

Death of Jesus^{as}

Proof from Holy Quran

Monthly Taleem Focus Slides
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Ahmadi vs. Non-Ahmadi View

- Non-Ahmadis generally believe that Hazrat Isa^{as} was not put on cross and he was raised to the heaven by Allah. He is still alive there and will return in the later days to restore the glory of Islam
- Ahmadis believe that Hazrat Isa^{as} was put on the cross but was taken off before he died. He migrated in search of lost tribes of Israel and eventually died in Kashmir
- We look at a few verses of Holy Quran that conclusively prove that he died a natural death
- This is also important because the other main difference between Ahmadis and non-Ahmadis about Holy Prophet ﷺ being the last prophet is linked to it
- Both Ahmadis and non-Ahmadis believe that the messiah that will come in later days will be a prophet. If Jesus^{as} died and somebody else must come with the same qualities as him then he will be a new prophet (albeit as a shadow prophet to Holy Prophet ﷺ)

All Prophets Before Prophet ﷺ Have Died

وَمَا مُحَمَّدٌ إِلَّا رَسُولٌ قَدْ خَلَتْ مِنْ قَبْلِهِ الرُّسُلُ أَفَإِنْ مَاتَ أَوْ قُتِلَ انْقَلَبْتُمْ عَلَىٰ أَعْقَابِكُمْ ۚ

And Muhammad is only a Messenger. Verily, *all* Messengers have passed away before him. If then he die or be slain, will you turn back on your heels? (3:145)

- This verse clearly states that all prophets before Prophet Muhammad ﷺ have died
- Some non-Ahmadis say that the words *قَدْ خَلَتْ* does not mean death it just means they have passed. That is not correct. Arabic dictionary Tajul `Aroos define khala as meaning death. Even if we take that meaning, when we say someone is passed away it means death. Also the words have been defined in the verse itself i.e. the two ways prophets can pass away is murder or natural death
- Secondly if we do not hold the view that “all” messengers have passed away then the question presented in the verse becomes pointless
- Lastly, the sahaba (companions) Holy Prophet ﷺ agreed on this interpretation. When Holy Prophet ﷺ died, some sahaba were in a state of shock and denied that he had died. This included Hazrat Umar^{ra}. At that time Hazrat Abu Bakr^{ra} recited this verse and the companions realized that he has indeed passed away. Had Jesus^{as} been alive someone could have said that not all the previous prophets have died

He used to eat...

مَا الْمَسِيحُ ابْنُ مَرْيَمَ إِلَّا رَسُولٌ قَدْ خَلَتْ مِنْ قَبْلِهِ الرُّسُلُ وَأُمُّهُ صِدِّيقَةٌ كَانَا يَأْكُلَانِ الطَّعَامَ ۗ

The Messiah, son of Mary, was only a Messenger; surely, Messengers *like unto him* had indeed passed away before him. And his mother was a truthful woman. They both used to eat food. (5:76)

- In this verse Allah has describe Jesus^{as} and his mother, Mary, and said that the prophets before him have died and they “used to eat food”. Note the use of past tense. Since they have died so they no longer eat food
- Someone can argue that Jesus^{as} is surviving without food. However, this is not possible because of the following two verses. First one from Surah Al-Anbiyya says that messengers cannot survive without food

وَمَا جَعَلْنَاهُمْ جَسَدًا لَا يَأْكُلُونَ الطَّعَامَ وَمَا كَانُوا خَالِدِينَ

And We did not give them bodies that ate no food, nor were they to live for ever (21:9)

- The second verse from Surah Al-Furqan also says that no prophet came before Holy Prophet ﷺ that did not eat food

وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَا قَبْلَكَ مِنَ الْمُرْسَلِينَ إِلَّا إِنَّهُمْ لَيَأْكُلُونَ الطَّعَامَ وَيَمْشُونَ فِي الْأَسْوَاقِ ۗ

And We never sent any Messengers before thee but surely they ate food and walked in the streets (25:21)

Their gods are dead...

وَالَّذِينَ يَدْعُونَ مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ لَا يَخْلُقُونَ شَيْئًا وَهُمْ يُخْلَقُونَ
أَمْوَاتٌ غَيْرُ أَحْيَاءٍ ۖ وَمَا يَشْعُرُونَ أَيَّانَ يُبْعَثُونَ

And those on whom they call beside Allah create not anything, but they are themselves created. They are dead, not living; and they know not when they will be raised. (16:21-22)

- In these two verses we are told that those whom people call beside Allah are all dead and not living. The foremost figure who is currently associated as partner to Allah is Jesus by the Christians. Thus how can it be that we can consider him alive?
- Some say that is referring to idols that they are not living. However, this is not correct because humans will be raised on the day of judgement not stone idols so the second part of the verse “and they know not when they will be raised” proves that this verse is talking about humans who are taken as gods

A dialouge between Jesus^{as} and Allah

وَإِذْ قَالَ اللَّهُ يَا عِيسَى ابْنَ مَرْيَمَ أَنْتَ قُلْتَ لِلنَّاسِ اتَّخِذُونِي وَأُمِّي إِلَهَيْنِ مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ ط قَالَ سُبْحَانَكَ مَا يَكُونُ لِي أَنْ أَقُولَ مَا لَيْسَ لِي بِحَقٍّ إِنْ كُنْتُ قُلْتُهُ فَقَدْ عَلِمْتَهُ تَعْلَمُ مَا فِي نَفْسِي وَلَا أَعْلَمُ مَا فِي نَفْسِكَ إِنْكَ أَنْتَ عَلَّامُ الْغُيُوبِ - مَا قُلْتُ لَهُمْ إِلَّا مَا أَمَرْتَنِي بِهِ أَنْ اعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ رَبِّي وَرَبَّكُمْ وَكُنْتُ عَلَيْهِمْ شَهِيدًا مَا دُمْتُ فِيهِمْ فَلَمَّا تَوَفَّيْتَنِي كُنْتُ أَنْتَ الرَّقِيبَ عَلَيْهِمْ وَأَنْتَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ شَهِيدٌ

And when Allah will say, “O Jesus, son of Mary, didst thou say to men, ‘Take me and my mother for two gods beside Allah?’”, he will answer, “Holy art Thou. I could never say that to which I had no right. If I had said it, Thou wouldst have surely known it. Thou knowest what is in my mind, and I know not what is in Thy mind. It is only Thou Who art the Knower of hidden things. “I said nothing to them except that which Thou didst command me — ‘Worship Allah, my Lord and your Lord.’ And I was a witness over them as long as I remained among them, but since Thou didst cause me to die, Thou hast been the Watcher over them; and Thou art Witness over all things. (5:117-118)

- In this verse Allah describes a dialouge that will happen between Allah and Hazrat Isa^{as} on the day of judgement. Allah will ask Jesus^{as} if he told people to worship him but he will express his ignorance and say that after I died, I do not know what happened
- If we were to believe that Jesus^{as} comes back to this world and witnesses that billions of people have taken him as God then how would he be able to express his ignorance that he did not know what happened after him?

A dialouge between Jesus^{as} and Allah

- A hadith from Sahih Bukhari backs up this view. In this hadith a scene from the day of judgment is described when some people will be led towards the fire and Holy Prophet ﷺ will say they are my companions but Allah will say in response you don't know what they did after you. Then Holy Prophet ﷺ will then recite this verse. If we say that Jesus^{as} did not die but was raised up in heaven. Can we say the same thing about Prophet Muhammad ﷺ then?