUT MUHAMMAD

PEACE BE UPON HIM



“Muhammad has always been standing higher than the Christianity. He does not consider god as a human being and never makes himself equal to God. Muslims worship nothing except God and Muhammad is his Messenger. There is not any mystery and secret in it”

Leo Tolstoy

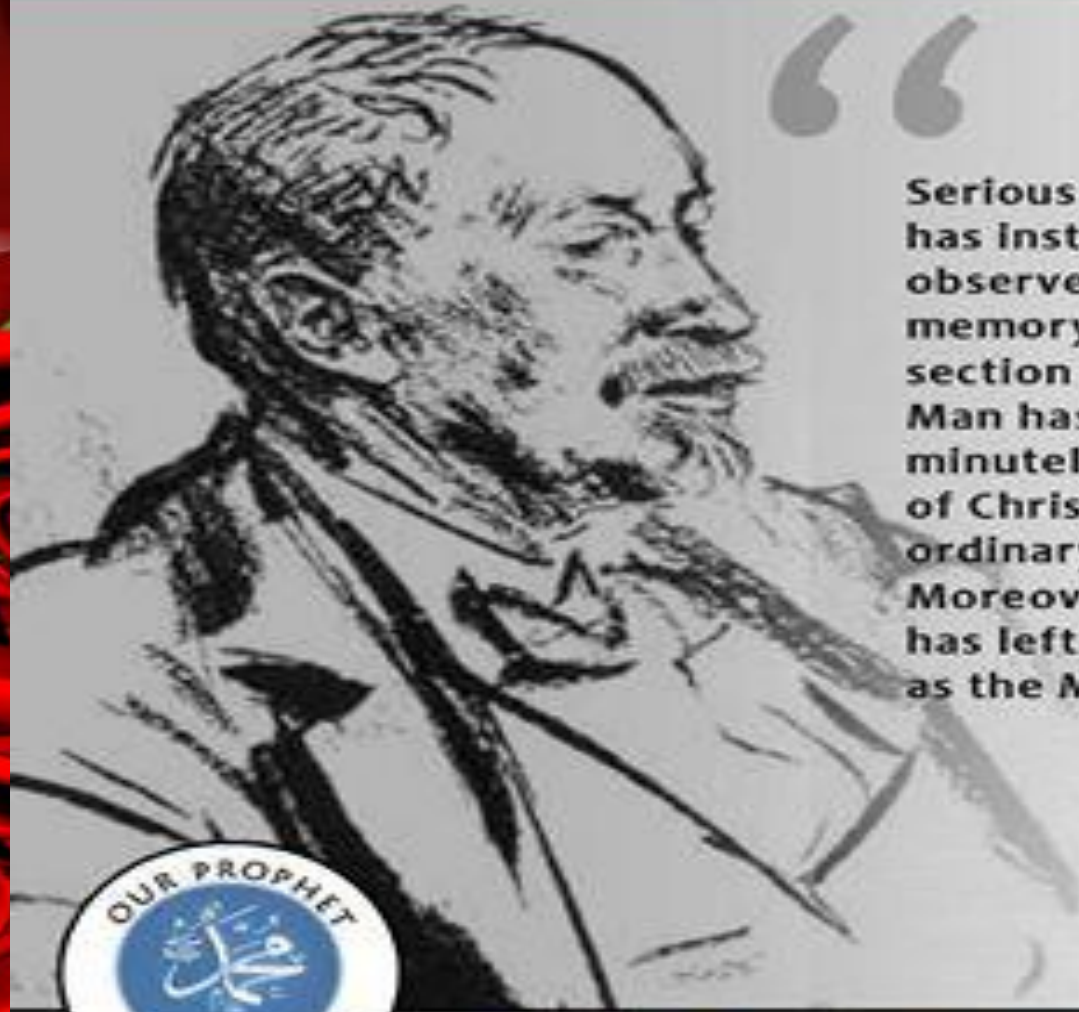


www.facebook.com/kashifqdn

8

NON-MUSLIM VIEWS ABOUT MUHAMMAD

PEACE BE UPON HIM



“
Serious or trivial, his daily behavior has instituted a canon which millions observe this day with conscious memory. No one regarded by any section of the human race as Perfect Man has ever been imitated so minutely. The conduct of the founder of Christianity has not governed the ordinary life of his followers. Moreover, no founder of a religion has left on so solitary an eminence as the Muslim apostle.”

D. G. Hogarth



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9

NON-MUSLIM VIEWS ABOUT MUHAMMAD

PEACE BE UPON HIM



"The personality of Muhammad, it is most difficult to get into the whole truth of it. Only a glimpse of it I can catch. What a dramatic succession of picturesque scenes! There is Muhammad, the Prophet. There is Muhammad, the Warrior; Muhammad, the Businessman; Muhammad, the Statesman; Muhammad, the Orator; Muhammad, the Reformer; Muhammad, the Refuge of Orphans; Muhammad, the Protector of Slaves; Muhammad, the Emancipator of Women; Muhammad, the Judge; Muhammad, the Saint.

All in all these magnificent roles, in all these departments of human activities, he is alike a hero."

Prof. Ramakrishna Rao



10

NON-MUSLIM VIEWS ABOUT MUHAMMAD

PEACE BE UPON HIM



It is impossible for anyone who studies the life and character of the great Prophet of Arabia, who knew how he taught and how he lived, to feel anything but reverence for that mighty Prophet, one of the great messengers of the Supreme. And although in what I put to you I shall say many things which may be familiar to many, yet I myself feel, whenever I reread them, a new way of admiration, a new sense of reverence for that mighty Arabian teacher.

Annie Besant ””



10th Rabi ul Awwal fb.com/OzMuslims 

11

NON-MUSLIM VIEWS ABOUT MUHAMMAD

FACTS BY LIPSON HINA



"It was the first religion that preached and practiced democracy; for in the mosque, when the call for prayer is sounded and worshippers are gathered together, the democracy of Islam is embodied five times a day when the peasant and king kneel side by side and proclaim: 'God Alone is Great' ... I have been struck over and over again by this indivisible unity of Islam that makes man instinctively a brother"

Sarogini Naidu



12

NON-MUSLIM VIEWS ABOUT MUHAMMAD

PHOTO BY AP/WIDE WORLD



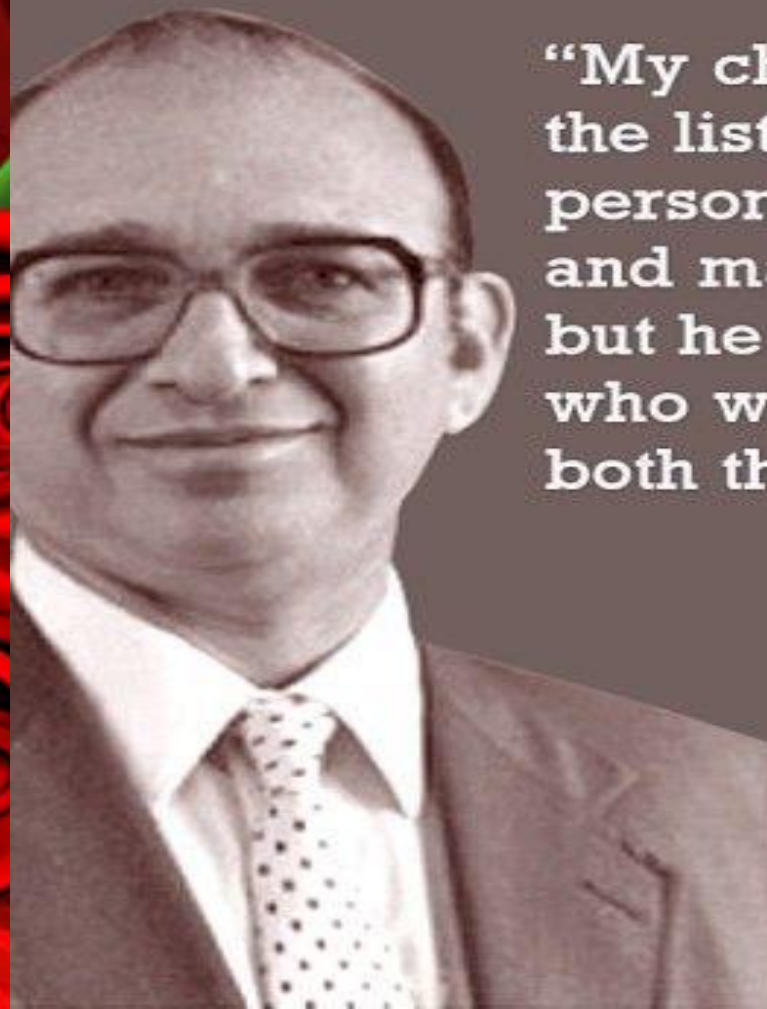
"... he was Caesar and Pope in one; but he was Pope without the Pope's pretensions, and Caesar without the legions of Caesar. Without a standing army, without a bodyguard, without a palace, without a fixed revenue, if ever any man had the right to say that he ruled by a right Divine, it was Mohammed; for he had all the power without its instruments and without its supports."

Reverend Bosworth Smith



What do they say about Prophet

Muhammad ﷺ ?



“My choice of Muhammad to lead the list of the world’s most influential persons may surprise some readers and may be questioned by others, but he was the only man in history who was supremely successful on both the religious and secular level.”

Michael H. Hart, *The 100: A Ranking of the Most Influential Persons in History*, New York: Hart Publishing Company, Inc. 1978, p. 33.



@TheMuslimFaith



Maurice Bucaille
Member of the French
Society of Egyptology

**KNOW
MUHAMMAD**

Peace be upon him

“If it spoke so powerfully and convincingly to the hearts of his hearers as to weld hitherto centrifugal and antagonistic elements into one compact and well-organized body, animated by ideas far beyond those which had until now ruled the Arabian mind, then its eloquence was perfect, simply because it created a civilized nation out of savage tribes.”

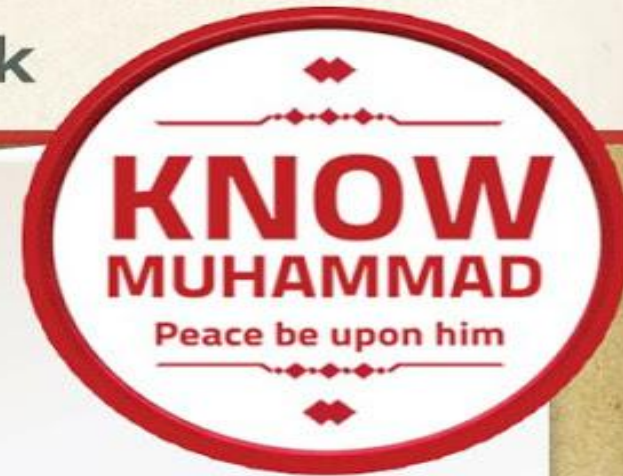
THE BIBLE, THE QUR'AN AND SCIENCE, 1978, p. 125.





Arthur J. Arberry

Prolific scholar of
Arabic, Persian, and
Islamic studies



“

A totally objective examination of it [the Qur'an] in the light of modern knowledge...makes us deem it quite unthinkable for a man of Muhammad's time to have been the author of such statements on account of the state of knowledge in his day. Such considerations are part of what gives the Qur'anic Revelation its unique place.

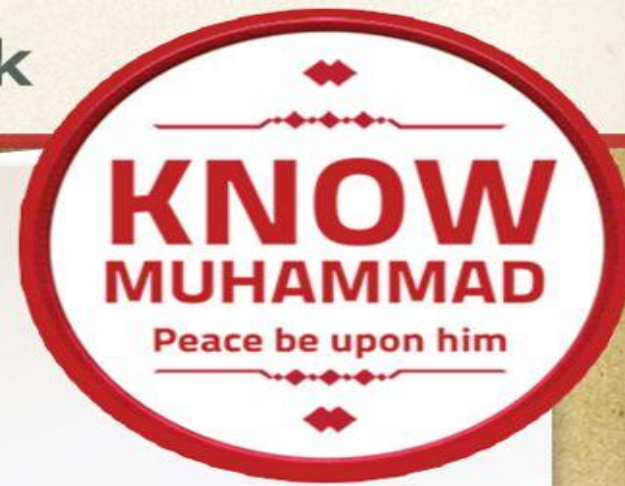
”

THE KORAN INTERPRETED
London: Oxford University Press, 1964, p. x.





Napoleon Bonaparte



“ Muhammad was a great man, fearless soldier; with a handful of men he triumphed at the battle of Badr, great captain, eloquent, a great man of state, it regenerated his homeland, and created in the middle of the deserts of Arabia a new people and a new power.

”

'Précis des guerres de César, écrit à Sainte-Hélène
sous la dictée de l'empereur (1836)





Muhammad was born in Makkah in the year 570 A.D., at a time when Christianity was not yet fully established in Europe.

Since his father died before his birth, and his mother shortly afterwards, he was raised by his uncle from the respected tribe of Quraysh.

As he grew up, he became known for his truthfulness, generosity and sincerity, so that he was sought after for his ability to arbitrate in disputes.

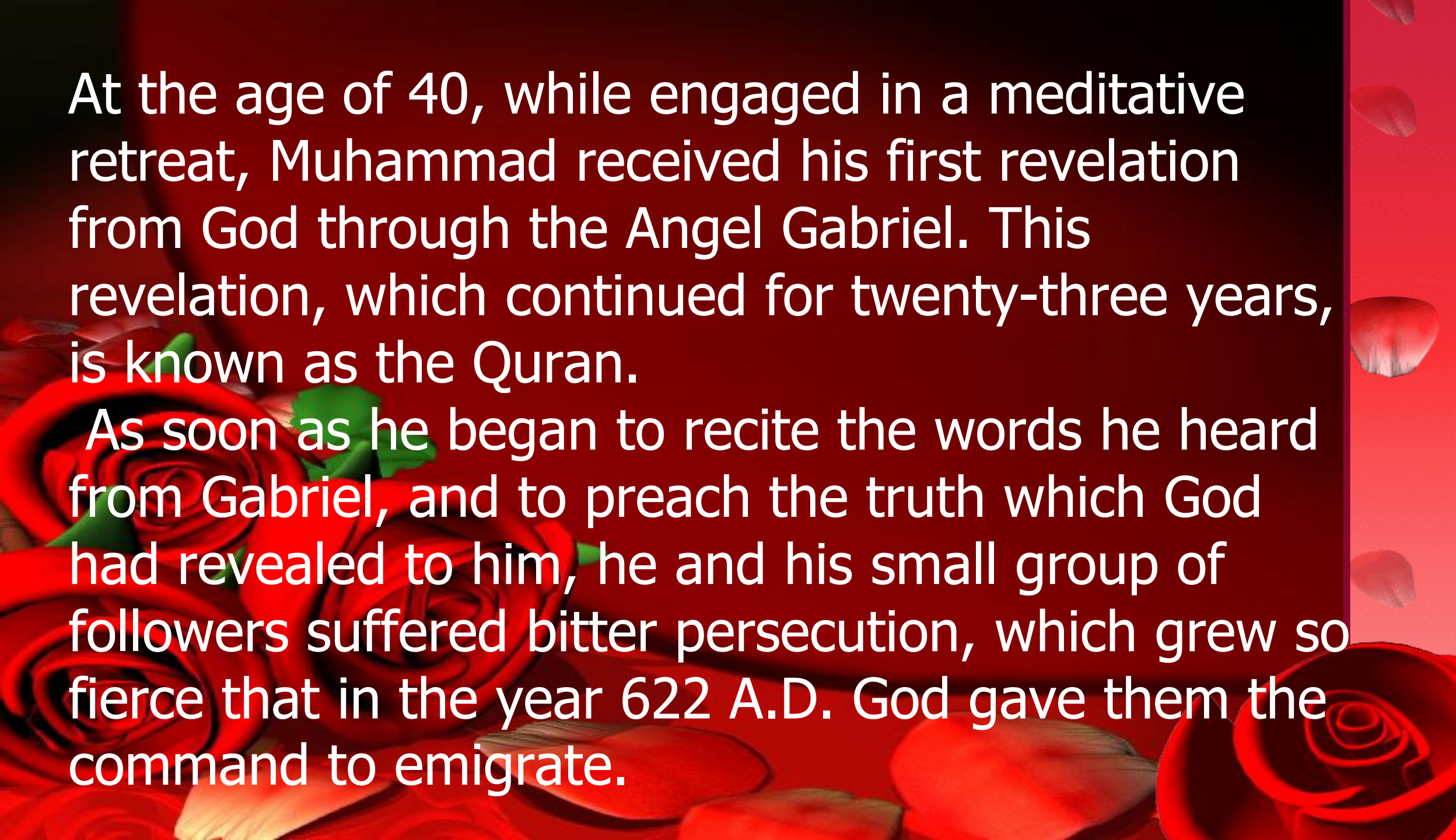
The historians describe him as calm and meditative.

How did Muhammad become a prophet and a messenger of God?

وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَاكَ إِلَّا رَحْمَةً لِّلْعَالَمِينَ

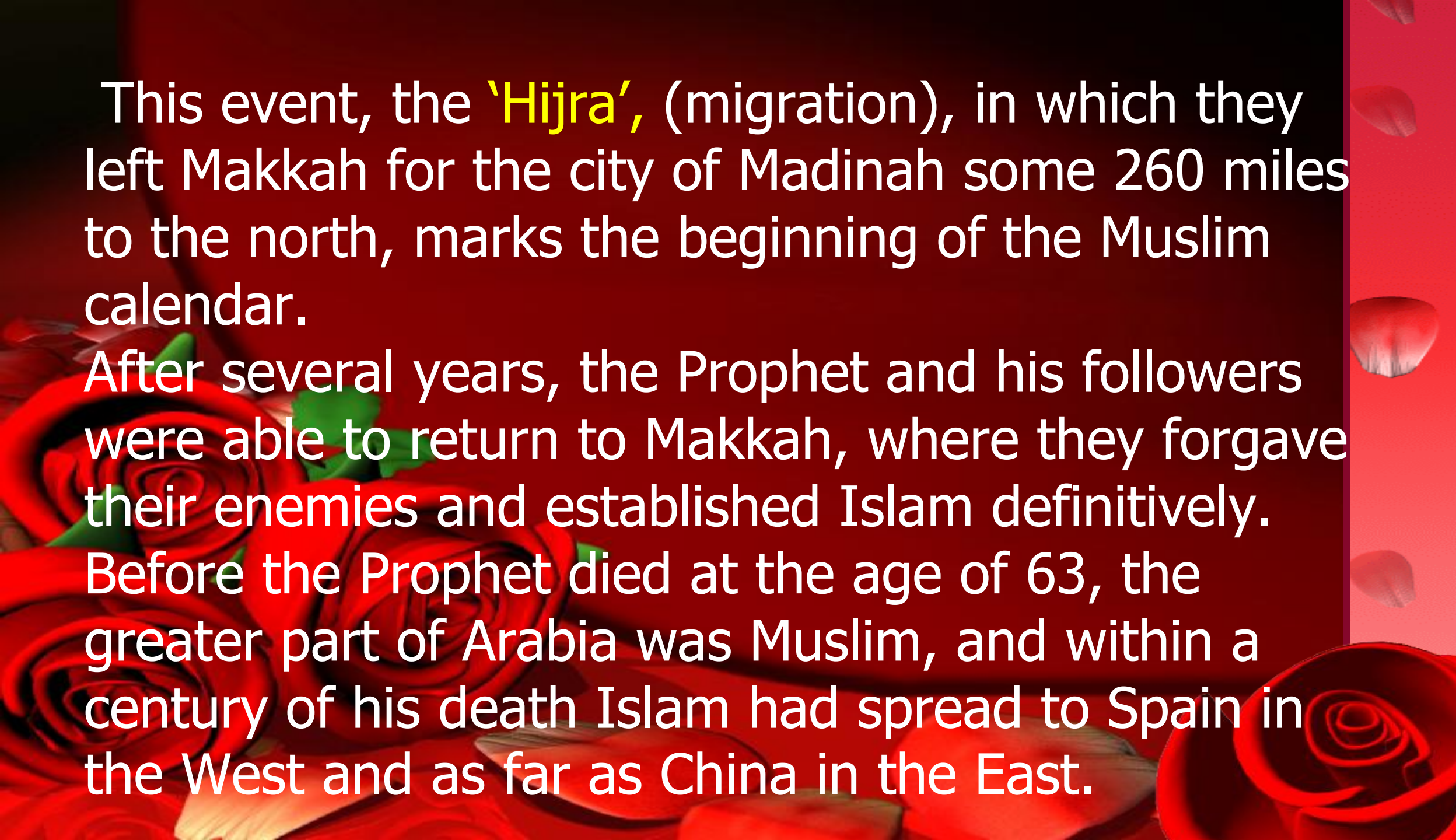
And We have not sent you (O Muhammad ﷺ), except as a mercy to the worlds.

Al-Quran 21:107



At the age of 40, while engaged in a meditative retreat, Muhammad received his first revelation from God through the Angel Gabriel. This revelation, which continued for twenty-three years, is known as the Quran.

As soon as he began to recite the words he heard from Gabriel, and to preach the truth which God had revealed to him, he and his small group of followers suffered bitter persecution, which grew so fierce that in the year 622 A.D. God gave them the command to emigrate.

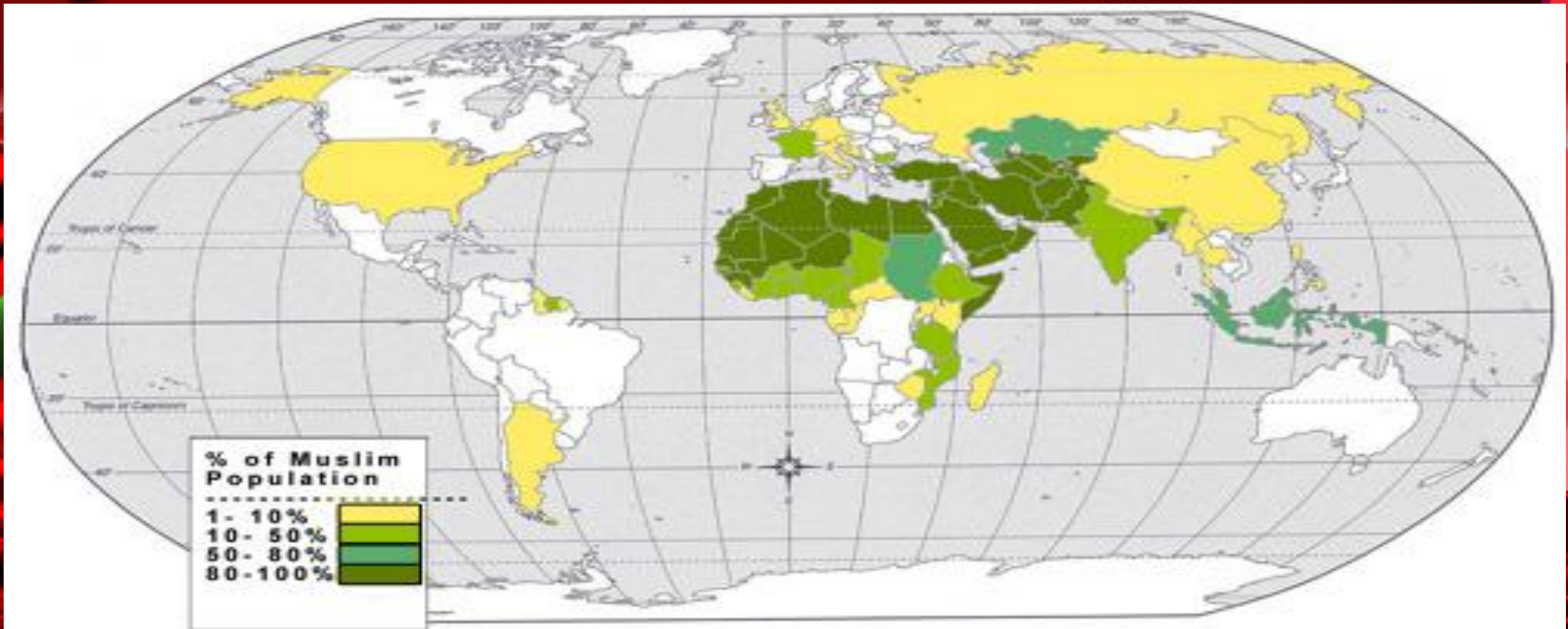
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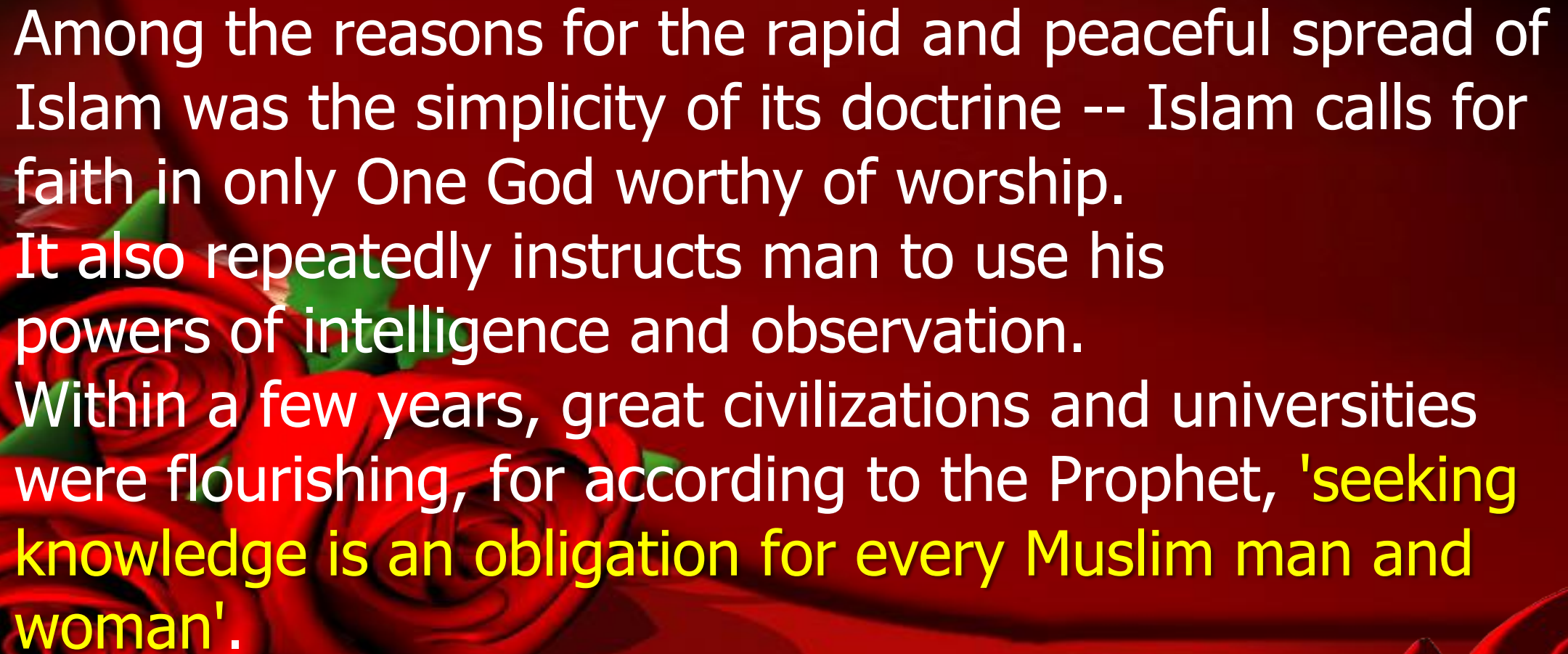
This event, the '**Hijra**', (migration), in which they left Makkah for the city of Madinah some 260 miles to the north, marks the beginning of the Muslim calendar.

After several years, the Prophet and his followers were able to return to Makkah, where they forgave their enemies and established Islam definitively.

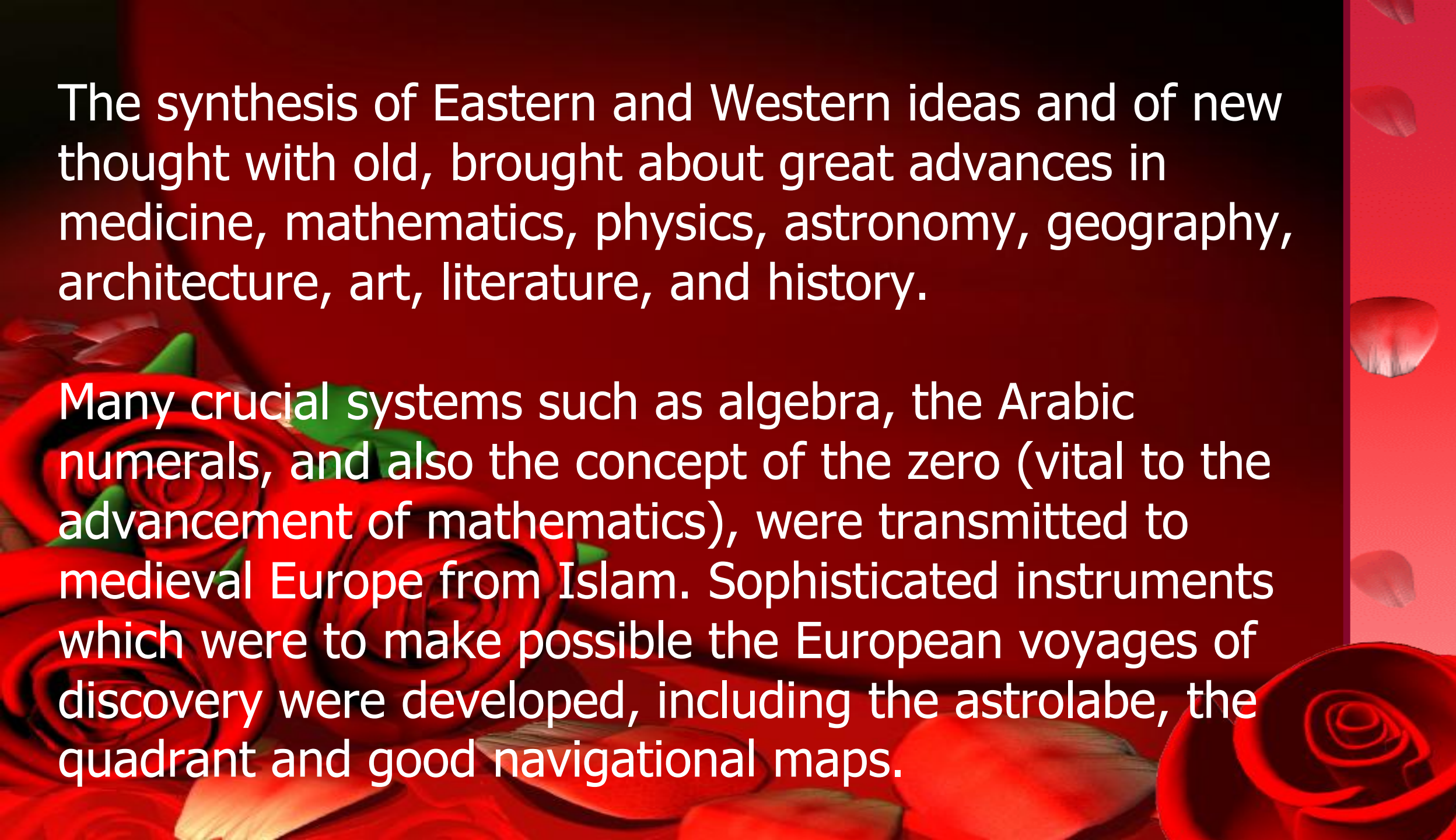
Before the Prophet died at the age of 63, the greater part of Arabia was Muslim, and within a century of his death Islam had spread to Spain in the West and as far as China in the East.

How did the spread of Islam affect the world?





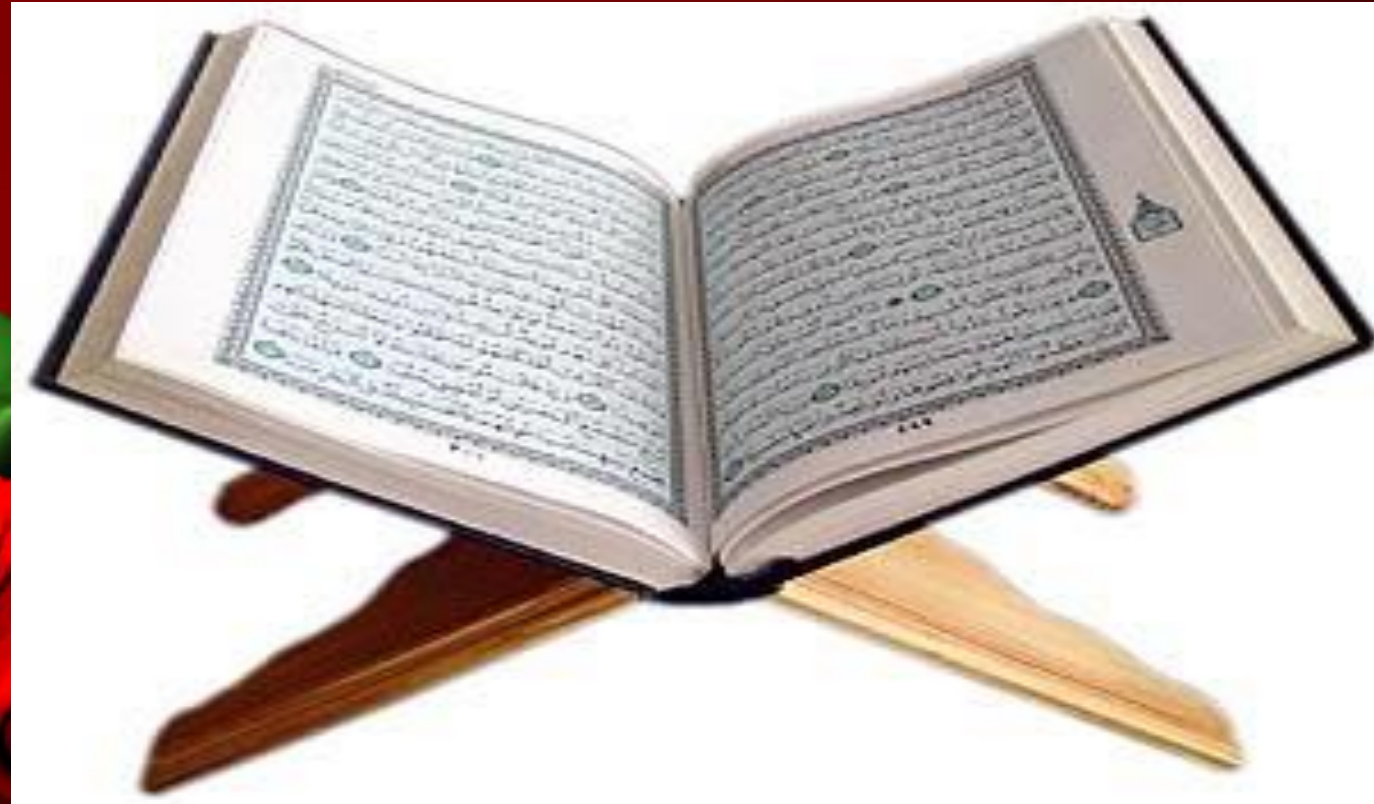
Among the reasons for the rapid and peaceful spread of Islam was the simplicity of its doctrine -- Islam calls for faith in only One God worthy of worship. It also repeatedly instructs man to use his powers of intelligence and observation. Within a few years, great civilizations and universities were flourishing, for according to the Prophet, 'seeking knowledge is an obligation for every Muslim man and woman'.

The background of the slide features a vibrant red color scheme. On the left side, there are several large, detailed red roses with green leaves. On the right side, there is a vertical strip of lighter red with several individual red rose petals scattered vertically. The overall aesthetic is romantic and visually rich.

The synthesis of Eastern and Western ideas and of new thought with old, brought about great advances in medicine, mathematics, physics, astronomy, geography, architecture, art, literature, and history.

Many crucial systems such as algebra, the Arabic numerals, and also the concept of the zero (vital to the advancement of mathematics), were transmitted to medieval Europe from Islam. Sophisticated instruments which were to make possible the European voyages of discovery were developed, including the astrolabe, the quadrant and good navigational maps.

What is the Qur`an?





The Quran is a record of the exact words revealed by God through the Angel Gabriel to the Prophet Muhammad.

It was memorized by Muhammad and then dictated to his Companions, and written down by scribes, who cross-checked it during his lifetime.



This opening chapter of The Quran, the '*Fatiha*', is central in Islamic prayer. It contains the essence of The Quran and is recited daily (in each raq'a) during every prayer.

Oldest Pages of Quran found in Birmingham Univ. (July 2015)



Radiocarbon dating found the manuscript to be at least 1,370 years old (about 35 years after the first revelation came to Prophet Mohammad), making it among the earliest in existence. It was written on sheep or goat skin

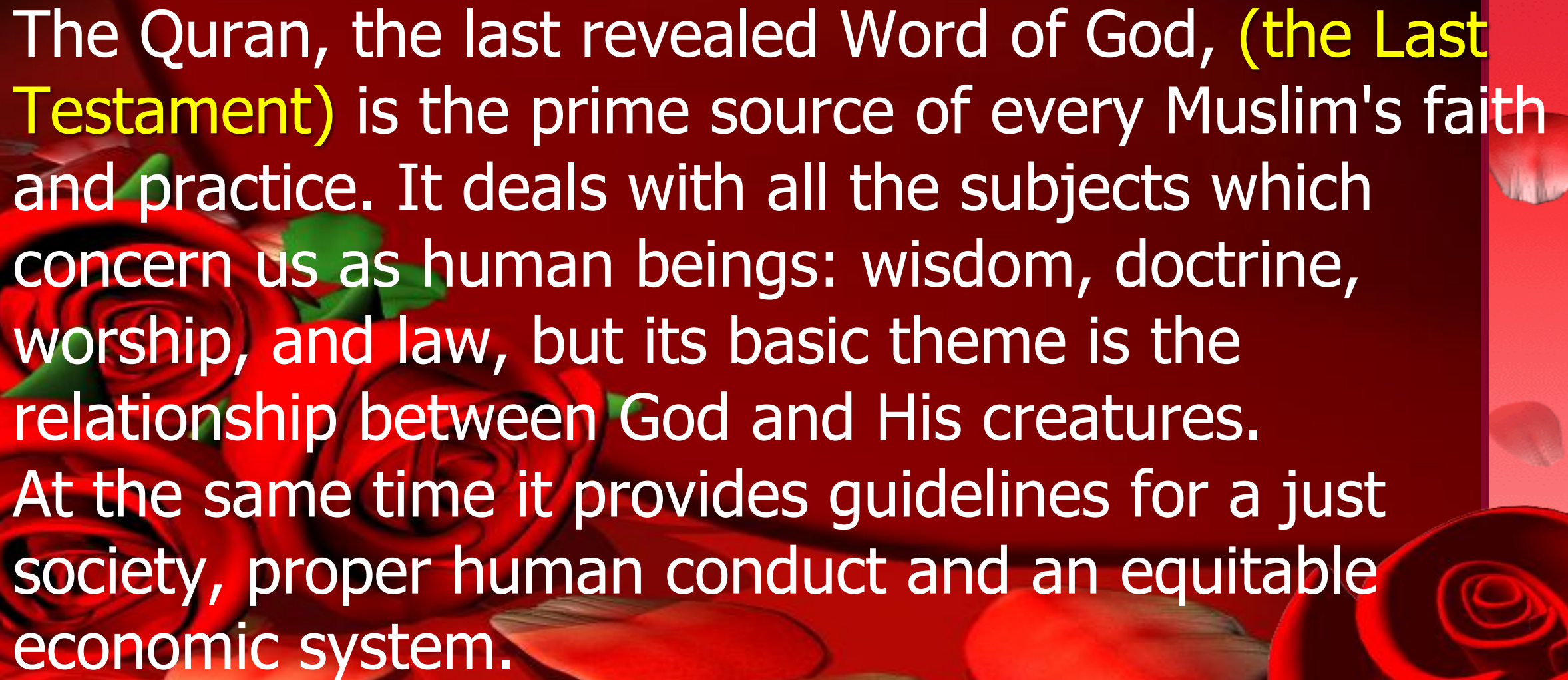
What is the Qur`an about?

وَالْقُرْآنَ الْحَكِيمَ
IqraSense.com

What's in the Quran?

... مَا كَانَ حَدِيثًا يُفْتَرَىٰ وَلَٰكِن تَصْدِيقَ
الَّذِي بَيْنَ يَدَيْهِ وَتَفْصِيلَ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ
وَهُدًى وَرَحْمَةً لِّقَوْمٍ يُؤْمِنُونَ ﴿١١١﴾

..it (*the Quran*) is not a tale invented, but a confirmation of what was sent before it (*i.e., Torah, Gospel and other Scriptures sent by God*) a detailed exposition of all things, and a guide and a mercy for the people who believe (Quran 12:111).

The background of the slide features a vibrant red color scheme. On the left side, there are several large, detailed red roses with green leaves. The right side of the slide is a solid red vertical bar, decorated with several red rose petals scattered vertically. The text is overlaid on this background in white and yellow.

The Quran, the last revealed Word of God, (**the Last Testament**) is the prime source of every Muslim's faith and practice. It deals with all the subjects which concern us as human beings: wisdom, doctrine, worship, and law, but its basic theme is the relationship between God and His creatures. At the same time it provides guidelines for a just society, proper human conduct and an equitable economic system.

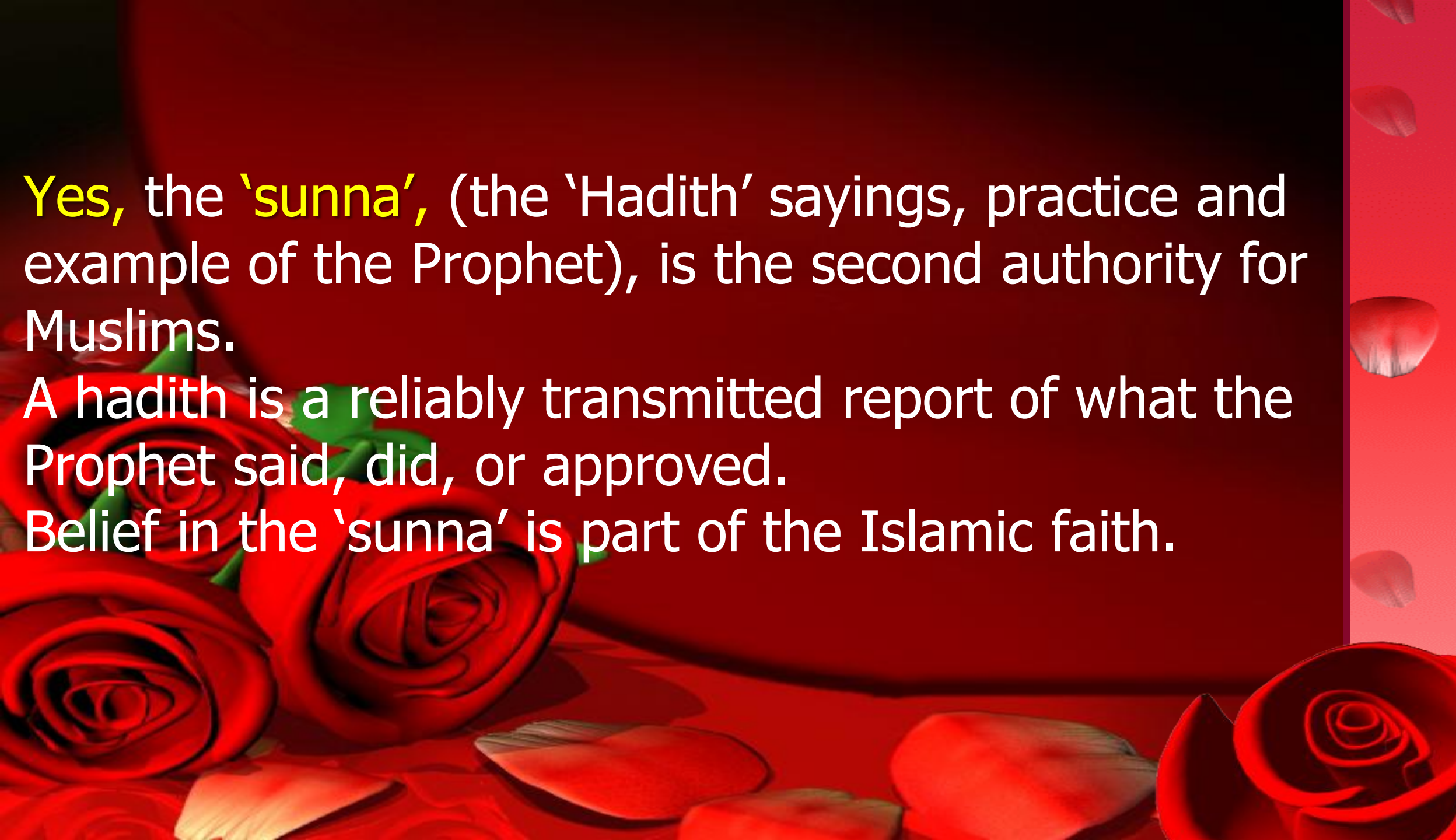
Are there any other sacred sources?

The Prophet Said

All mankind is from Adam and Eve, an Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab; also a white has no superiority over black nor a black has any superiority over white except by piety (taqwa) and good action.

**Prophet Muhammad
(Hadith Bukhari)**





Yes, the 'sunna', (the 'Hadith' sayings, practice and example of the Prophet), is the second authority for Muslims.

A hadith is a reliably transmitted report of what the Prophet said, did, or approved.

Belief in the 'sunna' is part of the Islamic faith.

Examples of the Prophet`s sayings

***Religion is
ease; those who
try to make
religion hard
are always defeated by it. -
Prophet Muhammed (saw)***

Examples of the Prophet's sayings

The Prophet said:

- ◆ 'God has no mercy on one who has no mercy for others.'
- ◆ 'None of you truly believes until he wishes for his brother what he wishes for himself.'
- ◆ 'He who eats his fill while his neighbor goes without food is not a believer.'

Examples of the Prophet's sayings

- 'Powerful is not he who knocks the other down, indeed powerful is he who controls himself in a fit of anger.'
- 'God does not judge according to your bodies and appearances but He scans your hearts and looks into your deeds.'

Examples of the Prophet's sayings

'A man walking along a path felt very thirsty. Reaching a well he descended into it, drank his fill and came up.

Then he saw a dog with its tongue hanging out, trying to lick up mud to quench its thirst.

The man saw that the dog was feeling the same thirst as he had felt so he went down into the well again and filled his shoe with water and gave the dog a drink.

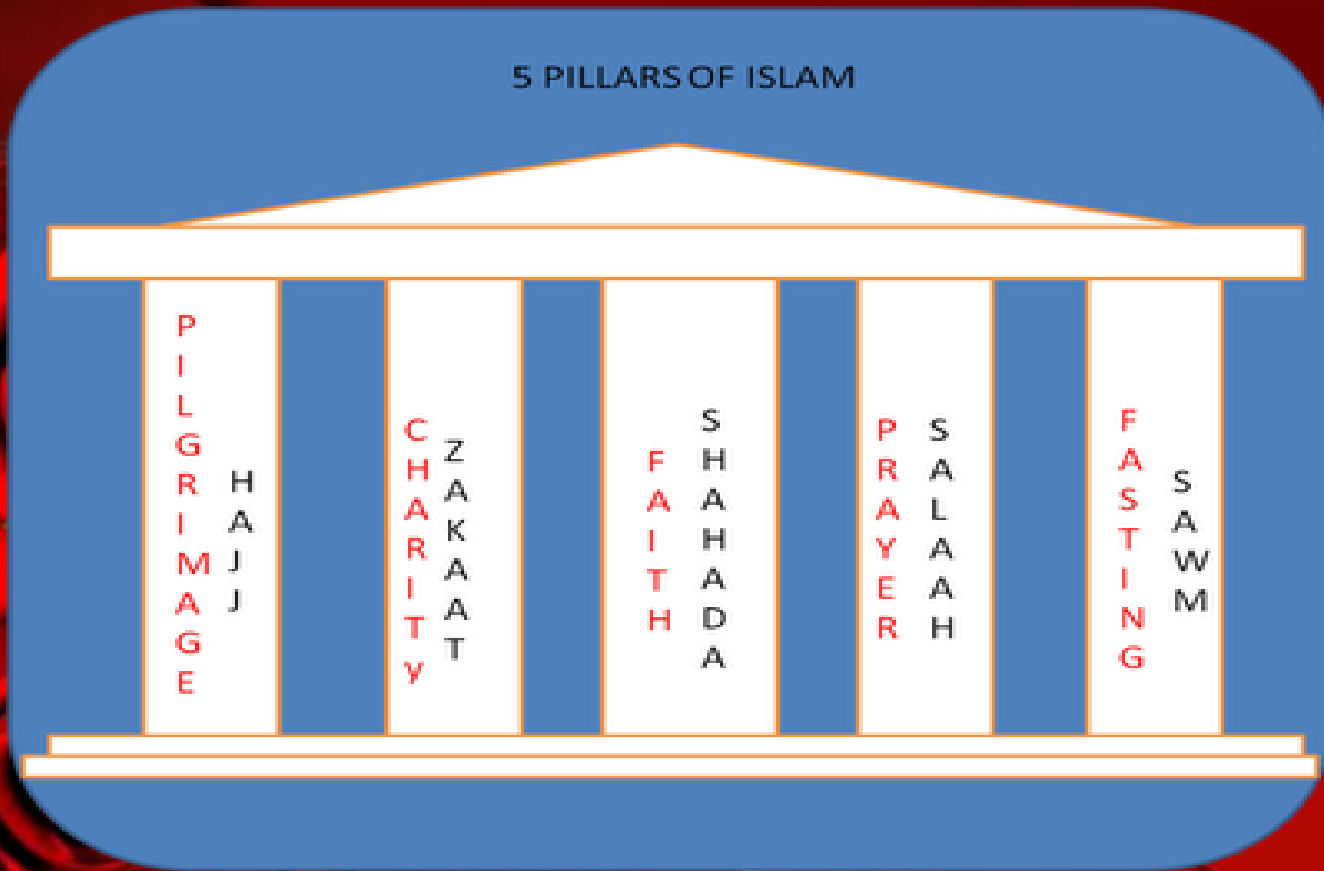
God forgave his sins for this action.'

Examples of the Prophet's sayings

The Prophet was asked: 'Messenger of God, are we rewarded for kindness towards animals?' He said, *'There is a reward for kindness to every living thing.'*

From the hadith collections of Bukhari, Muslim, Tirmidhi and Bayhaqi

What are the Five Pillars of Islam?



They are the framework of the Muslim life: declaration of faith, prayer, (Zakat) concern for the needy, (Fasting) self-purification, and the pilgrimage to Makkah (for those who are able and could afford to do so).

1. FAITH



لا إله إلا الله مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُوْلُ اللهِ
**lā 'ilāha 'illā-llāh, muhammadun
rasūlu-llāh**

**There is no god but God,
Muhammad is the messenger of
God.**



There is no god worthy of worship except God and Muhammad is His messenger.

This declaration of faith is called the '*Shahada*', a simple formula which all the faithful pronounce.

In Arabic, the first part is *la ilaha illa Llah* - 'there is no god except God'; *ilaha* (god) can refer to anything which we may be tempted to put in place of God -- wealth, power, and the like..

Then comes *illa Llah*: 'except God', the source of all Creation.

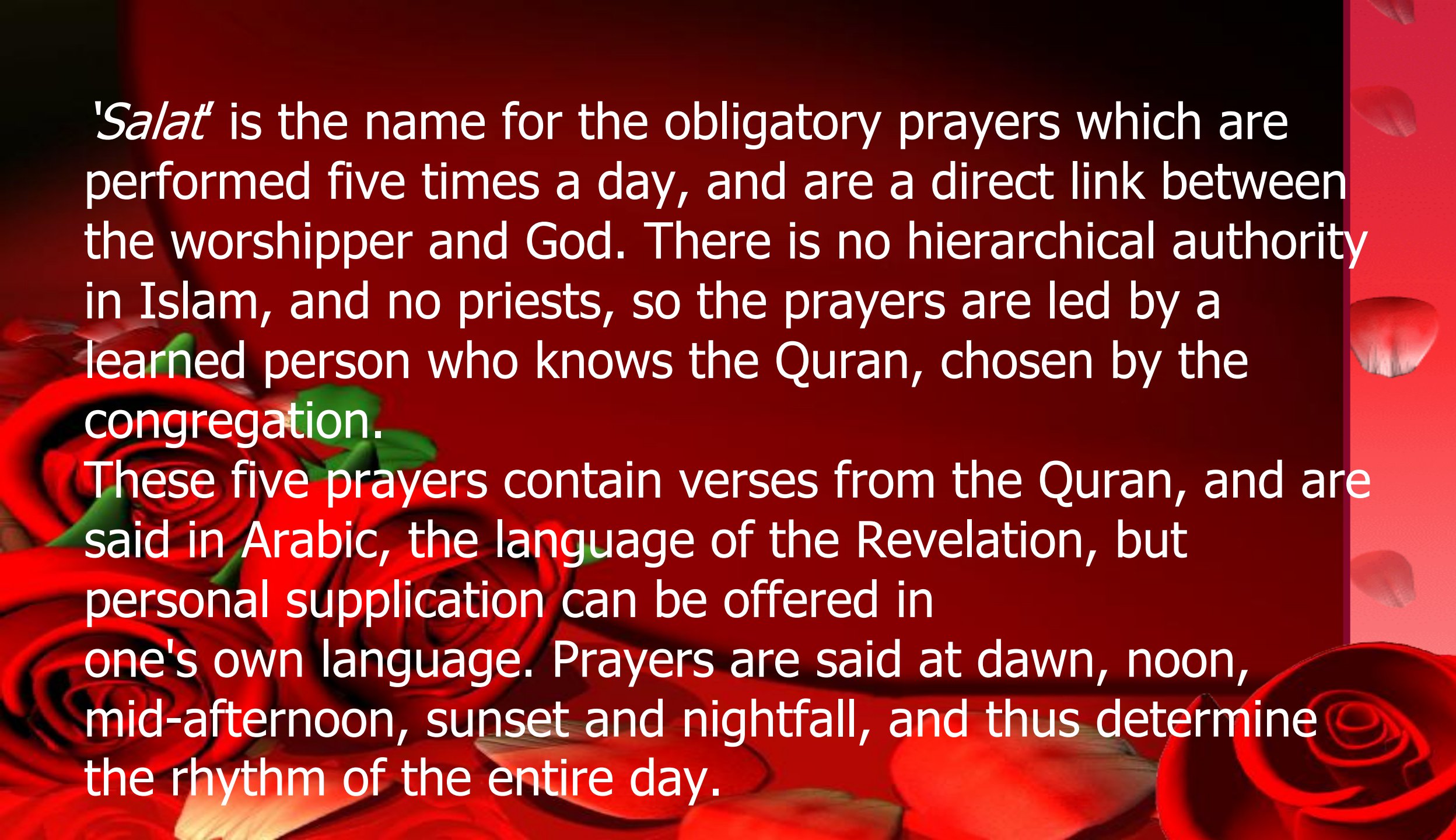


The second part of the Shahada is *Muhammadun rasulu'Llah*: 'Muhammad is the messenger of God.'

A message of guidance has come through **a man** like ourselves.

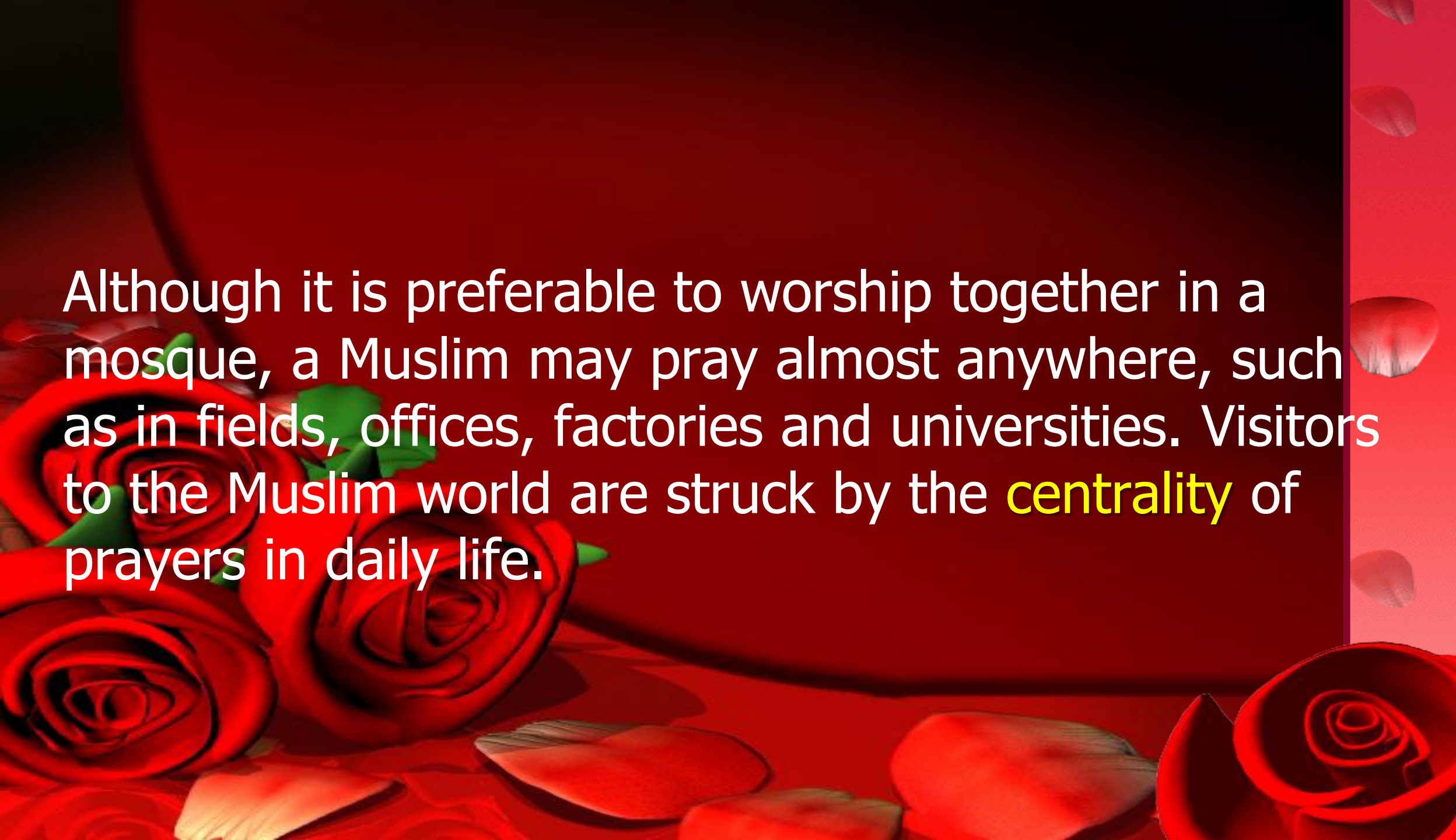
2. PRAYER



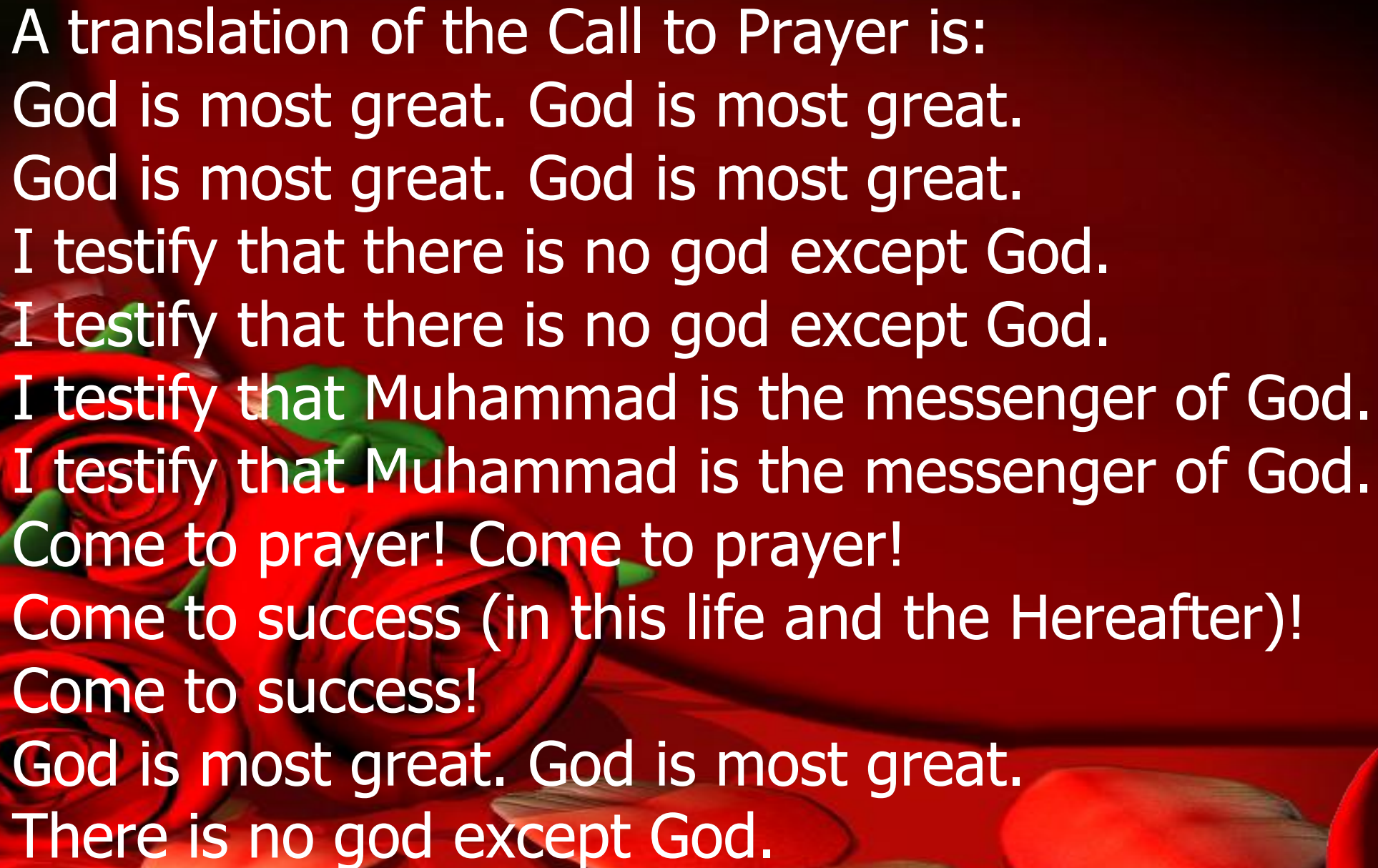


'Salat' is the name for the obligatory prayers which are performed five times a day, and are a direct link between the worshipper and God. There is no hierarchical authority in Islam, and no priests, so the prayers are led by a learned person who knows the Quran, chosen by the congregation.

These five prayers contain verses from the Quran, and are said in Arabic, the language of the Revelation, but personal supplication can be offered in one's own language. Prayers are said at dawn, noon, mid-afternoon, sunset and nightfall, and thus determine the rhythm of the entire day.



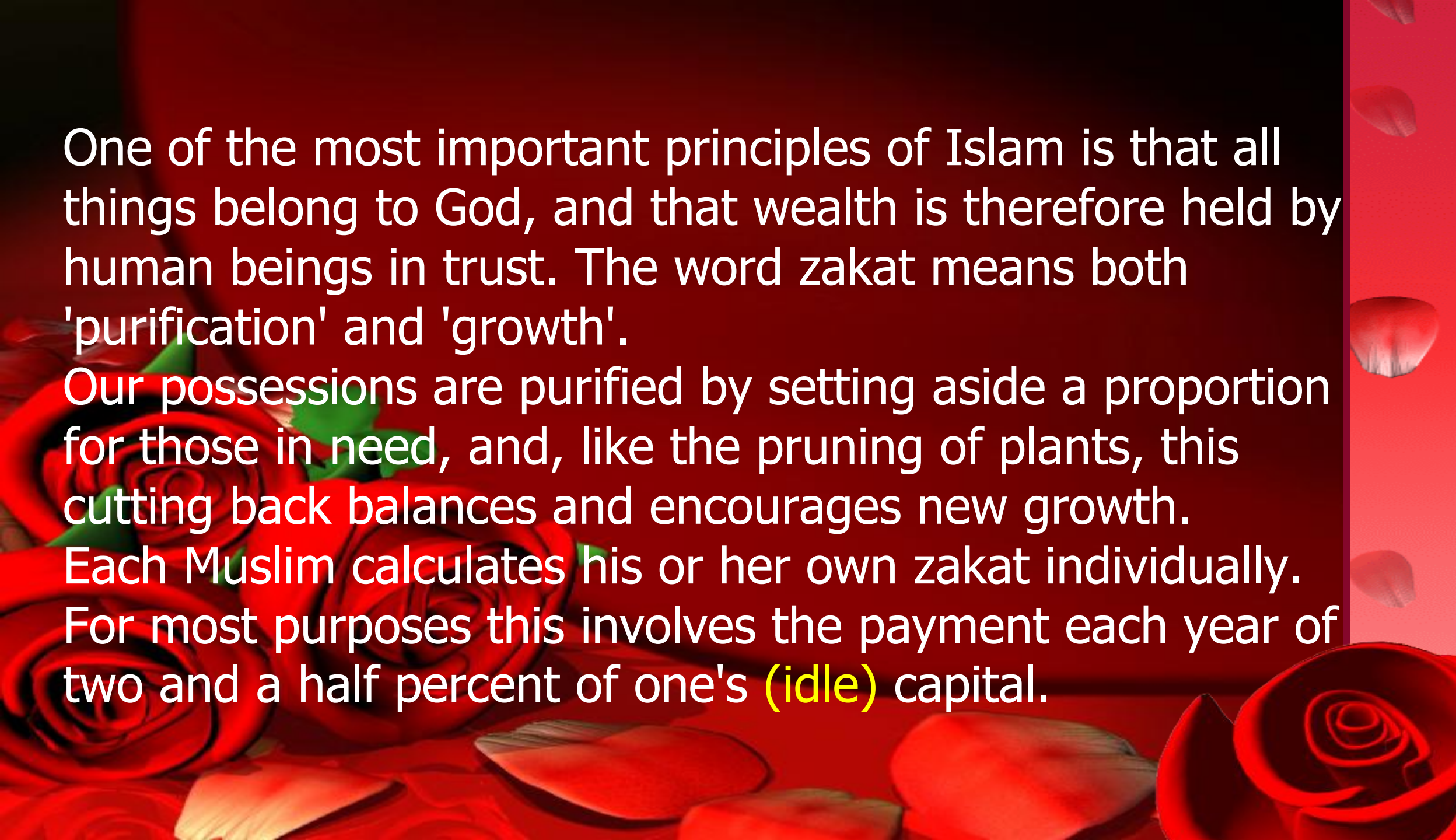
Although it is preferable to worship together in a mosque, a Muslim may pray almost anywhere, such as in fields, offices, factories and universities. Visitors to the Muslim world are struck by the **centrality** of prayers in daily life.

The background of the image features a dense arrangement of red roses and scattered petals. The roses are in various stages of bloom, with some showing the characteristic spiral pattern of the petals. The overall color palette is dominated by shades of red, from deep crimson to bright, almost white highlights on the petals. The lighting creates soft shadows and highlights, giving the flowers a three-dimensional appearance. The text is overlaid on this background in a clean, white, sans-serif font.

A translation of the Call to Prayer is:
God is most great. God is most great.
God is most great. God is most great.
I testify that there is no god except God.
I testify that there is no god except God.
I testify that Muhammad is the messenger of God.
I testify that Muhammad is the messenger of God.
Come to prayer! Come to prayer!
Come to success (in this life and the Hereafter)!
Come to success!
God is most great. God is most great.
There is no god except God.

3. THE 'ZAKAT'

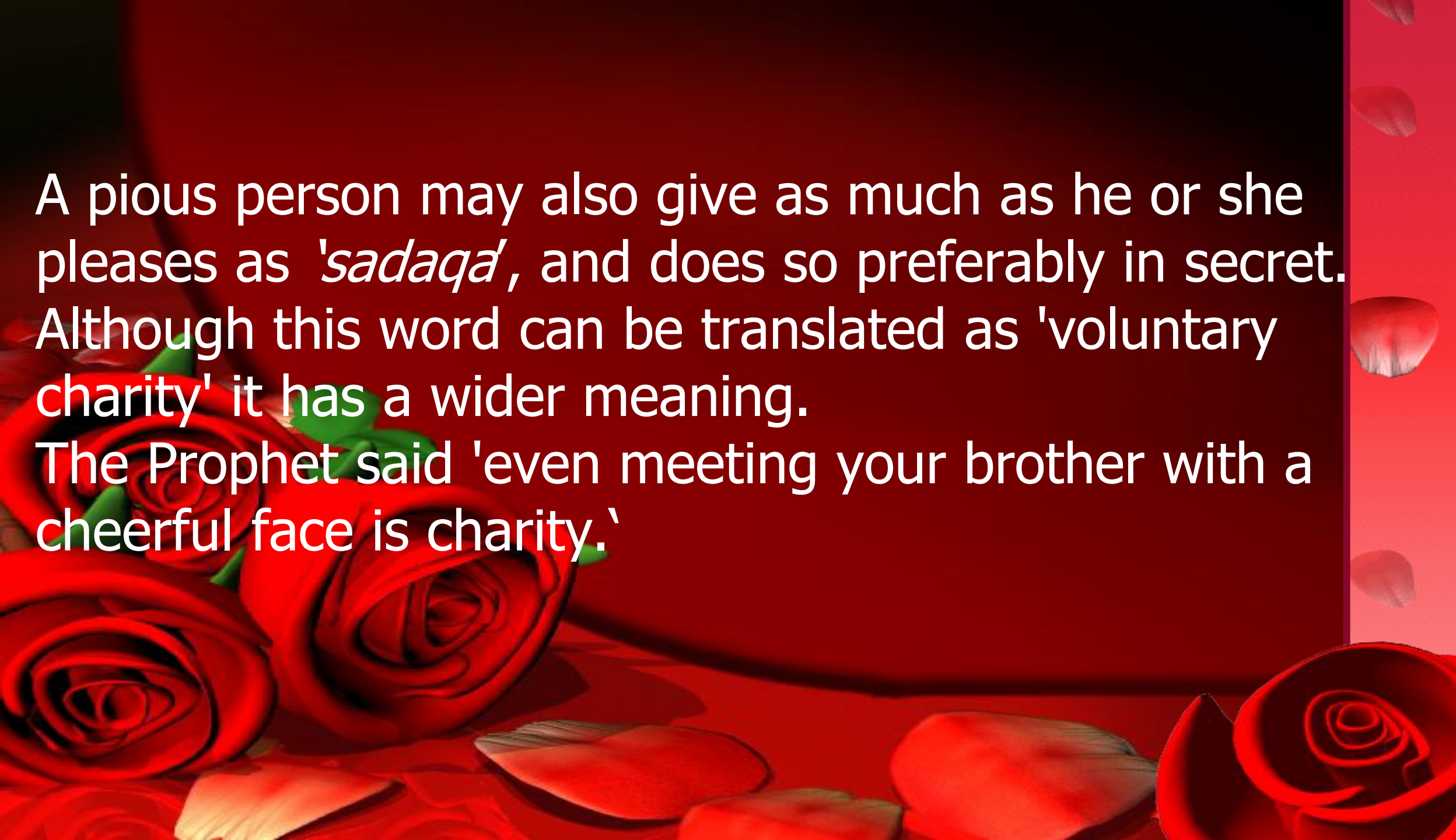


The background of the slide features a dense arrangement of red roses and scattered petals. The roses are in various stages of bloom, with some showing the intricate spiral patterns of their petals. The overall color palette is a rich, vibrant red, with some darker and lighter shades creating depth and texture. The lighting appears to come from the side, casting soft shadows and highlighting the edges of the petals.

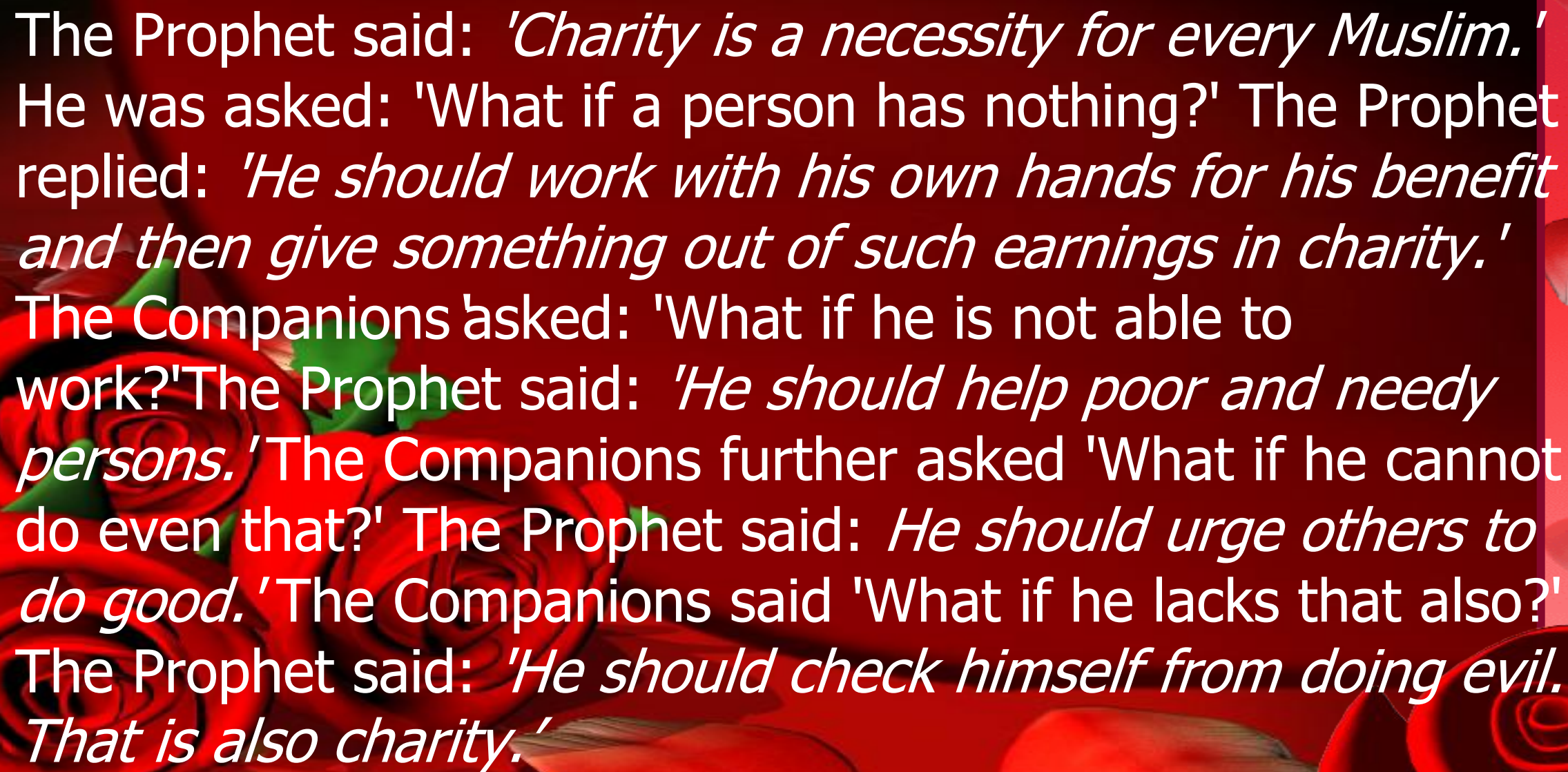
One of the most important principles of Islam is that all things belong to God, and that wealth is therefore held by human beings in trust. The word zakat means both 'purification' and 'growth'.

Our possessions are purified by setting aside a proportion for those in need, and, like the pruning of plants, this cutting back balances and encourages new growth.

Each Muslim calculates his or her own zakat individually. For most purposes this involves the payment each year of two and a half percent of one's (idle) capital.



A pious person may also give as much as he or she pleases as '*sadaqa*', and does so preferably in secret. Although this word can be translated as 'voluntary charity' it has a wider meaning. The Prophet said 'even meeting your brother with a cheerful face is charity.'



The Prophet said: *'Charity is a necessity for every Muslim.'*
He was asked: 'What if a person has nothing?' The Prophet replied: *'He should work with his own hands for his benefit and then give something out of such earnings in charity.'*
The Companions asked: 'What if he is not able to work?' The Prophet said: *'He should help poor and needy persons.'* The Companions further asked 'What if he cannot do even that?' The Prophet said: *He should urge others to do good.'* The Companions said 'What if he lacks that also?' The Prophet said: *'He should check himself from doing evil. That is also charity.'*

4. THE FAST

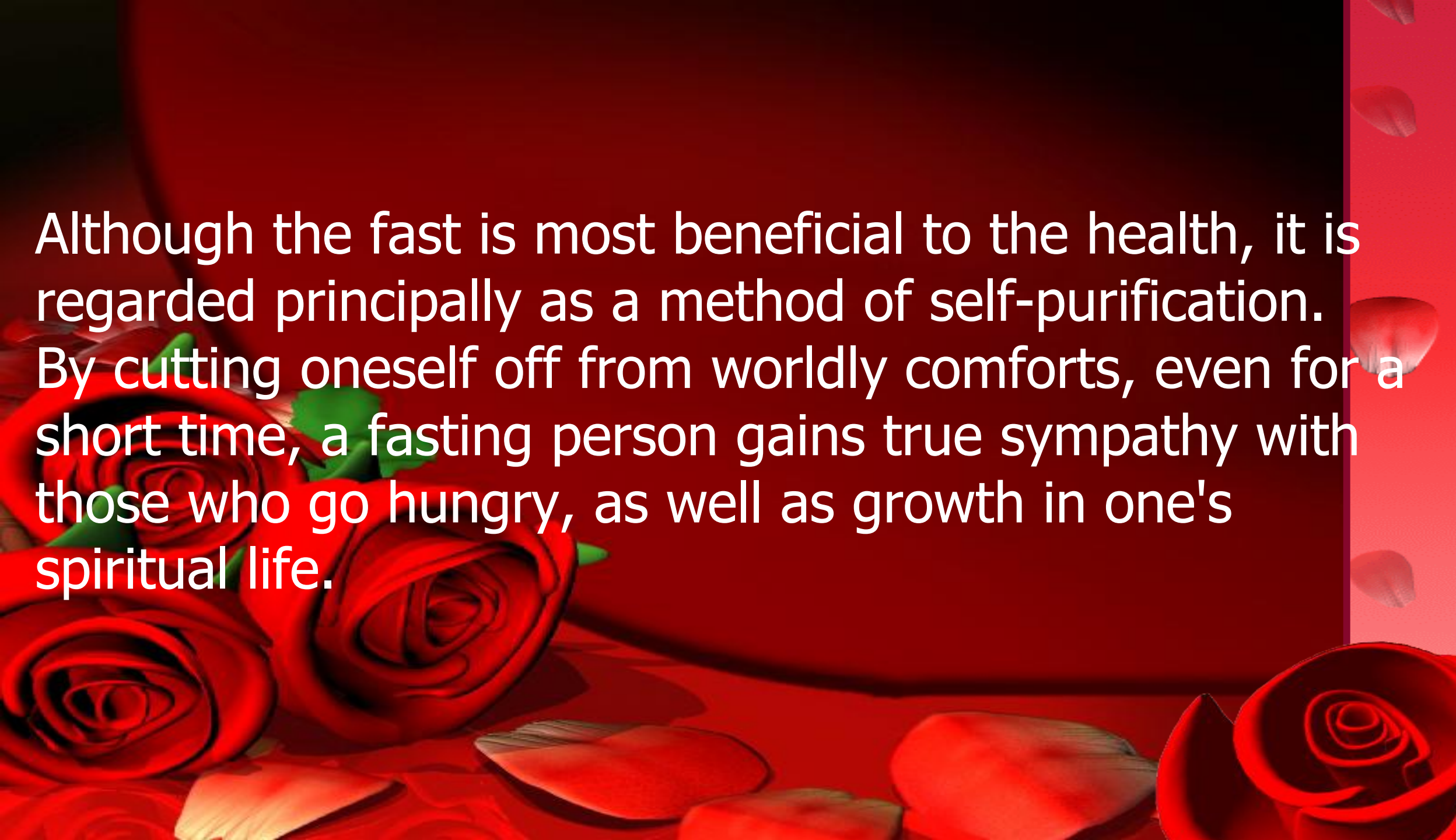


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Every year in the month of Ramadan; all Muslims fast from first light until sundown, abstaining from food, drink, and sexual relations.

Those who are sick, elderly, or on a journey, and women who are pregnant or nursing are permitted to break the fast and make up an equal number of days later in the year.

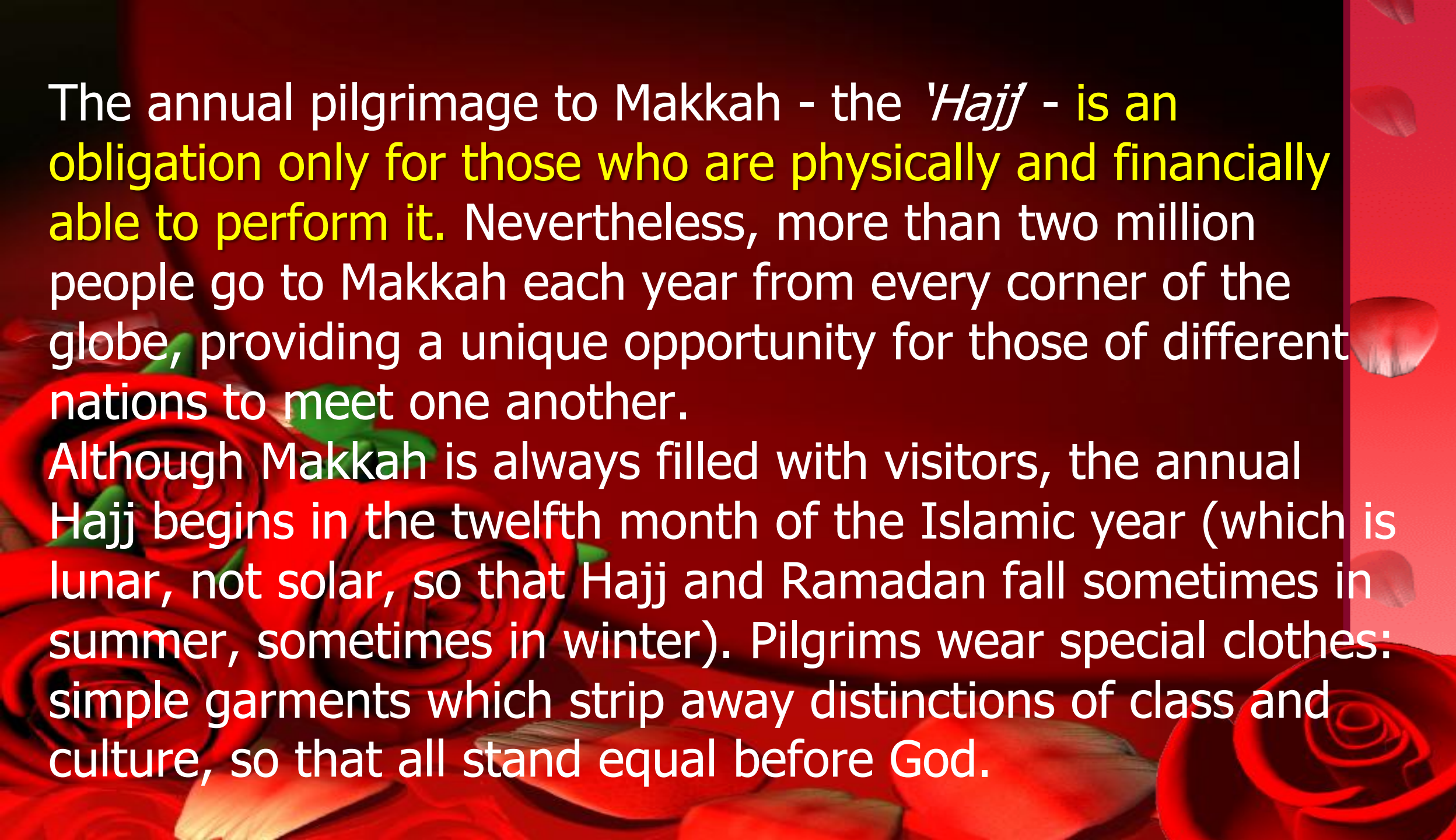
If they are physically unable to do this, they must feed a needy person for every day missed. Children begin to fast (and to observe the prayer) from puberty, although many start earlier.



Although the fast is most beneficial to the health, it is regarded principally as a method of self-purification. By cutting oneself off from worldly comforts, even for a short time, a fasting person gains true sympathy with those who go hungry, as well as growth in one's spiritual life.

5. PILGRIMAGE (Hajj)

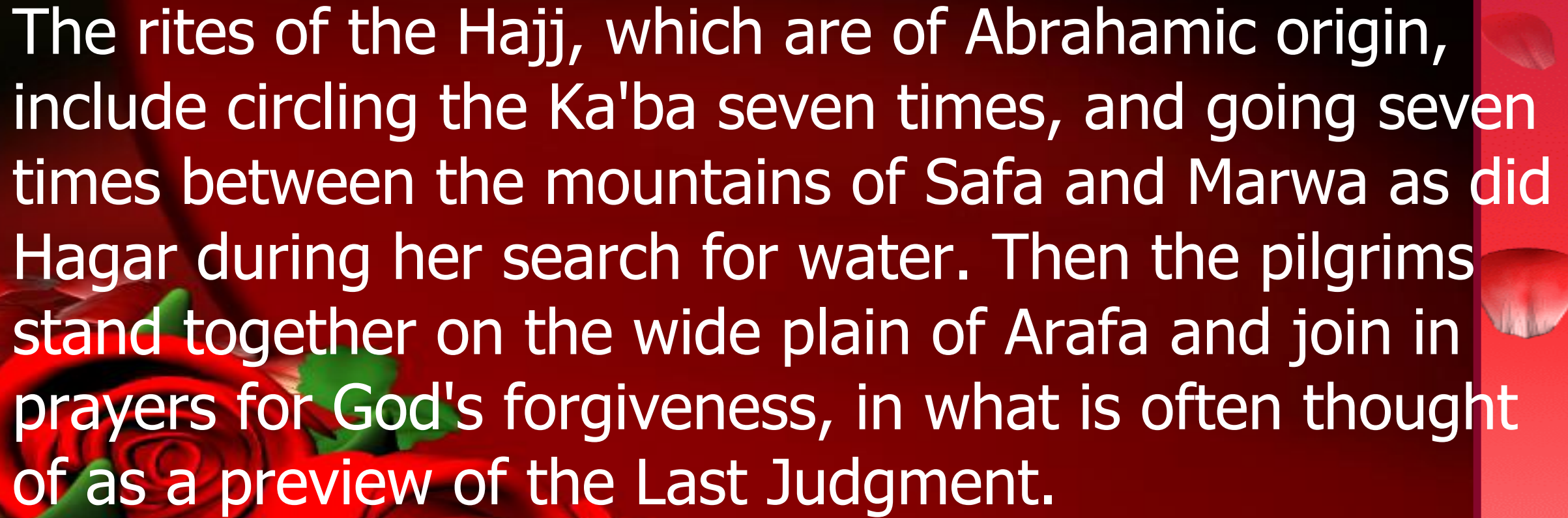


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The annual pilgrimage to Makkah - the '*Hajj*' - **is an obligation only for those who are physically and financially able to perform it.** Nevertheless, more than two million people go to Makkah each year from every corner of the globe, providing a unique opportunity for those of different nations to meet one another.

Although Makkah is always filled with visitors, the annual Hajj begins in the twelfth month of the Islamic year (which is lunar, not solar, so that Hajj and Ramadan fall sometimes in summer, sometimes in winter). Pilgrims wear special clothes: simple garments which strip away distinctions of class and culture, so that all stand equal before God.



The background of the slide features a dense arrangement of vibrant red roses and scattered petals. The roses are in various stages of bloom, with some showing the intricate spiral patterns of their petals. The overall color palette is a rich, saturated red, creating a visually striking and somewhat somber atmosphere. The text is overlaid on this background in a clean, white, sans-serif font.

The rites of the Hajj, which are of Abrahamic origin, include circling the Ka'ba seven times, and going seven times between the mountains of Safa and Marwa as did Hagar during her search for water. Then the pilgrims stand together on the wide plain of Arafat and join in prayers for God's forgiveness, in what is often thought of as a preview of the Last Judgment.

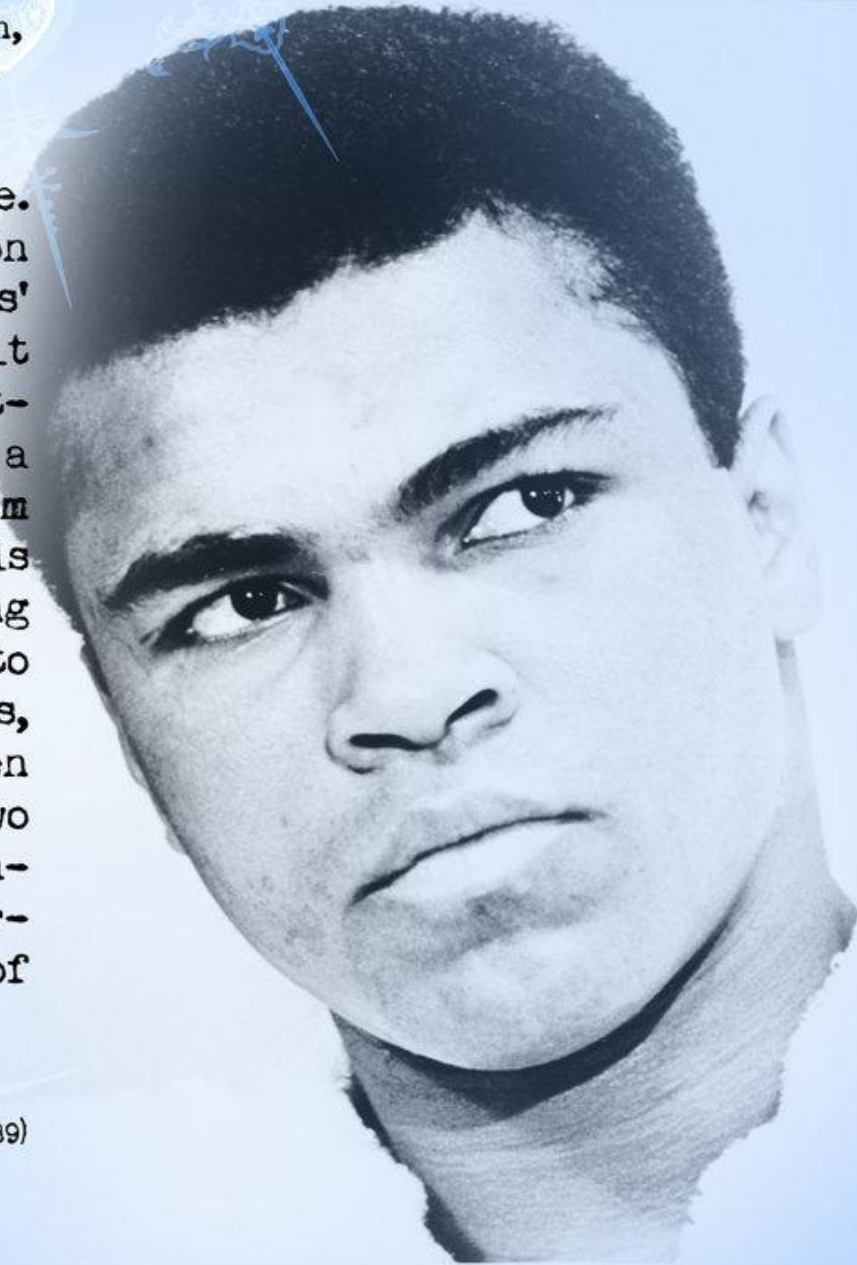
In previous centuries the Hajj was an arduous undertaking. Today, however, Saudi Arabia provides millions of people with water, modern transport, and the most up-to-date health facilities.

CASSIUS CLAY (NOW MUHAMMAD ALI):

American; three times World Heavyweight Champion, formerly a Christian. He embraced Islam in 1965.

"I have had many nice moments in my life. But the feelings I had while standing on Mount Arafat on the day of Hajj (Muslims' pilgrimage), was the most unique. I felt exalted by the indescribable spiritual atmosphere there as over a million and a half pilgrims invoked God to forgive them of their sins and bestow on them His choicest blessings. It was an exhilarating experience to see to people belonging to different colors, races and nationalities, kings, heads of states and ordinary men from very poor countries all clad in two simple white sheets praying to God without any sense of either pride or inferiority. It was a practical manifestation of the concept of equality in Islam."

(Speaking to the daily "Al-Madinah" Jeddah, 15 July, 1989)





The close of the Hajj is marked by a festival, the **Eid al-Adha**, which is celebrated with prayers and the exchange of gifts in Muslim communities everywhere.

This, and the **Eid al-Fitr**, a feast-day commemorating the end of Ramadan, are the main festivals of the Muslim calendar.

Are Good Deeds Important in Islam?

“The good deed and the evil deed cannot be equal
Repel the evil with one which is better,
then verily he, between whom and you
there was enmity, (will become)
as though he was a close friend”.

(Al-Quran, 41:34)

“Think of your
LIFE as a luggage;
fill it with good
deeds; as you'll
need it for the
long journey
ahead!”

Profet Mohamad (SAWS)

"those who believe and do good deeds".

Doing good deeds and having the right belief go hand in hand in Islam. In fact, doing good deeds in practice is the proof of having the right belief in the heart. This is why the Holy Quran speaks of true Muslims very often as "those who believe and do good deeds".

Following are few examples:

*** If any do good deeds, be they male or female and have faith, they will enter heaven (paradise), and not the least injustice will be done to them. (Quran 4:124)**

*** [He sent] a Messenger [Muhammad] reciting to you the distinct verses of God that He may bring out those who believe and do good deeds from darkness into light. And whoever believes in God and does good deeds - He will admit him into gardens beneath which rivers flow to abide therein forever. God will have perfected for him a provision. (Quran 65:11)**

*** Those who believe and do good deeds, we shall soon admit them to gardens, with rivers flowing beneath, to dwell therein for ever. God's promise is the truth, and whose word can be truer than God's? (Quran 4:122)**

*** Indeed, God will admit those who believe and do righteous deeds to gardens beneath which rivers flow. They will be adorned therein with bracelets of gold and pearl, and their garments therein will be silk. (Quran 22:23)**

Examples of Good Deeds in Islam

Apart from the Prayers, Zakat (Charity) and fasting, Good deeds in Islam will include:

1. Justice

God commands you to render back your Trusts to those to whom they are due; and when you judge between people, that you judge with justice: verily how excellent is the teaching which He gives you (Quran 4:58)

2. Truthfulness

"Be maintainers of justice and bearers of true witness for God, even if it (the truth) goes against your own selves or parents or relatives or someone who is rich or poor." (Quran 4:135)



3. Sincerity

"It is most hateful in the sight of God that you say things which you do not do." (Quran 61:3)

4. Unselfishness

"You cannot attain to righteousness unless you spend (in charity) out of those things which you love." (Quran 3:92)

5. Humility

"The servants of the Beneficent (God) are those who walk on the earth in humility." (Quran 25:63)



6. Patience

"You who have believed, seek help through patience and prayers. Indeed God is with the patients. (Quran 2:153)

"Give good news to the patients, who, when a misfortune befalls them, say: Truly to God we belong and to Him we shall return." (Quran 2:155-156)



7. Forgiveness

"Pardon (people) and overlook (their faults). Don't you love that God should forgive you." (Quran 24:22)

"(The dutiful are) . . . those who restrain their anger and pardon people. God loves those who do good to others." (Quran 3:134)



8. Honest

"Don't go near the property of an orphan, except in a goodly way, till he attains maturity. And fulfill the promise (you make) Give full measure when you measure out, and weigh with a true balance." (Quran 17:34-35)

9. Goodness and kindness to others

"Do good to others, surely God loves those who do good to others." (Quran 2:195)

God commands justice, the doing of good to others, and liberality to kith and kin, and he forbids all shameful deeds, and injustice and rebellion. (Quran 16:90)

10. Moderation

Those who, when they spend, are not extravagant and not niggardly, but hold a just (balance) between those (extremes). (Quran 25:67)



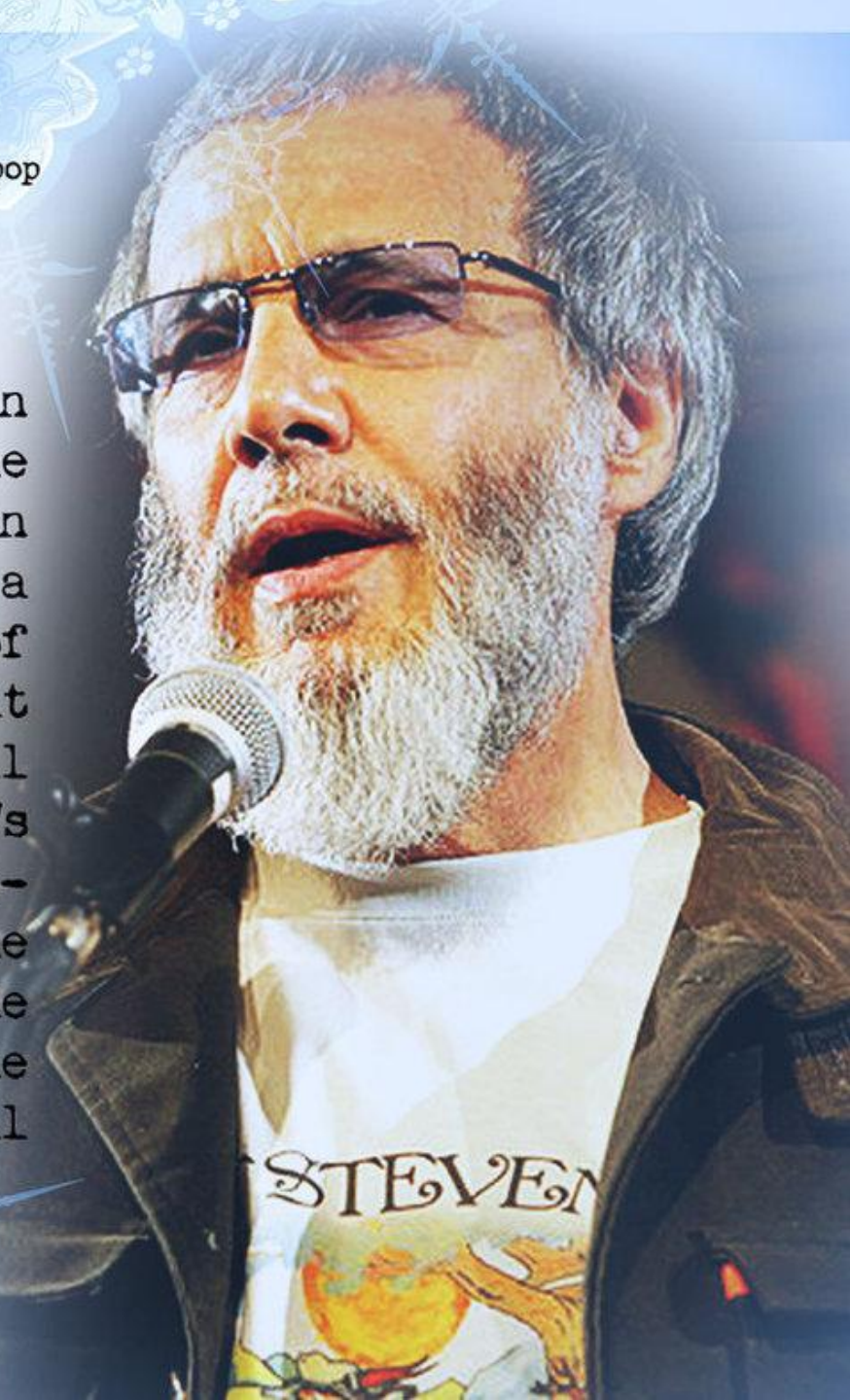
What Qualities should Muslims acquire?

"The truthful men and the truthful women, the patient men and the patient women, the humble men and the humble women, the charitable men and the charitable women, the fasting men and the fasting women, the men who guard their chastity and the women who guard their chastity, the men who remember God much and the women who remember God much - for all these God has prepared forgiveness and a great reward." (Quran 33:35)

CAT STEVENS (NOW YUSUF ISLAM):

British; formerly a Christian and a world famous pop singer. He embraced Islam in 1973.

"It will be wrong to judge Islam in the light of the behavior of some bad Muslims who are always shown on the media. It is like judging a car as a bad one if the driver of the car is drunk and he bangs it into the wall. Islam guides all human beings in daily life in it's spiritual, mental and physical dimensions. But we must find the sources of these instruction, the Qur'an and the example of the Prophet. Then we can see the ideal of Islam."



Does Islam Recommend Certain Manners?

1. Putting Trust in God

"Certainly, God loves those who put their trust (in Him)."

(Quran: 3:159)

2. Perfection of One's Work

The Messenger (peace be upon him) said: "God loves that if one does a job he perfects it."

3. Rescuing

The Messenger (puh) said: "God loves rescuing the one who needs rescue."

4. Repentance

"Truly, God loves those who turn unto him in repentance." (Quran: 2:222)

5. Body Purification

"And God loves those who make themselves clean and pure." (Quran: 9:108)

6. Belief and Work

The Messenger (puh) said: "God loves the servant who believes and acquires a career (or work)."

7. Magnanimity

The Messenger (puh) said: "God is All-Generous and He loves generosity in sale, purchase and judgment."

8. Virtuosity

The Messenger (puh) said: "God loves the servant-believer who is poor but virtuous enough to refrain from begging though he has many children."

9. Strength

The Messenger (puh) said: "The strong believer is better and more loved by God than the weak one, but they are both good."

10. Good Manners and Conduct

The Messenger (puh) said: "The best loved by me and the nearest to me on the Day of Resurrection are those who have the best manners and conduct amongst you, who are intimate, are on good terms with others and are humble, and the most furthest from me are those who are talkative and arrogant."

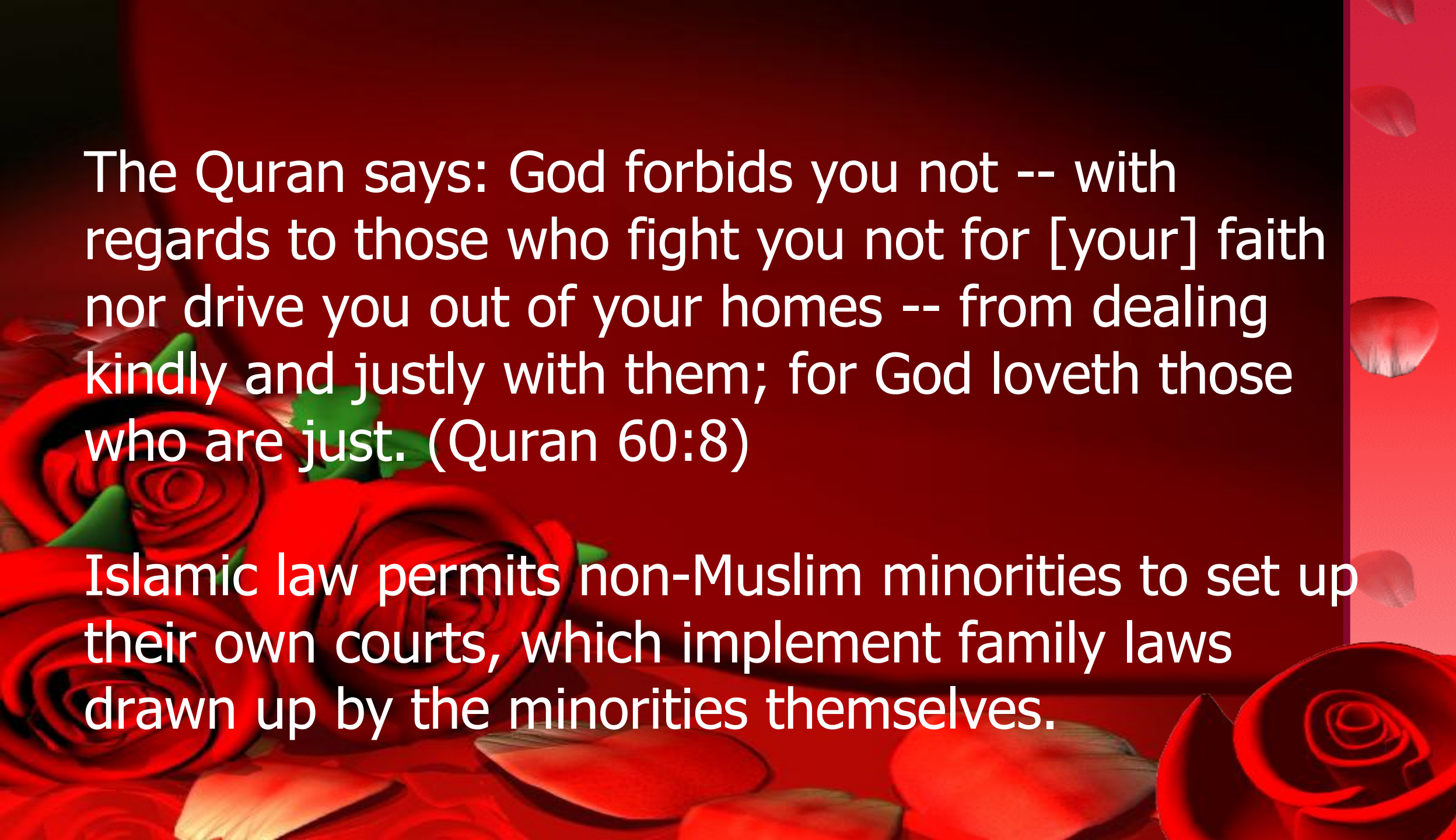
Does Islam tolerate other beliefs?

There is no compulsion in religion. Verily the Right Path has become distinct from the wrong path. Whoever rejects evil and believes in God has grasped the most trustworthy handhold that never breaks. And God is All-Hearer, All-Knower (Quran 2:256).

- In surah al-Baqarah verse 256 :

لَا إِكْرَاهَ فِي الدِّينِ قَدْ تَبَيَّنَ الرُّشْدُ مِنَ الْغَيِّ فَمَنْ يَكْفُرْ
بِالطَّغُوتِ وَيُؤْمِرْ بِاللَّهِ فَقَدْ اسْتَمْسَكَ بِالْعُرْوَةِ الْوُثْقَى لَا

أَنْفِصَامَ لَهَا وَاللَّهُ سَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ
٢٥٦



The Quran says: God forbids you not -- with regards to those who fight you not for [your] faith nor drive you out of your homes -- from dealing kindly and justly with them; for God loveth those who are just. (Quran 60:8)

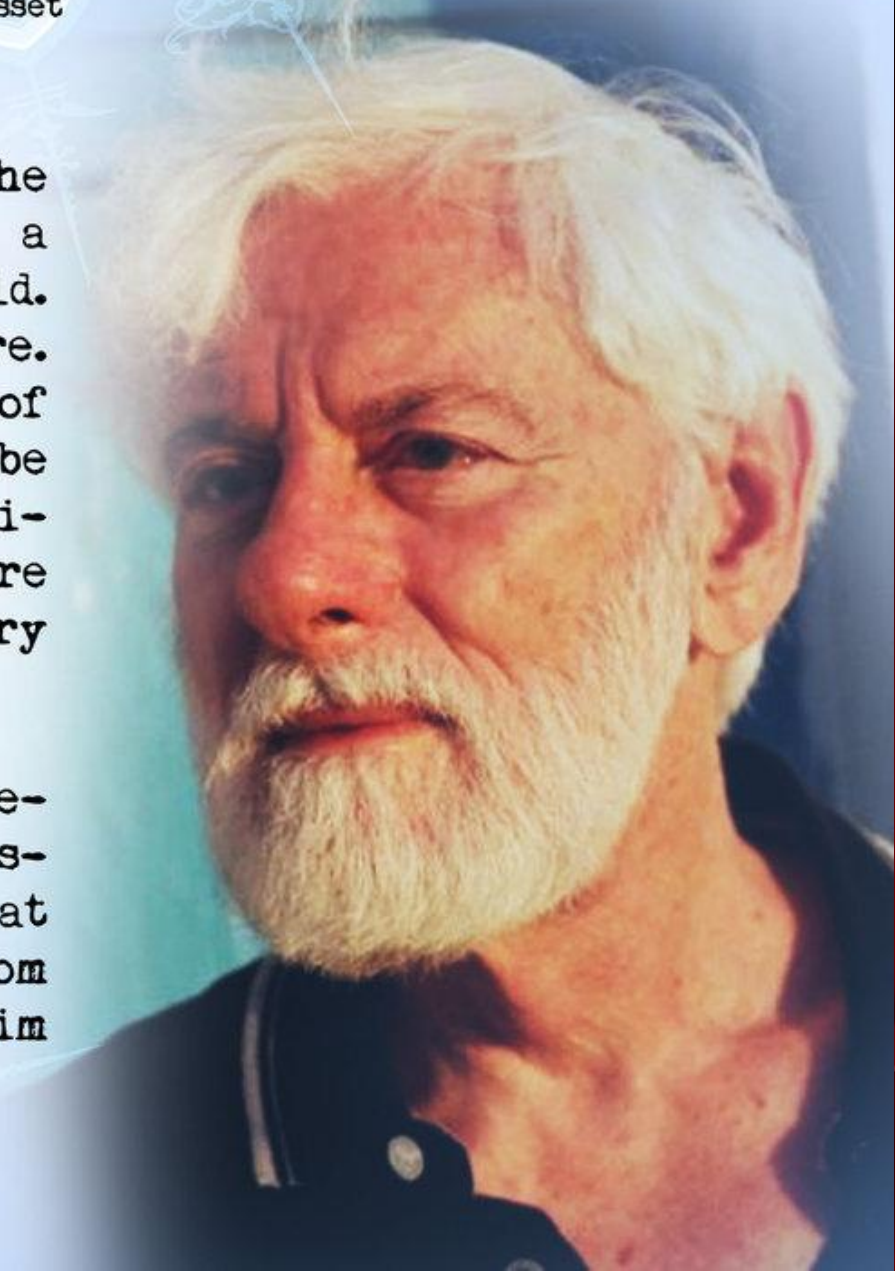
Islamic law permits non-Muslim minorities to set up their own courts, which implement family laws drawn up by the minorities themselves.

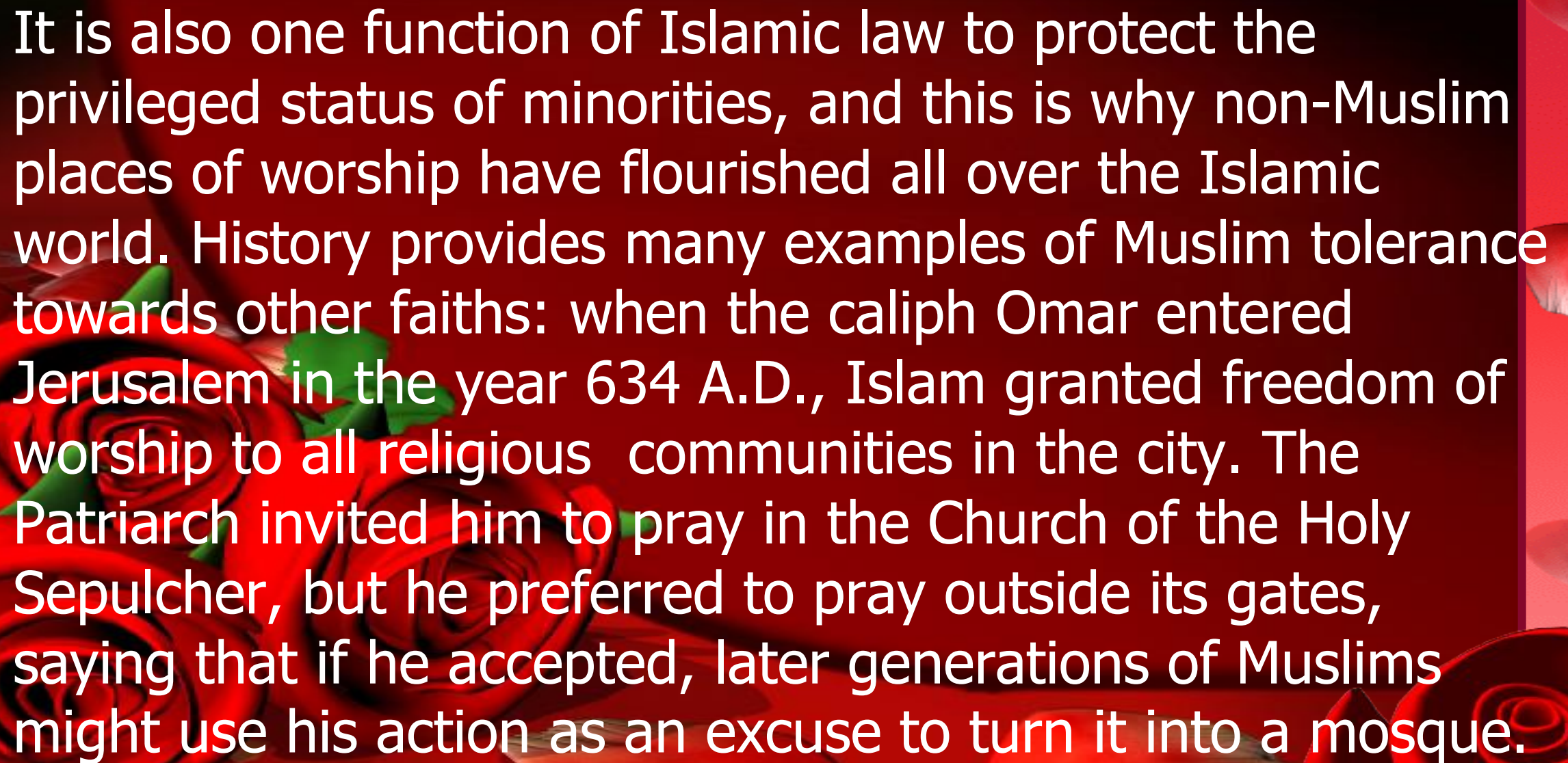
URI AVNERY:

Israeli Journalist, humanitarian and former Knesset member

"Muslim Spain was a paradise for the Jews, and there has never been a Jewish Holocaust in the Muslim world. Even pogroms were extremely rare. Muhammad decreed that the 'Peoples of the Book' (Jews and Christians) be treated tolerantly, subject to conditions that were incomparably more liberal than those in contemporary Europe.

"The Muslims never imposed their religion by force on Jews and Christians, as shown by the fact that almost all the Jews expelled from Catholic Spain settled in the Muslim countries and flourished there.



The background of the slide features a dense arrangement of red roses and scattered petals. The roses are in various stages of bloom, with some showing deep red and others appearing more as soft, pinkish-red petals. The overall color palette is dominated by shades of red, from vibrant crimson to softer, almost white-pink tones. The lighting creates highlights and shadows on the petals, giving them a three-dimensional appearance.

It is also one function of Islamic law to protect the privileged status of minorities, and this is why non-Muslim places of worship have flourished all over the Islamic world. History provides many examples of Muslim tolerance towards other faiths: when the caliph Omar entered Jerusalem in the year 634 A.D., Islam granted freedom of worship to all religious communities in the city. The Patriarch invited him to pray in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, but he preferred to pray outside its gates, saying that if he accepted, later generations of Muslims might use his action as an excuse to turn it into a mosque.

What do Muslims think about Jesus?

No Muslim
is a Muslim
if he does not
believe in
Jesus (pbut)

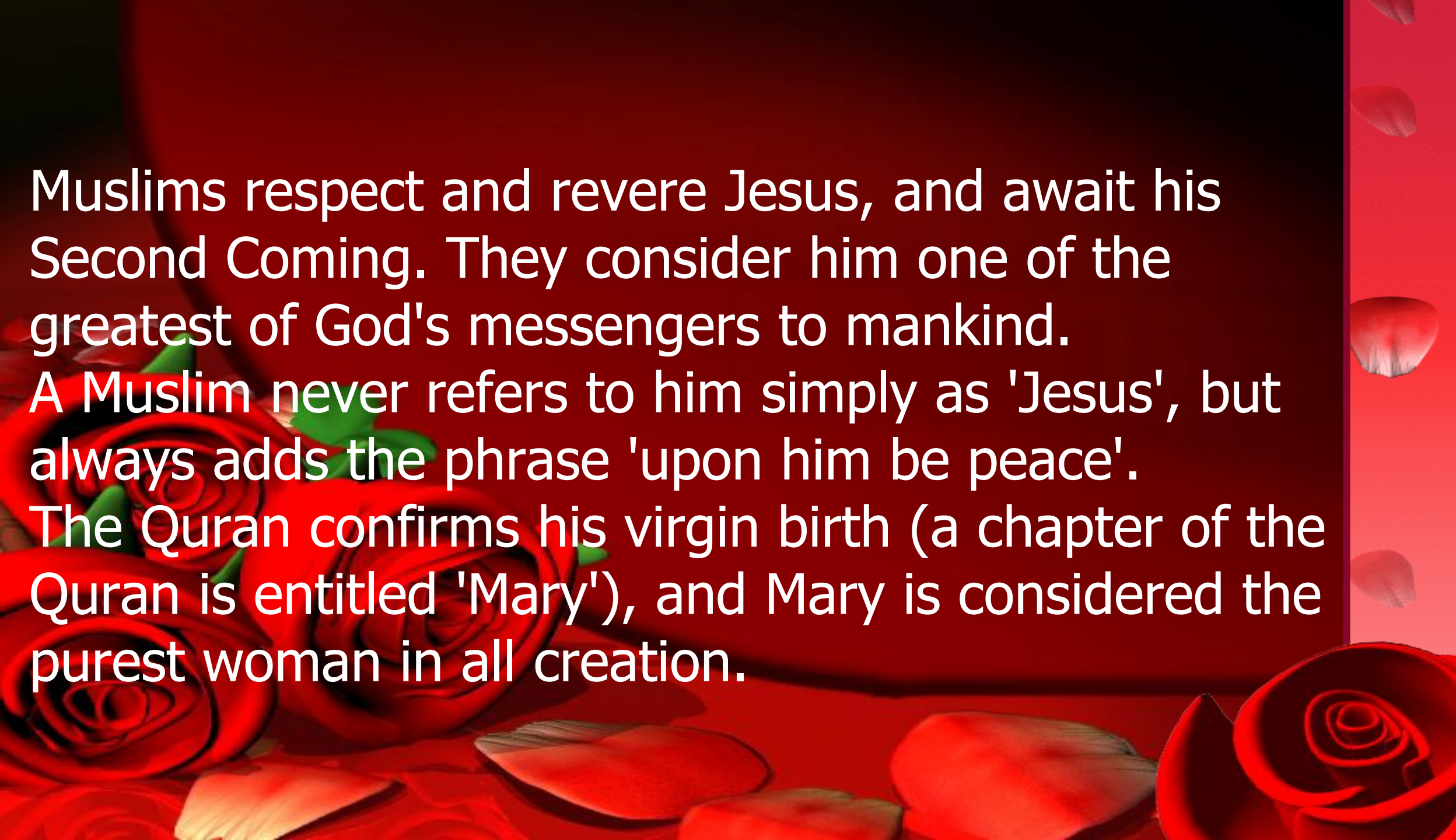
- Dr ZAKIR NAIK, Servant of Allah

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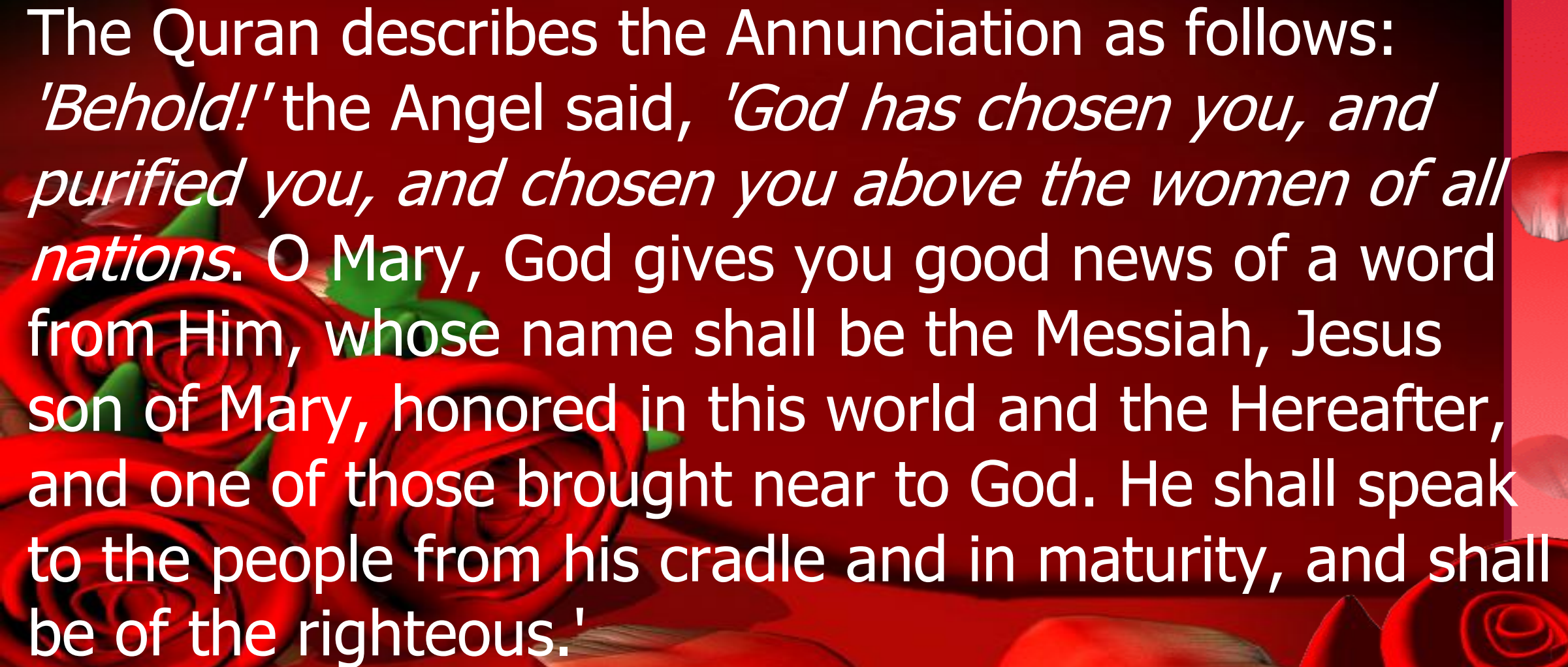




Muslims respect and revere Jesus, and await his Second Coming. They consider him one of the greatest of God's messengers to mankind.

A Muslim never refers to him simply as 'Jesus', but always adds the phrase 'upon him be peace'.

The Quran confirms his virgin birth (a chapter of the Quran is entitled 'Mary'), and Mary is considered the purest woman in all creation.

The background of the slide features a dense arrangement of vibrant red roses and scattered rose petals. The roses are in various stages of bloom, with some showing the intricate spiral patterns of their petals. The overall color palette is a rich, warm red, creating a romantic and elegant atmosphere. The text is overlaid on this background, with the first line in a standard white font and the subsequent lines in a white, italicized serif font.

The Quran describes the Annunciation as follows:
'Behold!' the Angel said, *'God has chosen you, and purified you, and chosen you above the women of all nations.* O Mary, God gives you good news of a word from Him, whose name shall be the Messiah, Jesus son of Mary, honored in this world and the Hereafter, and one of those brought near to God. He shall speak to the people from his cradle and in maturity, and shall be of the righteous.'

Why is the family so important to Muslims?





The family is the foundation and corner-stone of Islamic society.

The peace and security offered by a stable family unit is greatly valued, and seen as essential for the spiritual growth of its members.

A harmonious social order is created by the existence of extended families; children are treasured, and rarely leave home until the time they marry.

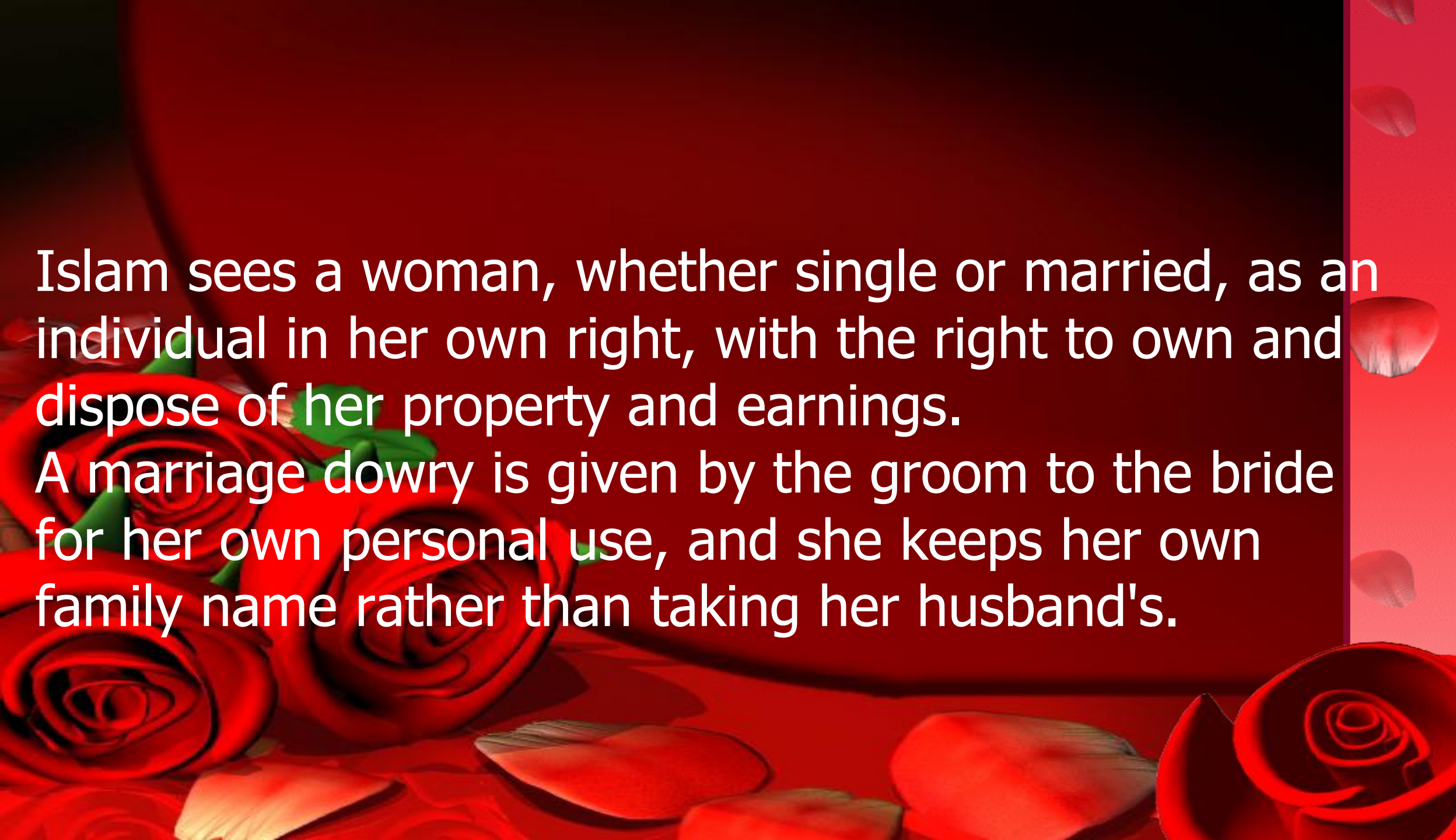
What about Muslim women?



From the East



From the West



Islam sees a woman, whether single or married, as an individual in her own right, with the right to own and dispose of her property and earnings.

A marriage dowry is given by the groom to the bride for her own personal use, and she keeps her own family name rather than taking her husband's.

'I WAS A SLAVE TO BROKEN SOCIETY'



Lynne Ali: 'This is the real me'

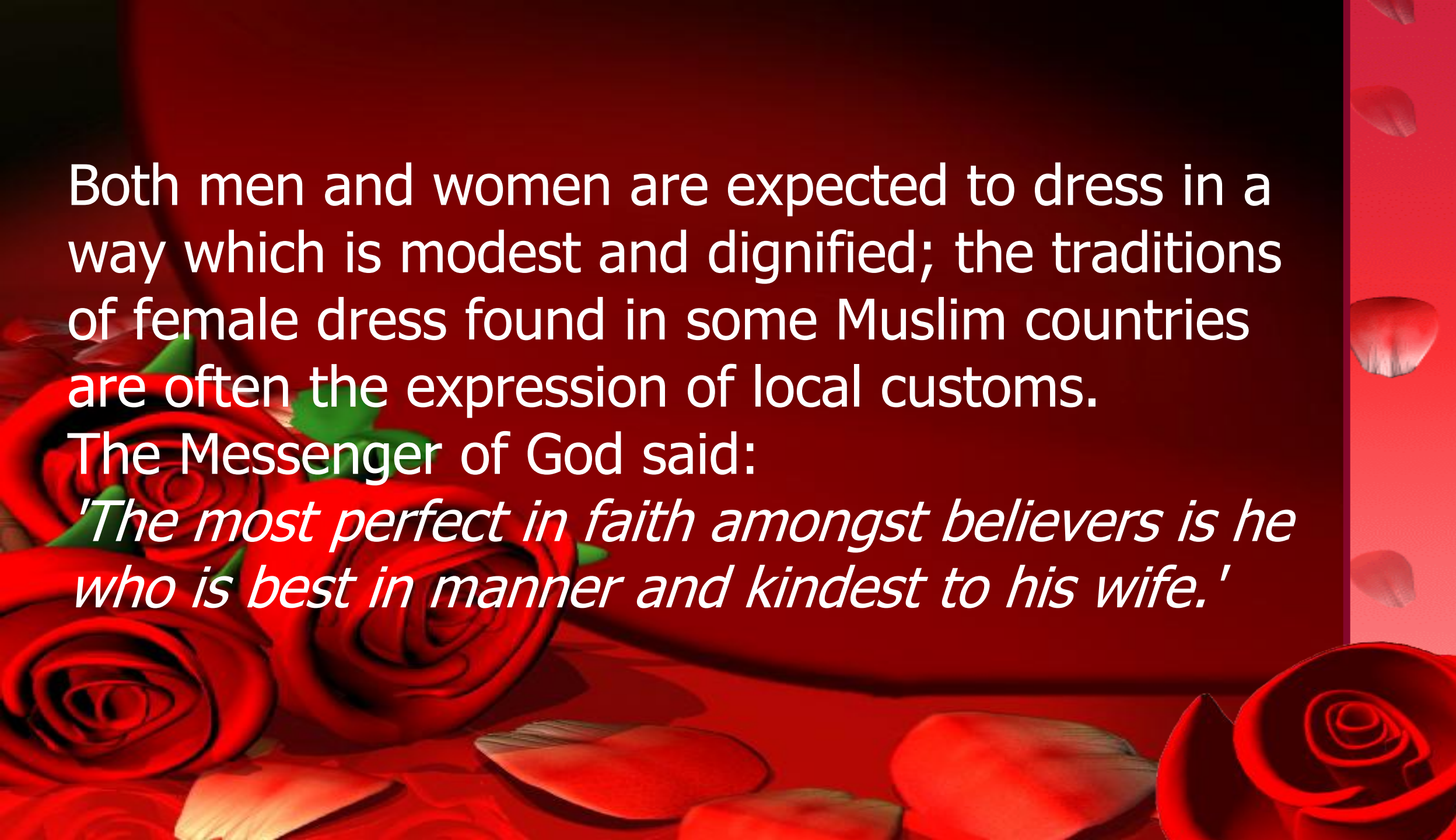
LYNNE ALI admits she was 'a typical white hard-partying teenager'. But her hectic lifestyle left her feeling something was missing.

The 31-year-old former DJ, from Dagenham in Essex, said: 'I would go out and get drunk with friends, wear tight and revealing clothing and date boys.'

'I think, underneath it all, I must have been searching for something, and I wasn't feeling fulfilled by my hard-drinking, party lifestyle.'

She met her boyfriend, Zahid, at university, and converted to Islam at the age of 19. She now wears the Islamic scarf, or niqab, when she goes out and describes it as 'liberating'.

'I am so grateful I found my escape route,' she said. 'This is the real me - I am happy to pray five times a day and take classes at the mosque. I am no longer a slave to a broken society and its expectations.'

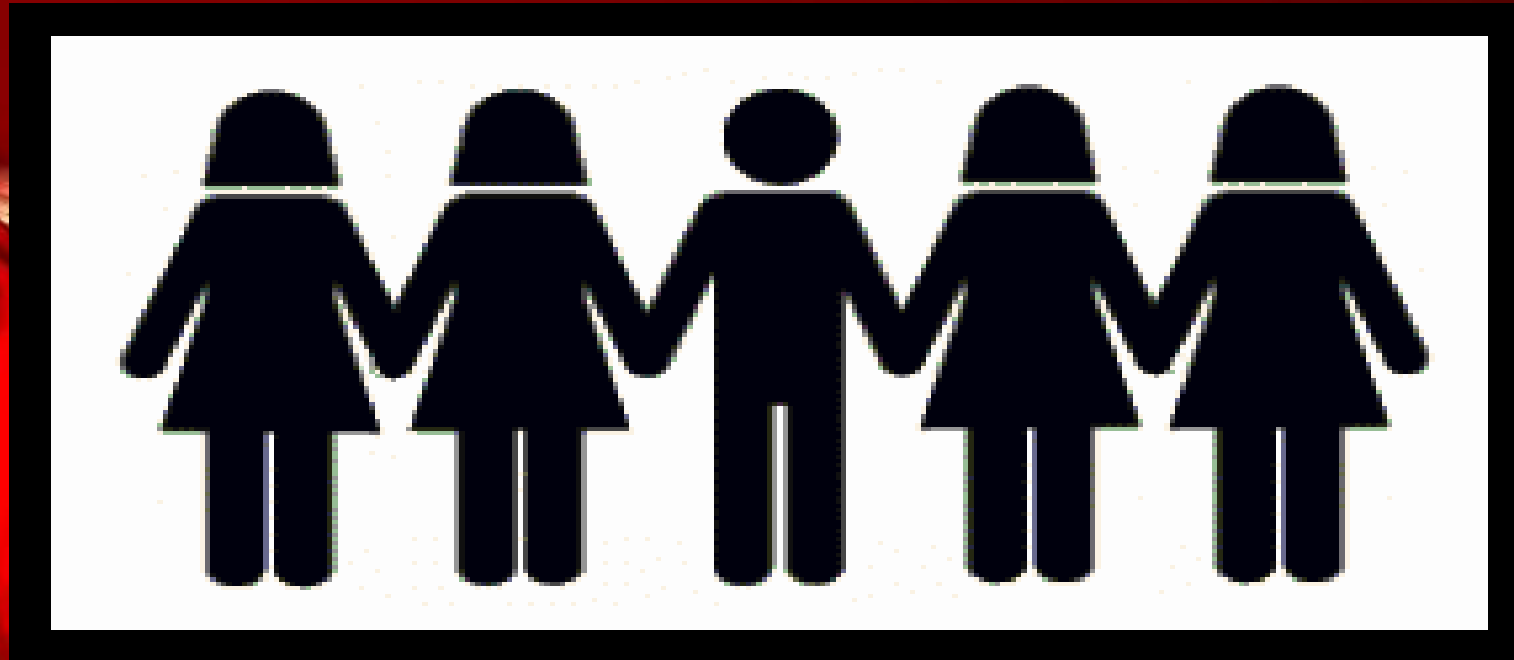


Both men and women are expected to dress in a way which is modest and dignified; the traditions of female dress found in some Muslim countries are often the expression of local customs.

The Messenger of God said:

'The most perfect in faith amongst believers is he who is best in manner and kindest to his wife.'

Can a Muslim have more than one wife?






The religion of Islam was revealed for all societies and all times and so accommodates widely differing social requirements.

Circumstances may warrant the taking of another wife but the right is granted, according to the Quran, only on condition that the husband is scrupulously fair.


Is Islamic marriage like Christian marriage?

Love & Marriage in Islam



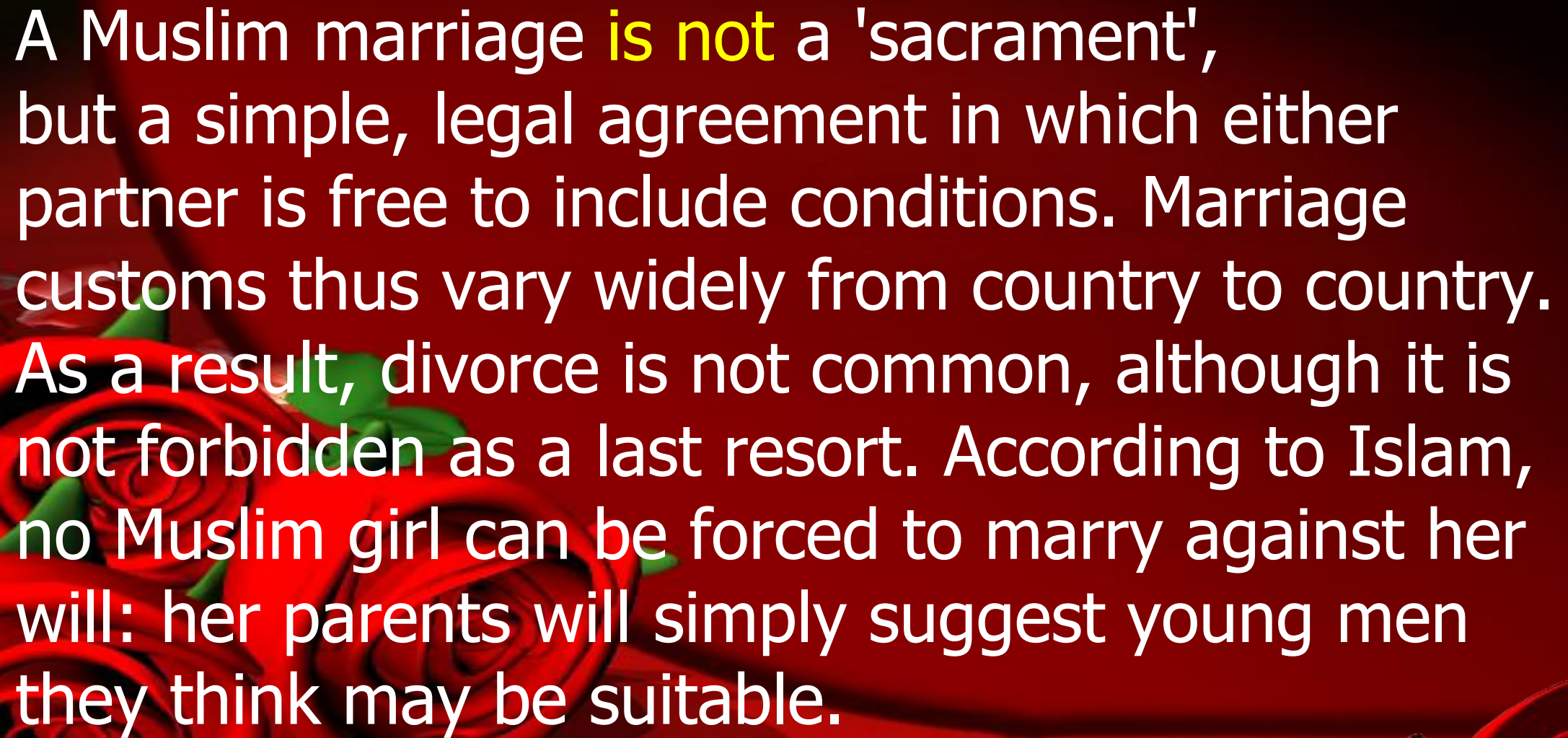
*And among His Signs is that
He has created for you mates
from among yourselves
that ye may dwell
in tranquility with them
And He has put love and mercy
between (your hearts)*

(The Qur'an. Surah Al Rum :21)



*They (Your Wives) are your garments
and you are their garments*

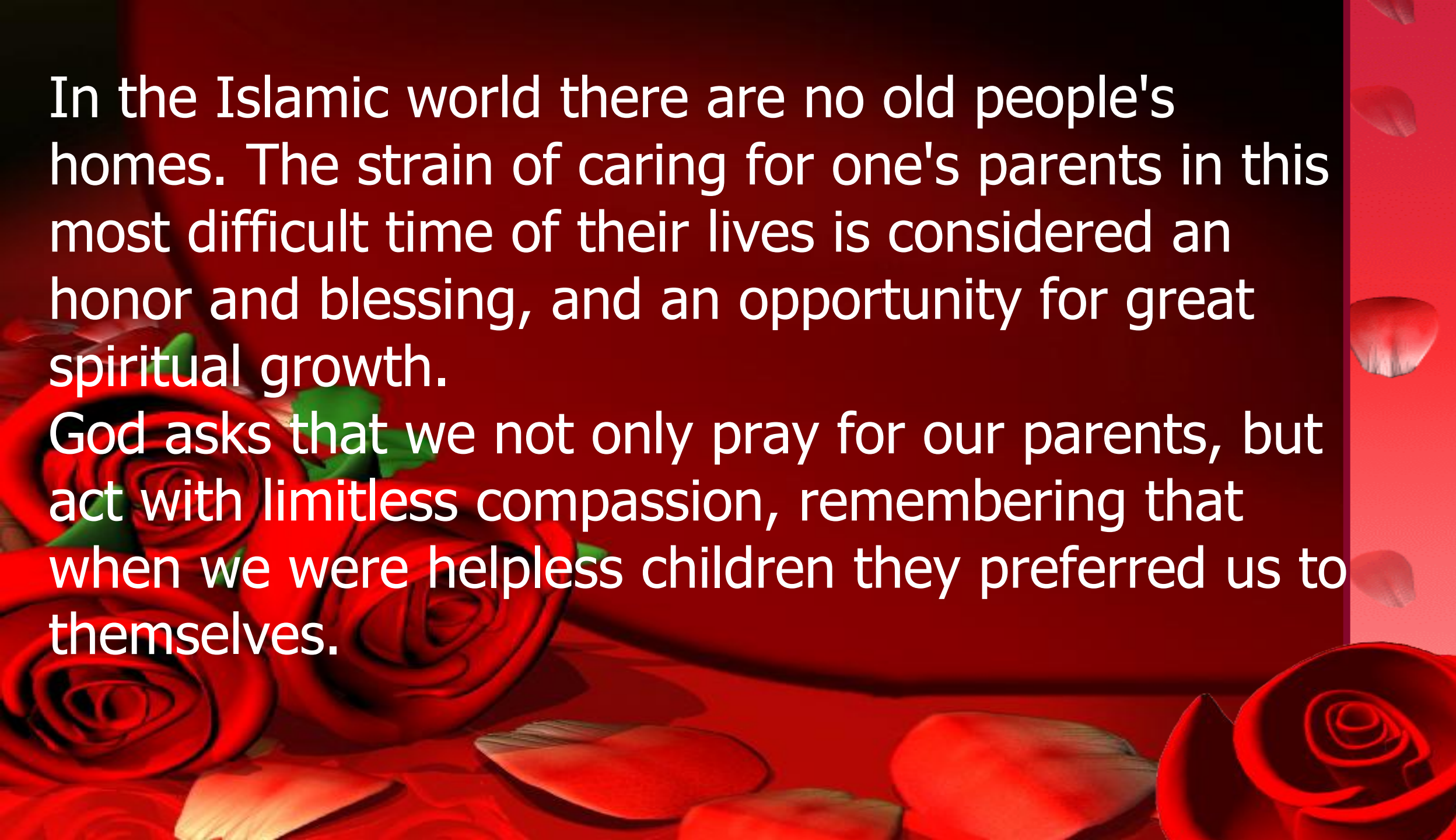
(The Qur'an Surah Al Baqarah:187)



A Muslim marriage **is not** a 'sacrament', but a simple, legal agreement in which either partner is free to include conditions. Marriage customs thus vary widely from country to country. As a result, divorce is not common, although it is not forbidden as a last resort. According to Islam, no Muslim girl can be forced to marry against her will: her parents will simply suggest young men they think may be suitable.

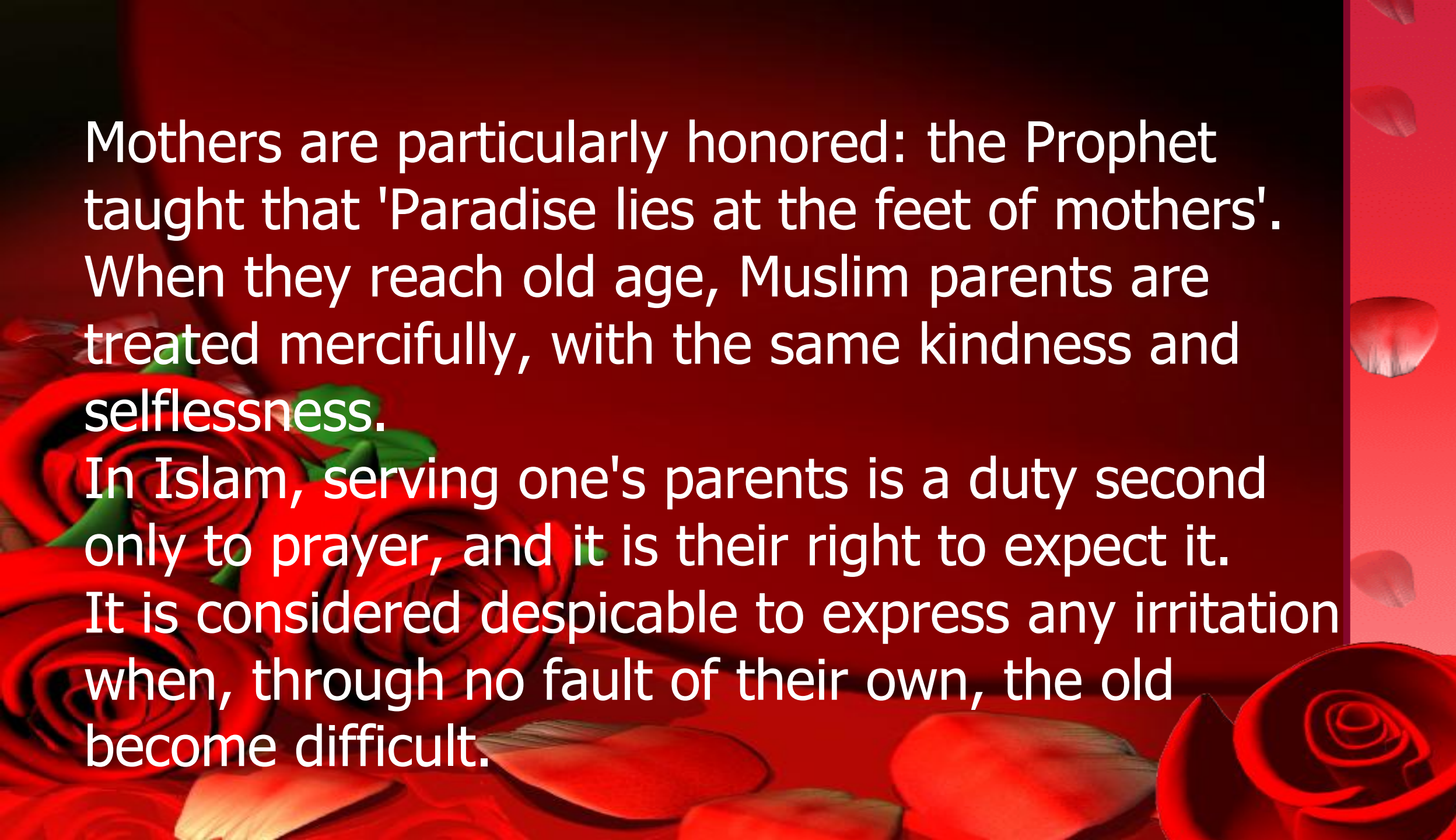
How do Muslims treat the elderly?






In the Islamic world there are no old people's homes. The strain of caring for one's parents in this most difficult time of their lives is considered an honor and blessing, and an opportunity for great spiritual growth.

God asks that we not only pray for our parents, but act with limitless compassion, remembering that when we were helpless children they preferred us to themselves.



Mothers are particularly honored: the Prophet taught that 'Paradise lies at the feet of mothers'. When they reach old age, Muslim parents are treated mercifully, with the same kindness and selflessness.

In Islam, serving one's parents is a duty second only to prayer, and it is their right to expect it. It is considered despicable to express any irritation when, through no fault of their own, the old become difficult.



The Quran says: Your Lord has commanded that you worship none but Him, and be kind to parents.

If either or both of them reach old age with you, do not say 'uff to them or chide them, but speak to them in terms of honor and kindness. Treat them with humility, and say, 'My Lord! Have mercy on them, for they did care for me when I was little'. (Quran 17:23-24)

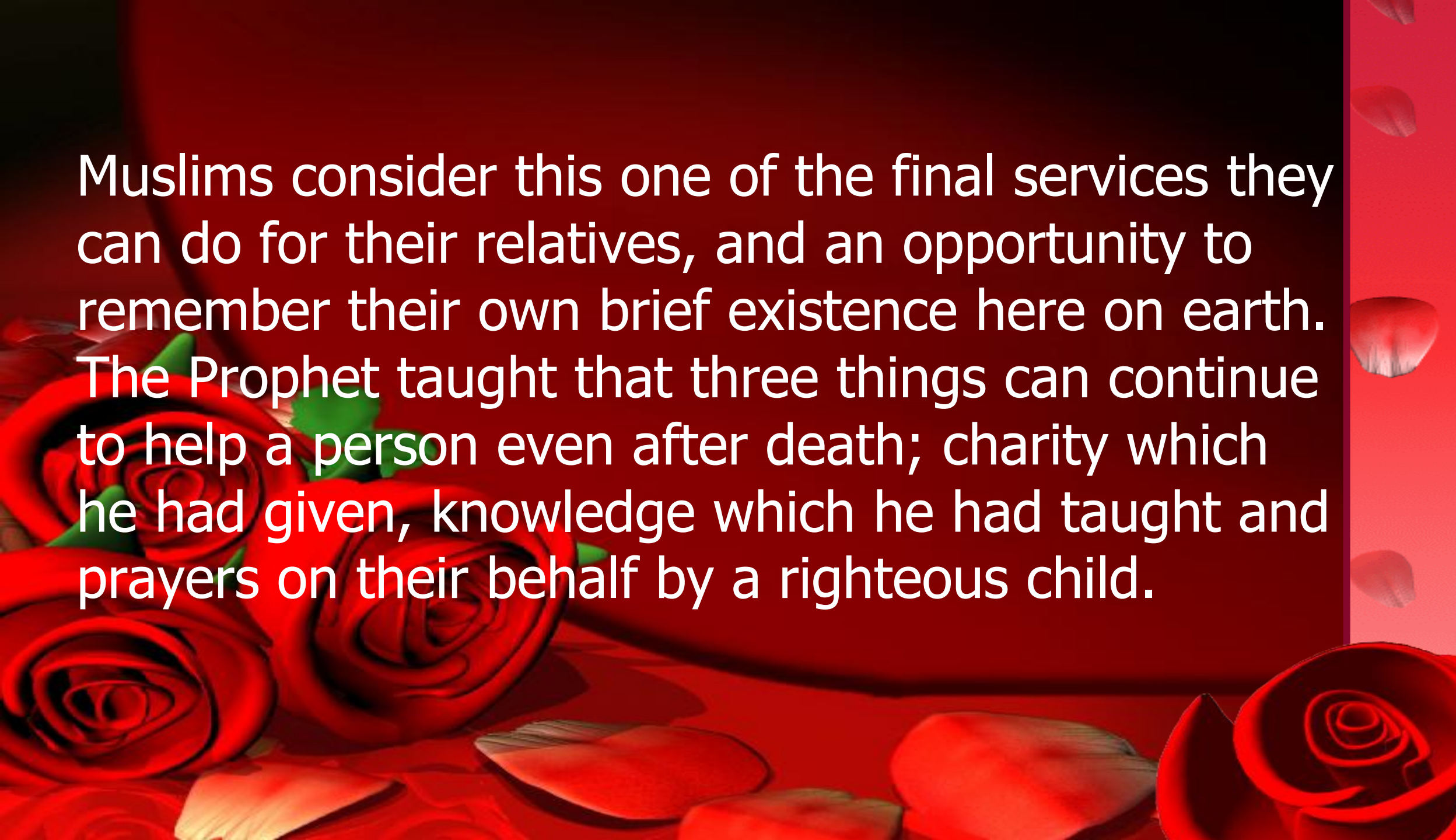
How do Muslims view death?





Like Jews and Christians, Muslims believe that the present life is only a trial preparation for the next realm of existence.

Basic articles of faith include: the Day of Judgment, resurrection, Heaven and Hell. When a Muslim dies, he or she is washed, usually by a family member, wrapped in a clean white cloth, and buried with a simple prayer preferably the same day.



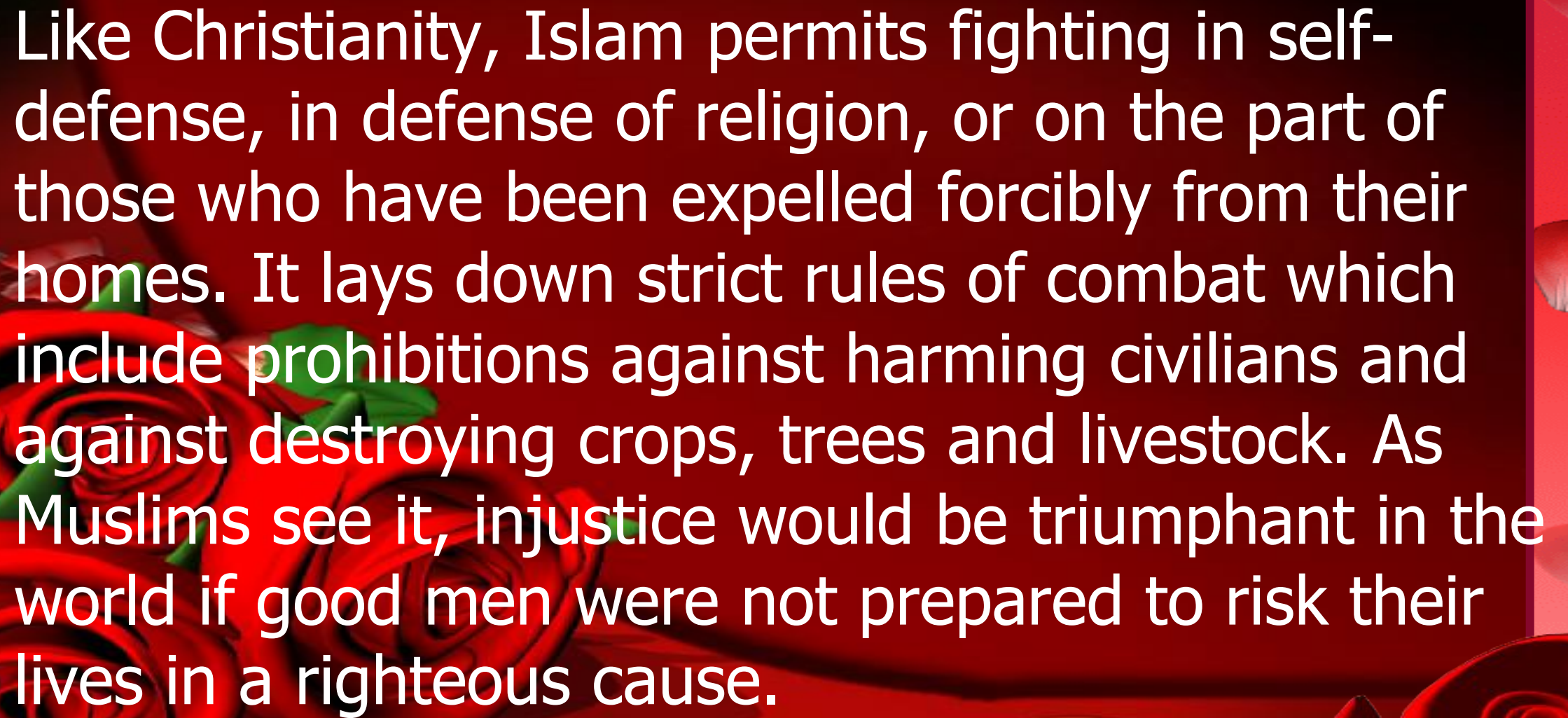
Muslims consider this one of the final services they can do for their relatives, and an opportunity to remember their own brief existence here on earth. The Prophet taught that three things can continue to help a person even after death; charity which he had given, knowledge which he had taught and prayers on their behalf by a righteous child.

What does Islam say about war?

Terrorism has no place In Islam

“...Whosoever kills an innocent human being, it shall be as if he has killed all mankind, and whosoever saves the life of one, it shall be as if he had saved the life of all mankind...”

Qur'an 5:32



Like Christianity, Islam permits fighting in self-defense, in defense of religion, or on the part of those who have been expelled forcibly from their homes. It lays down strict rules of combat which include prohibitions against harming civilians and against destroying crops, trees and livestock. As Muslims see it, injustice would be triumphant in the world if good men were not prepared to risk their lives in a righteous cause.



The Quran says:

Fight in the cause of God against those who fight you, but do not transgress limits. God does not love transgressors. (Quran 2:190)

If they seek peace, then seek you peace. And trust in God for He is the One that heareth and knoweth all things. (Quran 8:61)

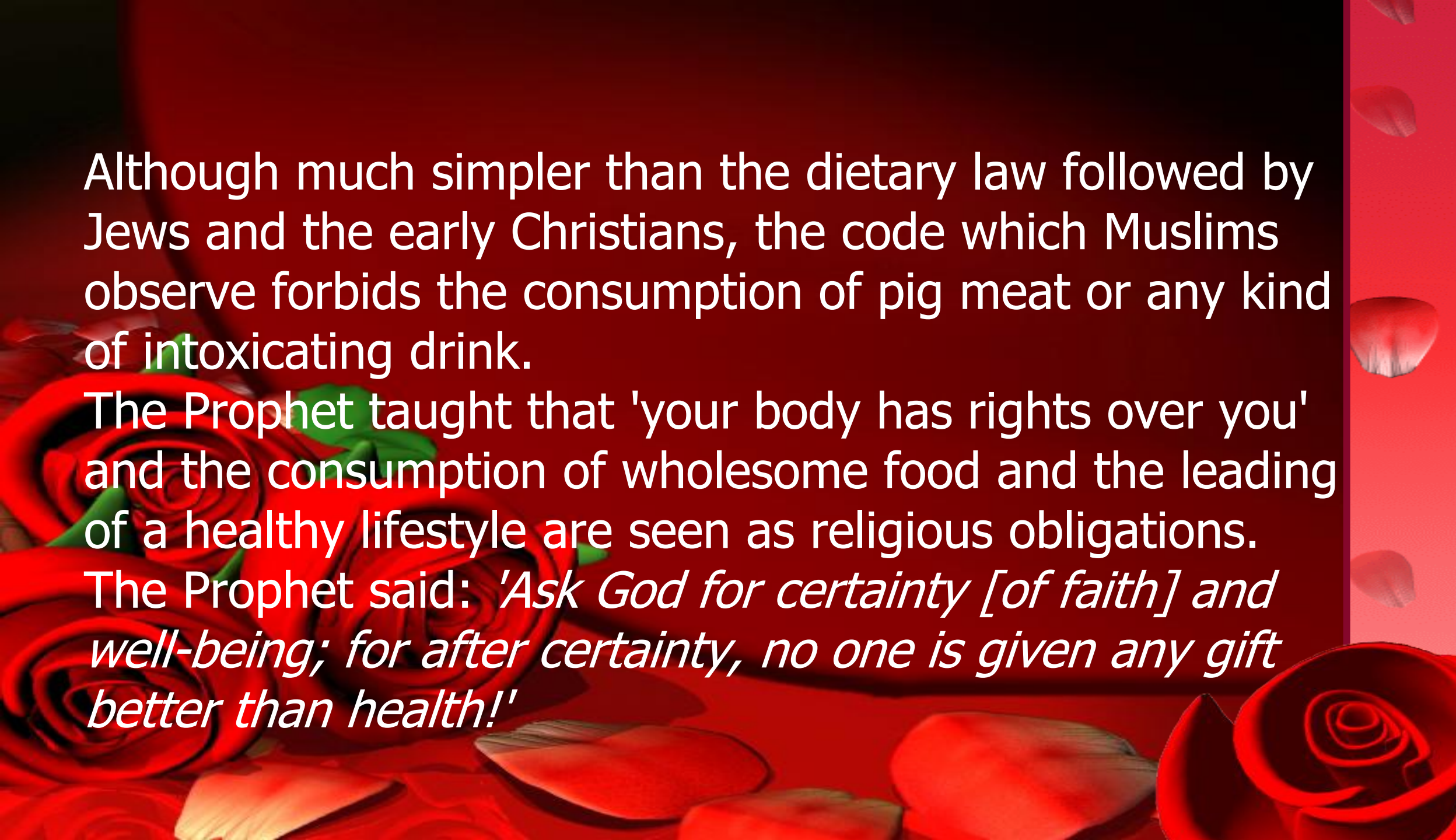


War, therefore, is the last resort, and is subject to the rigorous conditions laid down by the sacred law.

The term '*jihad*' literally means 'struggle', and Muslims believe that there are two kinds of jihad. The other '*jihad*' is the inner struggle which everyone wages against egotistic desires, for the sake of attaining inner peace.

What about food?





Although much simpler than the dietary law followed by Jews and the early Christians, the code which Muslims observe forbids the consumption of pig meat or any kind of intoxicating drink.

The Prophet taught that 'your body has rights over you' and the consumption of wholesome food and the leading of a healthy lifestyle are seen as religious obligations.

The Prophet said: *'Ask God for certainty [of faith] and well-being; for after certainty, no one is given any gift better than health!'*

How does Islam guarantee human rights?



Islamic Resource Group wins Human Right Award

Freedom of conscience is laid down by the Quran itself: *'There is no compulsion in religion'*. (Quran 2:256)

The life and property of all citizens in an Islamic state are considered sacred whether a person is Muslim or not.

Black, white, brown, rich or poor.
We are equal in islam ❤️



Racism

All mankind is from Adam and Eve, an Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab; also a white has no superiority over a black nor a black has any superiority over white except by piety and good action... Do not, therefore, do injustice to yourselves.

Prophet Muhammad

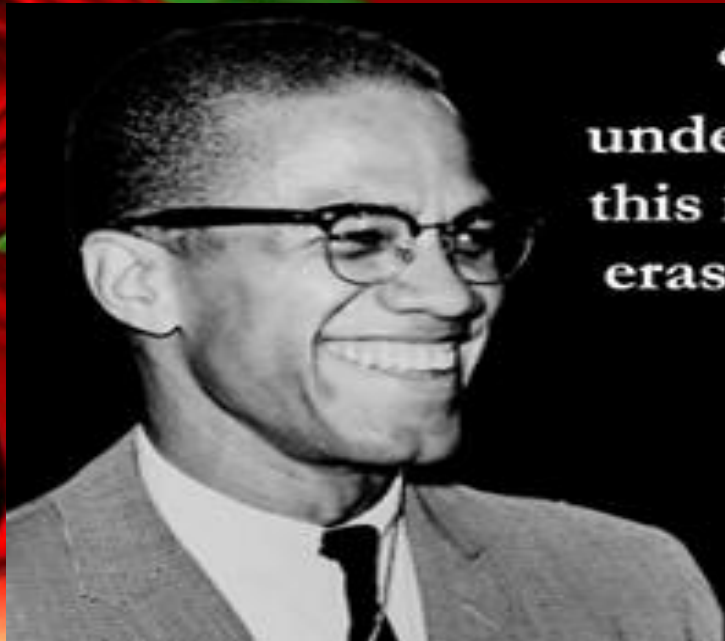
National Geographic

Racism is incomprehensible to Muslims, for the Quran speaks of human equality in the following terms:

O mankind! We created you from a single soul, male and female, and made you into nations and tribes, so that you may come to know one another.

Truly, the most honored of you in God's sight is the greatest of you in piety.

God is All-Knowing, All Aware. (Quran 49:13)



“America needs to understand Islam, because this is the one religion that erases from its society the race problem.”

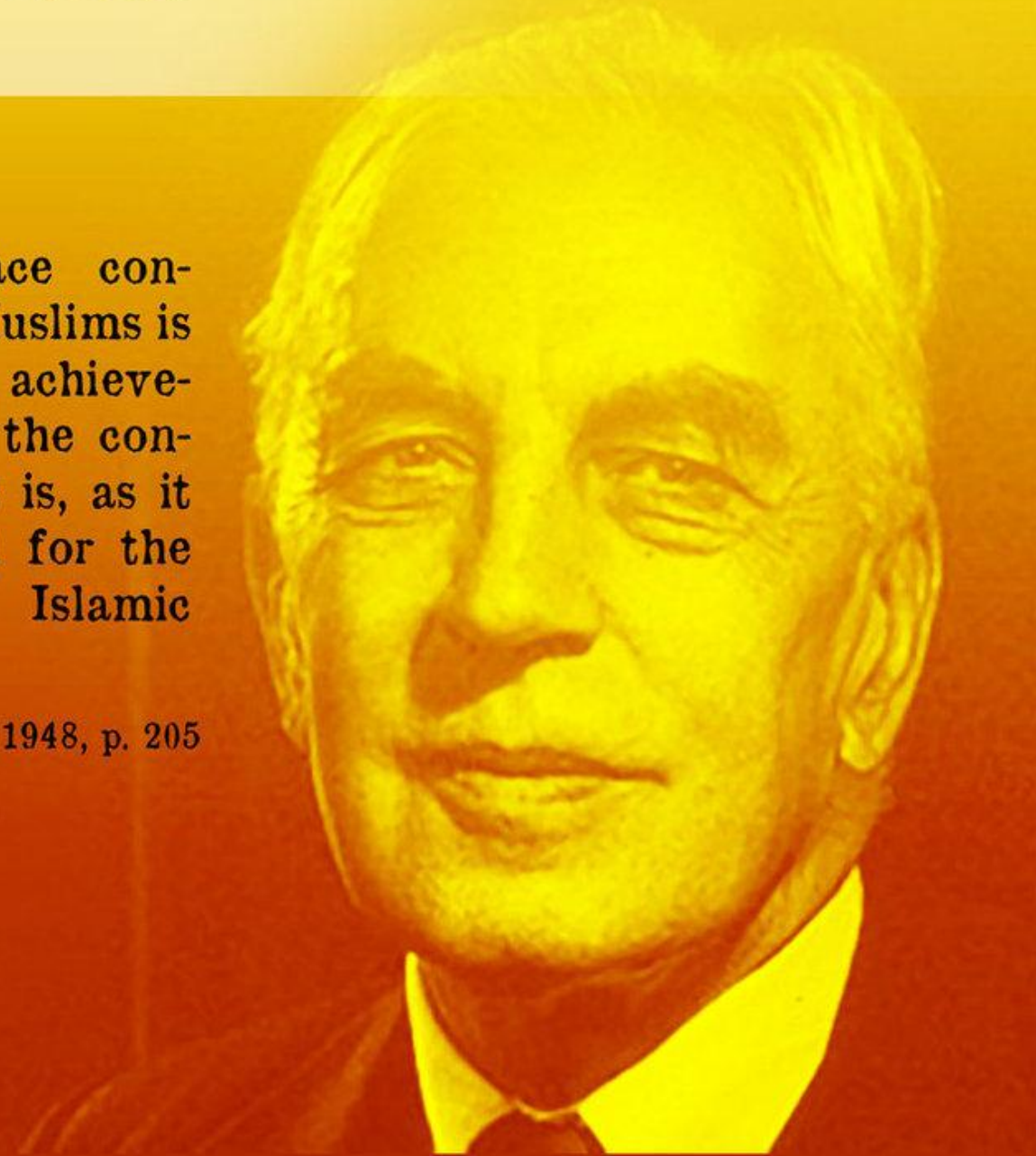
- Malcolm X

ARNOLD J. TOYNBEE

BRITISH HISTORIAN

"The extinction of race consciousness as between Muslims is one of the outstanding achievements of Islam and in the contemporary world. There is, as it happens, a crying need for the propagation of this Islamic virtue."

Civilization on Trial, New York, 1948, p. 205

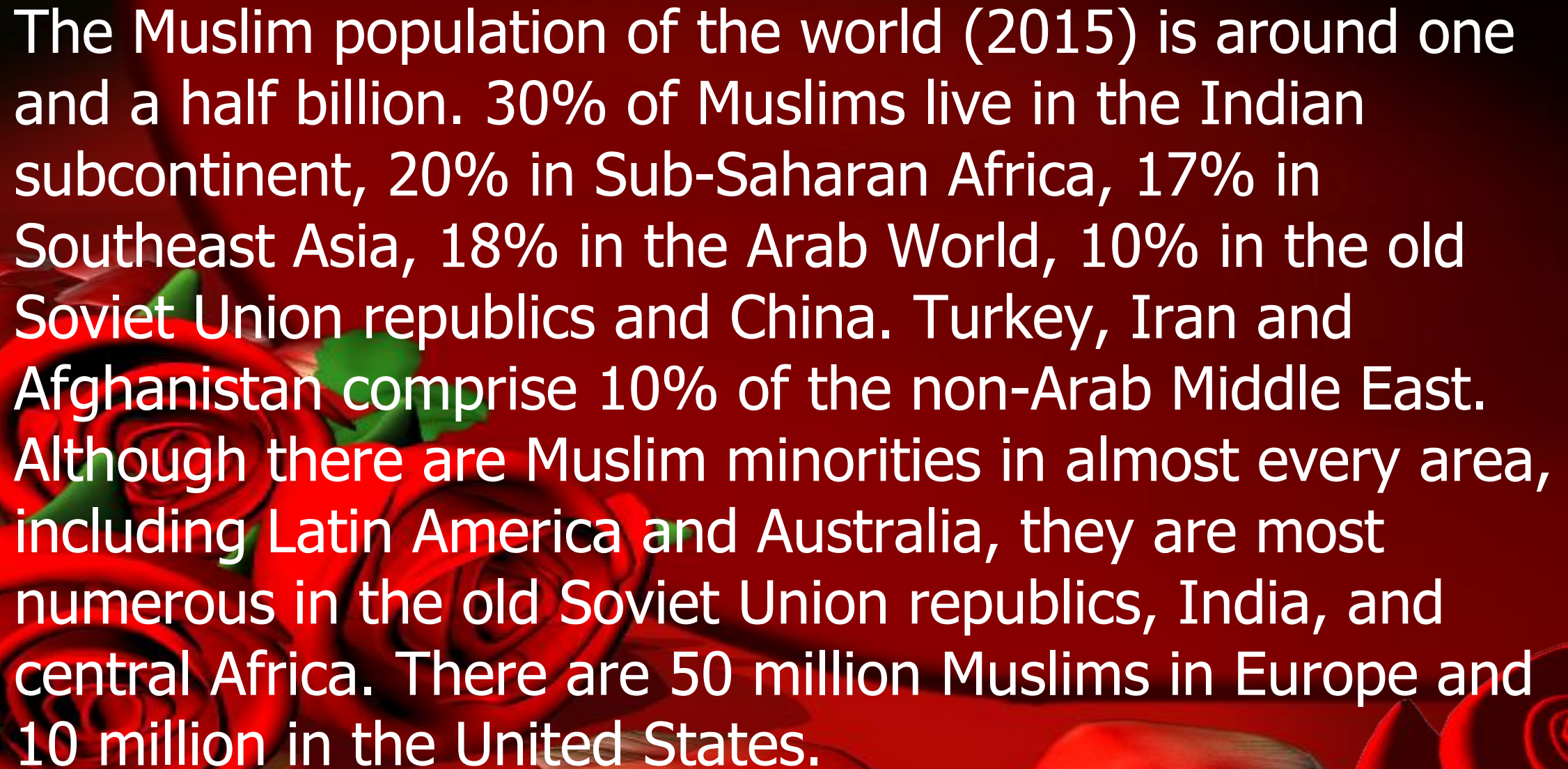




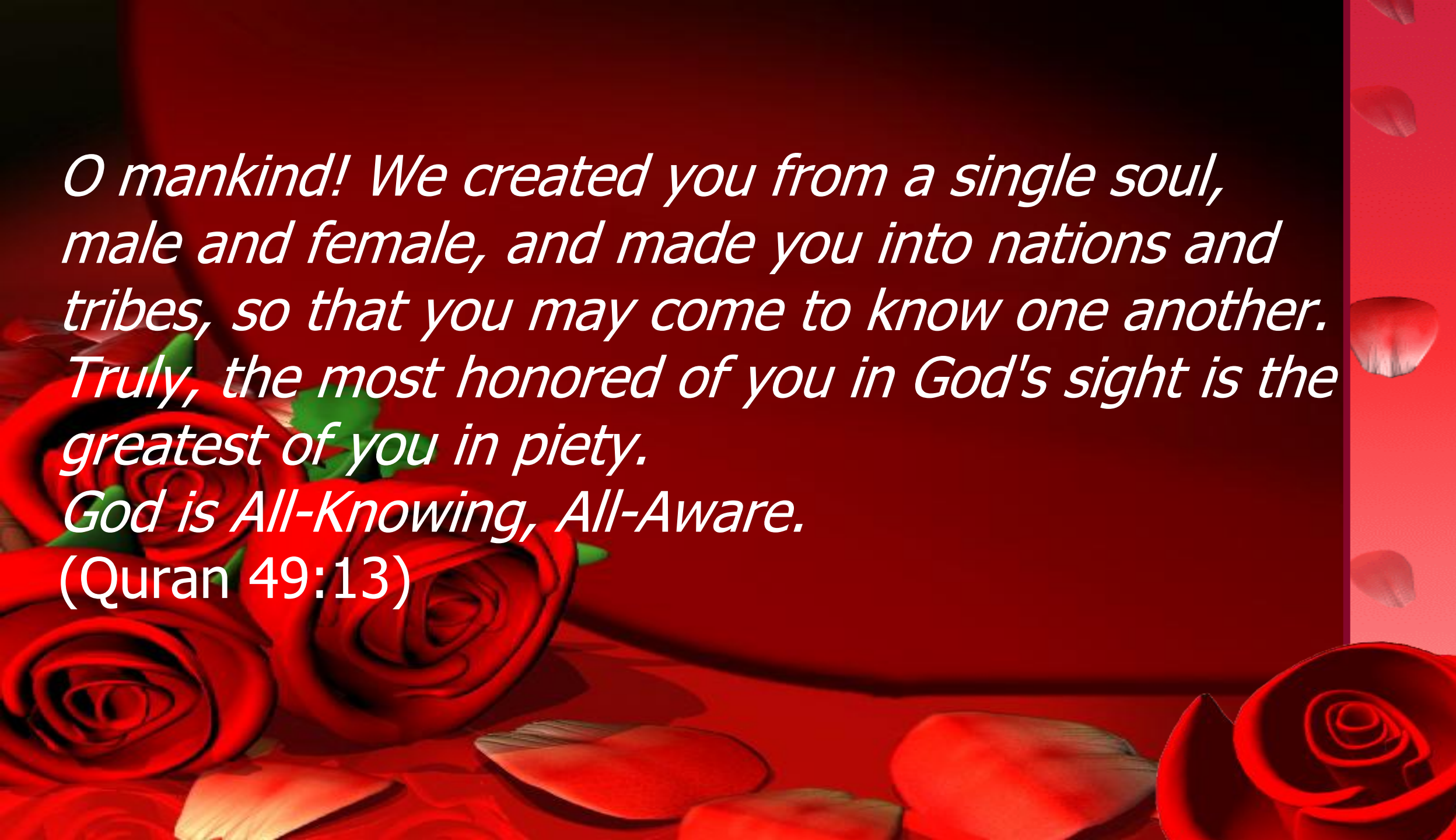
University Mosque of Al Azhar (Cairo) - a center of learning since 969 AD.

The Muslim World





The Muslim population of the world (2015) is around one and a half billion. 30% of Muslims live in the Indian subcontinent, 20% in Sub-Saharan Africa, 17% in Southeast Asia, 18% in the Arab World, 10% in the old Soviet Union republics and China. Turkey, Iran and Afghanistan comprise 10% of the non-Arab Middle East. Although there are Muslim minorities in almost every area, including Latin America and Australia, they are most numerous in the old Soviet Union republics, India, and central Africa. There are 50 million Muslims in Europe and 10 million in the United States.



*O mankind! We created you from a single soul,
male and female, and made you into nations and
tribes, so that you may come to know one another.
Truly, the most honored of you in God's sight is the
greatest of you in piety.*

God is All-Knowing, All-Aware.

(Quran 49:13)

It is almost impossible to generalize about American Muslims: converts, immigrants, factory workers, doctors; all are making their own contribution to America's future.

This complex community is unified by a common faith, underpinned by a countrywide network of more than a thousand mosques.

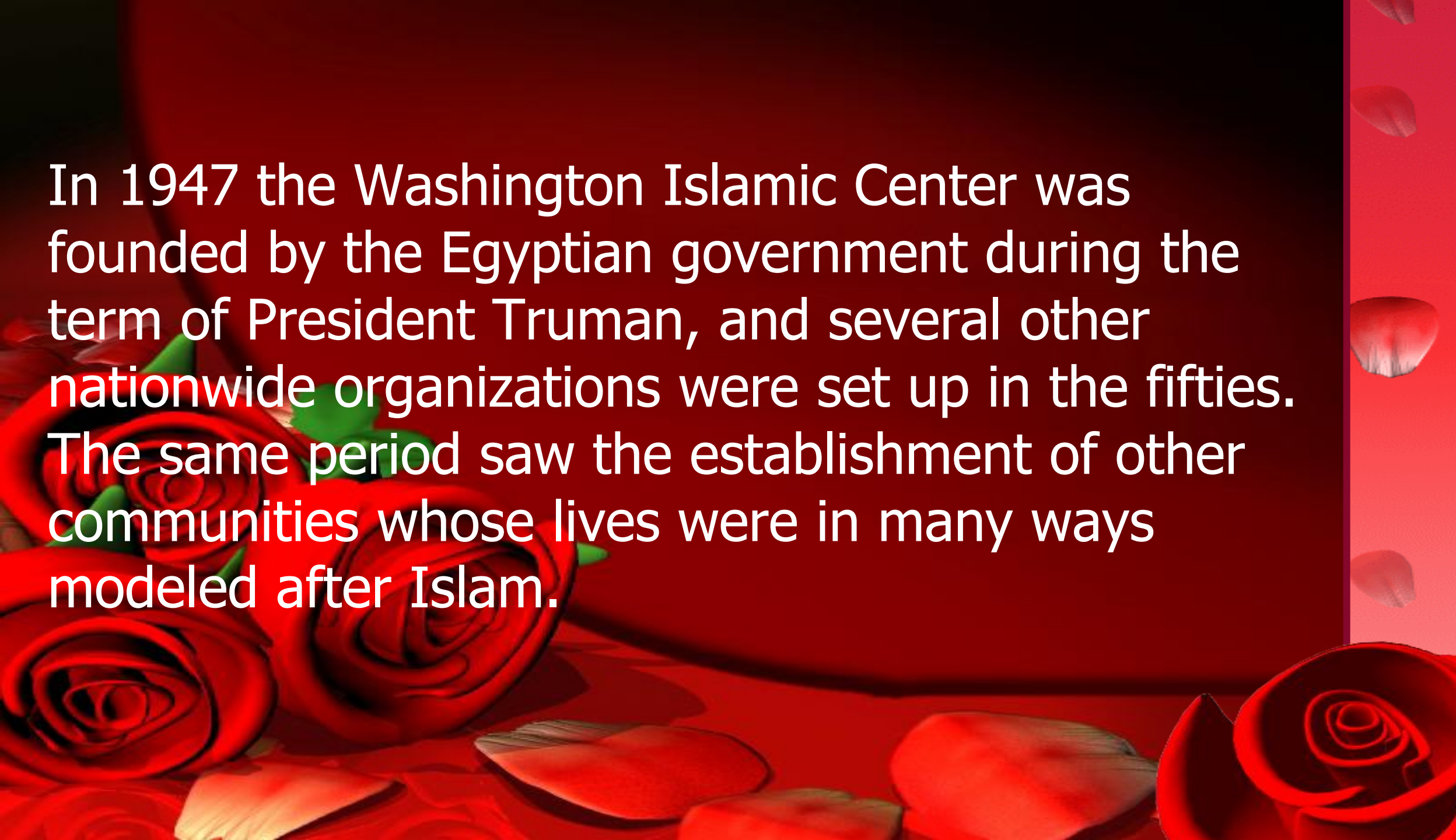




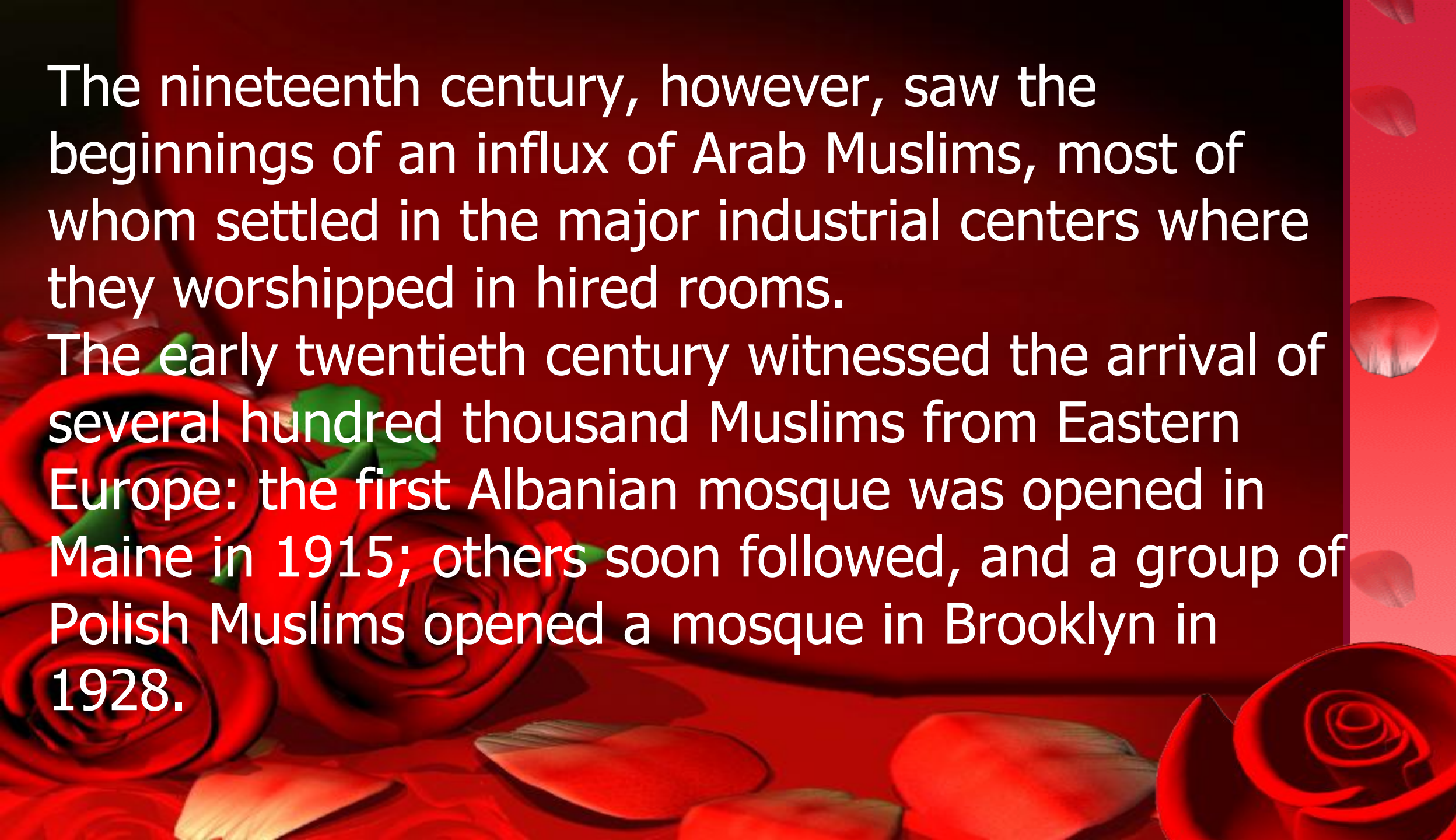
Muslims were early arrivals in North America. By the eighteenth century there were many thousands of them, working as slaves on plantations.

These early communities cut off from their heritage and families, inevitably lost their Islamic identity as time went by.

Today many Afro-American Muslims play an important role in the Islamic community.



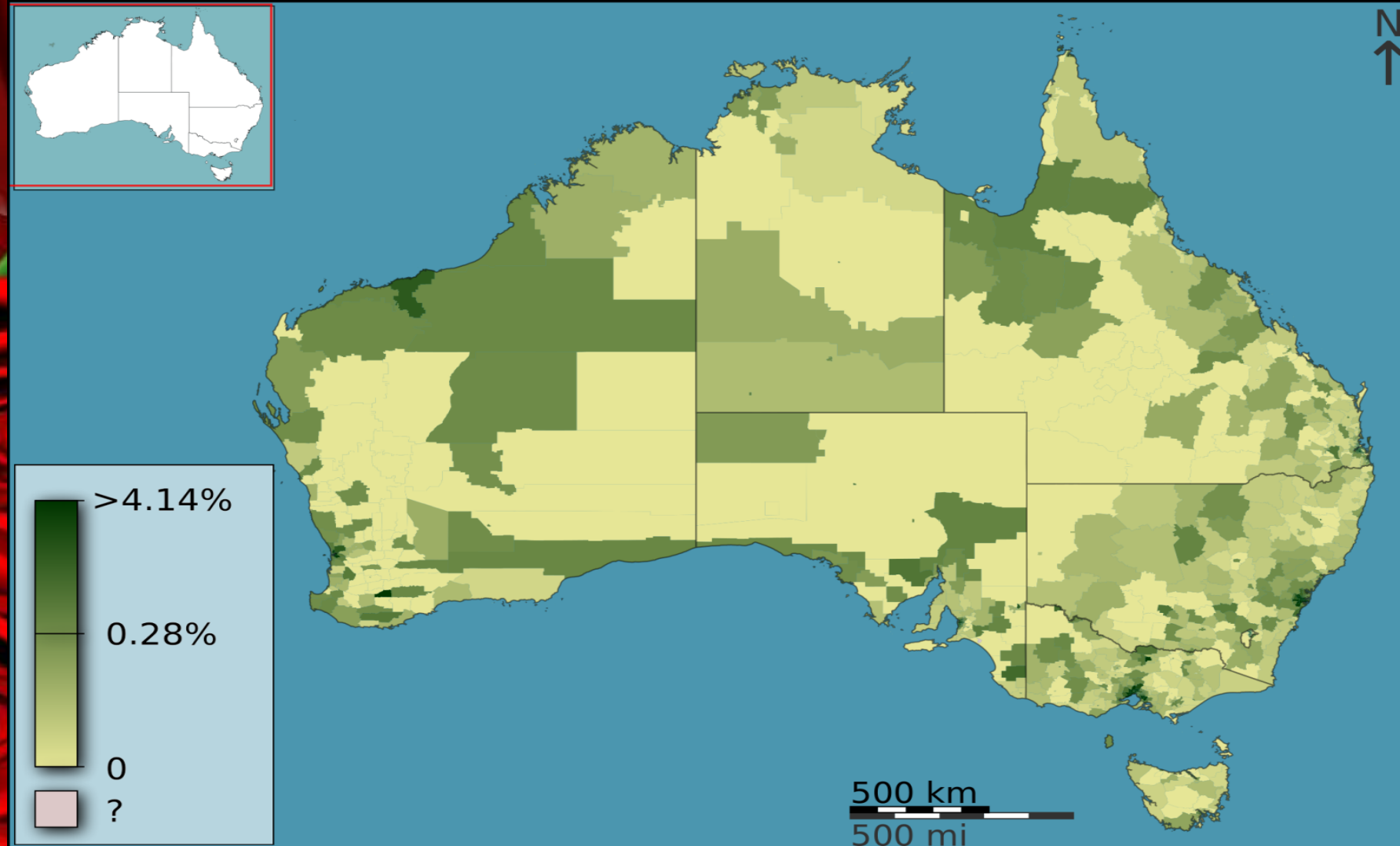
In 1947 the Washington Islamic Center was founded by the Egyptian government during the term of President Truman, and several other nationwide organizations were set up in the fifties. The same period saw the establishment of other communities whose lives were in many ways modeled after Islam.

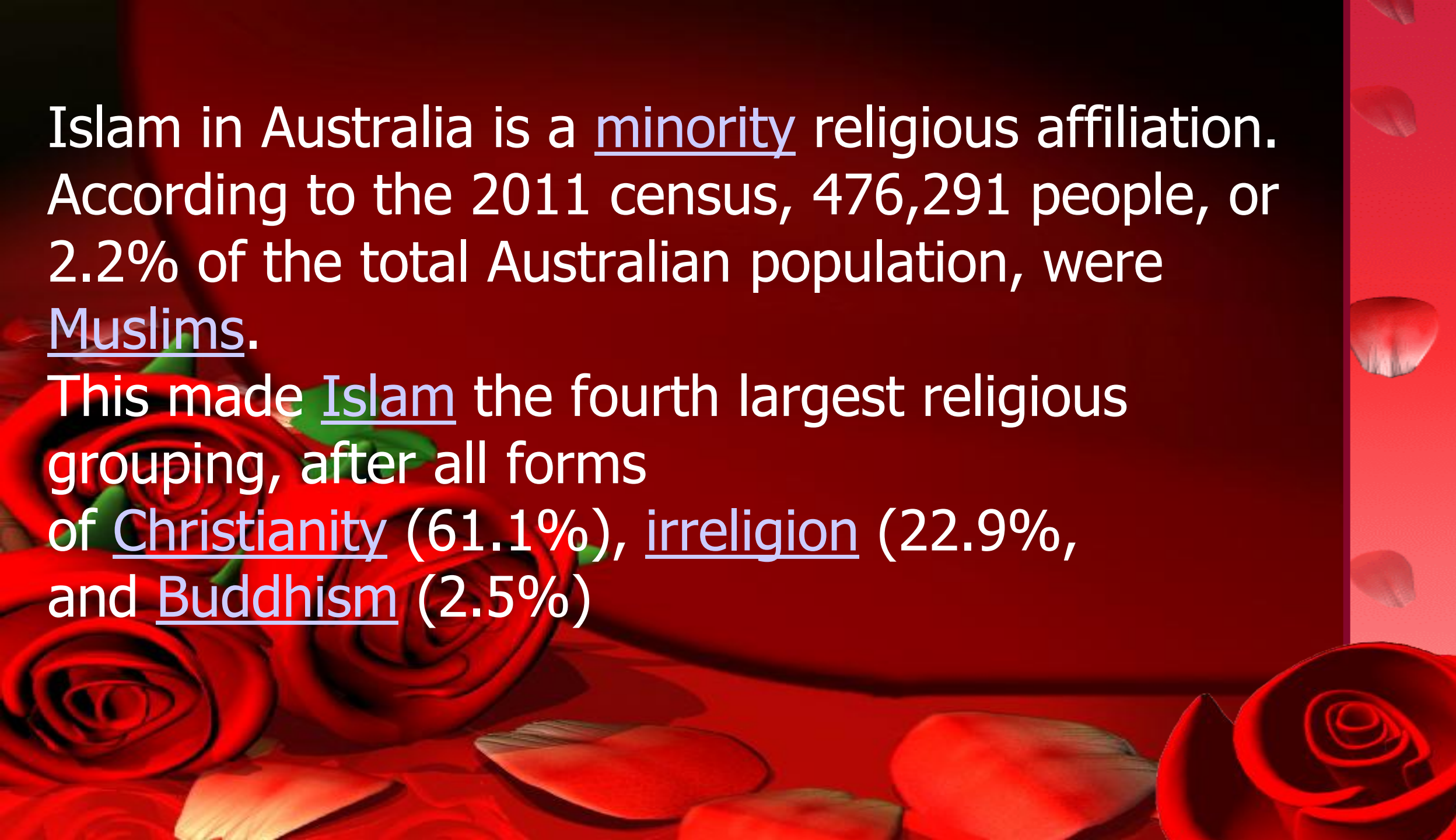


The nineteenth century, however, saw the beginnings of an influx of Arab Muslims, most of whom settled in the major industrial centers where they worshipped in hired rooms.

The early twentieth century witnessed the arrival of several hundred thousand Muslims from Eastern Europe: the first Albanian mosque was opened in Maine in 1915; others soon followed, and a group of Polish Muslims opened a mosque in Brooklyn in 1928.

Islam in Australia





Islam in Australia is a minority religious affiliation. According to the 2011 census, 476,291 people, or 2.2% of the total Australian population, were Muslims.

This made Islam the fourth largest religious grouping, after all forms of Christianity (61.1%), irreligion (22.9%), and Buddhism (2.5%)

Number of Muslims in Australia:

2011 census **476,291**

2006 census ... **340,392**

2001 census ... **281,578**

Country of birth:

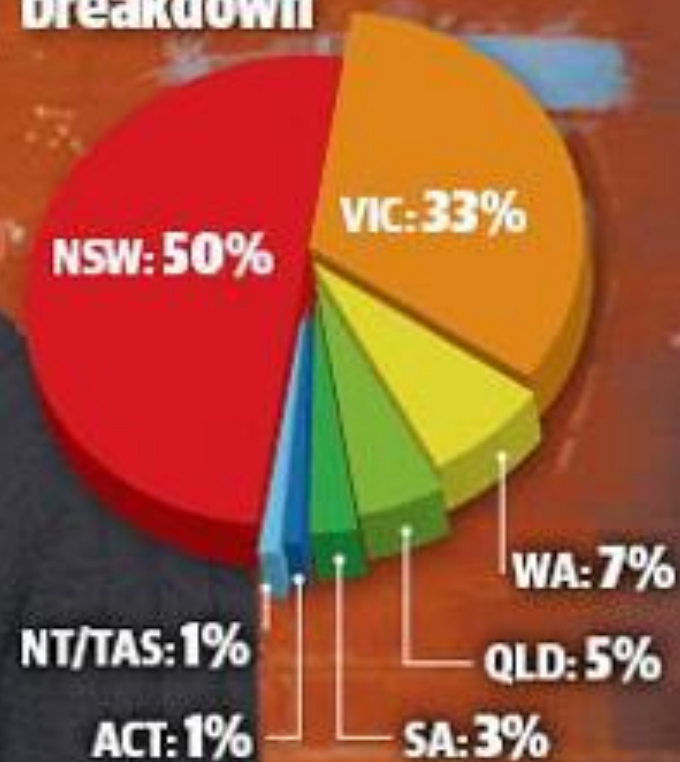
Australia **36%**

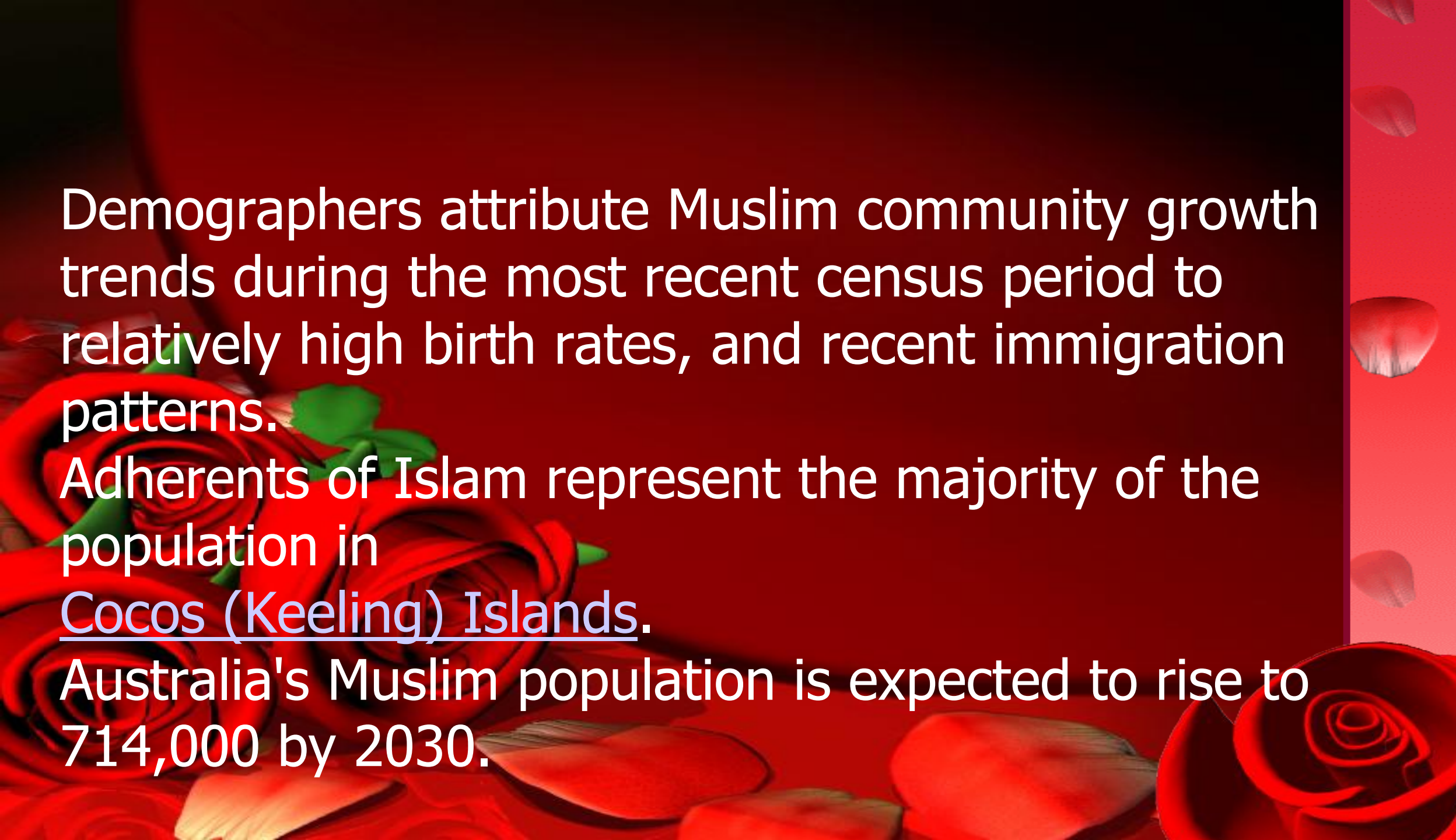
Lebanon **10%**

Turkey **8%**

Afghanistan ... **3.5%**

Population breakdown





Demographers attribute Muslim community growth trends during the most recent census period to relatively high birth rates, and recent immigration patterns.

Adherents of Islam represent the majority of the population in Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

Australia's Muslim population is expected to rise to 714,000 by 2030.



The first mosque in Australia was built in 1861
at Marree, South Australia.

The Great Mosque of Adelaide was built in 1888 by
the descendants of the Afghan cameleers.

Acknowledgments

This work is partially based on (draft) of the book, *Understanding Islam and the Muslims*, prepared for The Islamic Affairs Department in collaboration with -- as Consultants -- the Islamic Texts Society, Cambridge, UK, 1989.