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“People of the Book”



“ And He hath perfect Knowledge of all things.”

“PEOPLE OF THE BOOK”

Those who believe (in the Koran), and those who follow the Jewish (Tora-
rah), and the Christians and the Sabians—any who believe in God and
the Last Day, and work righteousness, shall have their reward with their
Lord; on them shall be no fear, nor shall they grieve.

2: 62

And they say, “None entereth Paradise unless he be a Jew or a Christian.”
These are their own desires. Say, “Bring your proof (of what ye state) if ye
are truthful.” Nay, but whosoever surrendereth his purpose to God while
doing good, his reward is with his Lord; and there shall no fear come
upon them neither shall they grieve. And the Jews say the Christians fol-
low nothing (true), and the Christians say the Jews follow nothing (true);
yet both are readers of the Scripture. Even thus speak those who know
not. God will judge between them on the Day of Resurrection concerning
that wherein they differ.

2: 111-113

Of the People of the Book are a portion that stand (for the right). They
rehearse the signs of God all night long, and they prostrate themselves
in adoration. They believe in God and the Last Day; they enjoin what is
right and forbid what is wrong; and they hasten (in emulation) in (all)
good works. They are in the ranks of the righteous. Of the good that they
do, nothing will be rejected of them—for God knoweth well those that
do right.

3: 113-115

And there are, certainly, among the People of the Book, those who believe
in God, in the revelation to you, and in the revelation to them, bowing in
humility to God—they will not sell the signs of God for a miserable gain!
For them is a reward with their Lord, and God is swift in account.

3: 199

THE UNIVERSAL SPIRIT OF ISLAM

The People of the Book ask thee to cause a book to descend to them from heaven; indeed they asked Moses for an even greater (miracle), for they said, "Show us God in public." But they were dazed for their presumption, with thunder and lightning. Yet they worshipped the calf even after clear signs had come to them; even so we forgave them, and gave Moses manifest proofs of authority. And for their covenant we raised over them (the towering height) of Mount (Sinai); and (on another occasion) we said, "Enter the gate with humility"; and (once again) we commanded them, "Transgress not in the matter of the Sabbath." And we took from them a solemn covenant. (They have incurred divine displeasure) in that they broke their covenant; that they rejected the signs of God; that they slew the messengers in defiance of right; that they said, "Our hearts are the wrappings (which preserve God's Word; we need no more)." Nay, God hath set the seal on their hearts for their blasphemy, so that they believe not save a few.

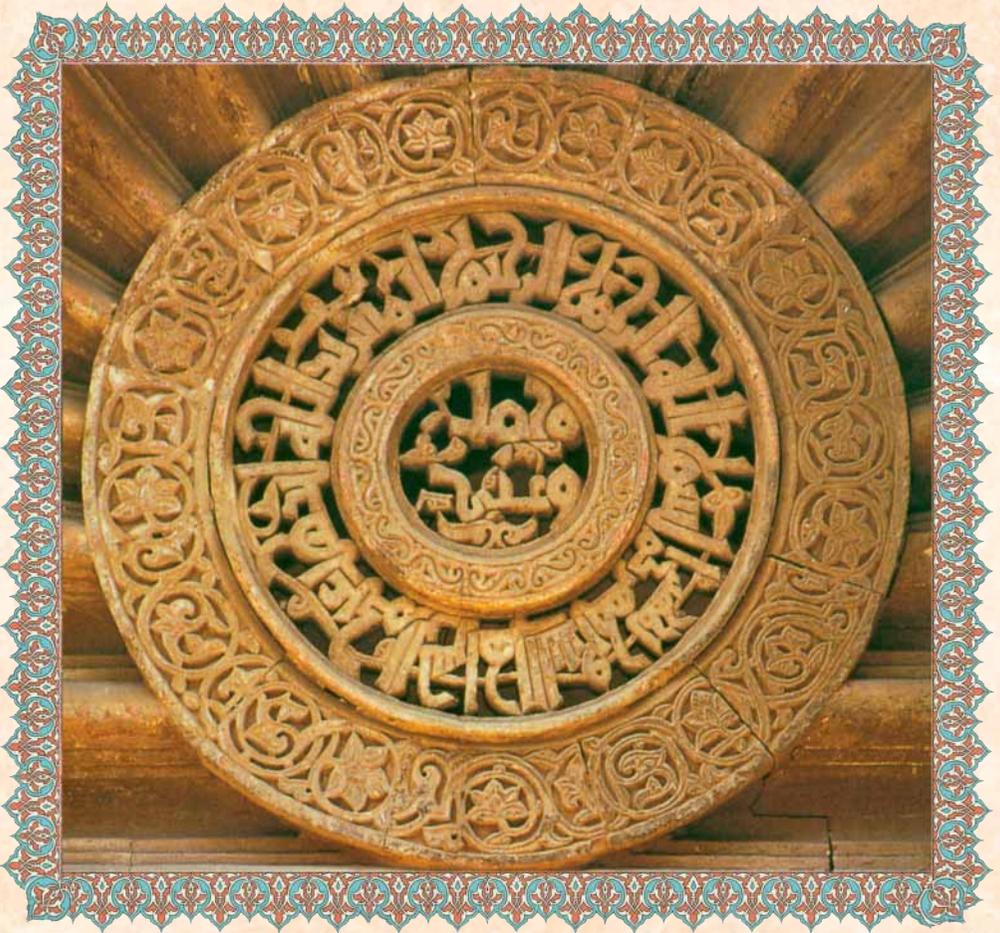
4: 153-155

If only the People of the Book would believe and ward off (evil), surely We should remit their sins from them and surely We should bring them into gardens of delight. If they had observed the Torah and the Gospel and that which was revealed unto them from their Lord, they would surely have been nourished from above them and from beneath their feet. Among them there are people who are moderate, but many of them are of evil conduct.... Say: O People of the Book! Ye have naught (of guidance) until ye observe the Torah and the Gospel and that which was revealed unto you from your Lord." That which is revealed unto thee (Muhammad) from thy Lord is certain to increase the contumacy and disbelief of many of them. But grieve not for the disbelieving folk. Verily those who believe, and those who are Jews, and Sabians, and Christians—whosoever believeth in God and the Last Day and doeth right—there shall no fear come upon them, neither shall they grieve.

5: 65-69

Arrival of the Prince
Persian miniature





Medallion containing an inscription of the name of the Prophet Muhammad

When the funeral bier of a Jew, a Christian, or a Muslim passes you, stand up for it. You are not standing for its sake, but for the angels who are accompanying it.
hadith

“PEOPLE OF THE BOOK”

You will come to folk who are people of a Book (Jews and Christians), so invite them to testify that there is no god but God and that Muhammad is God’s messenger. If they obey that, tell them God has made obligatory for them five times of prayer every twenty-four hours. If they obey that, tell them God has made obligatory for them charity to be taken from their rich and handed over to their poor. If they obey that, avoid taking the best parts of their property; and regard the claim of him who is wronged, for there is no veil between them and God.

hadith

When the Prophet went to his bed he used to say, “O God, Lord of the heavens, Lord of the earth, Lord of everything, who splittest the grain and the kernel, who hast sent down the Torah, the inspired statements of Jesus (Gospel), and the Koran, I seek refuge in Thee from the evil of every evil agent whose forelock Thou seizest. Thou art the First and there is nothing before Thee; Thou art the Last and there is nothing after Thee; Thou art the Outward and there is nothing above Thee; Thou art the Inward and there is nothing below Thee.”

hadith

When the People of the Book salute you say, “The same to you.”

hadith

Does any of you imagine that God has prohibited only what is to be found in the Koran? By God, I have commanded, exhorted, and prohibited various matters as numerous as what is found in the Koran, or more numerous. God has not permitted you to enter the houses of the People of the Book (Jews and Christians) without permission; nor dishonor their women, nor eat their fruits, when they give you what is imposed on them.

hadith

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Features in

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