

# Why are Islam and Muslims Being Attacked Through the Prophet?

**Prof. Dr. Mehmet Görmez**  
Head of Islamic Thought Institute

Prof. Dr. Mehmet Görmez  
Head of Islamic Thought Institute

Why are Islam and Muslims Being Attacked Through the Prophet?

November 7, 2020 | IDE | Ankara | ARTICLE TEXT

# Why are Islam and Muslims Being Attacked Through the Prophet?

1

*Bismillahirrahmanirrahim.*

*May the endless praise be to our Lord, who created us.*

May the blessings of our Server-i Enbiya Lord Muhammed Mustafa, who we salute, whose 1442th birthday.

*Dear Youth,*

Before moving on to our usual lesson today, I want to briefly talk about a current issue. As you know, attacking the Messenger of Allah with ugly caricatures that contain insults has emerged as a new method in Western neighborhoods in recent decades. As the Muslims rightly reacted to this, they increased their attacks, saying it was freedom of expression.

When some Muslim circles turned to violence instead of defending our Prophet, the issue turned into a conflict between civilizations. With the latest French President Emmanuel Macron, this global evil has been carried to the layers of the state. Once again, the ummah of Islam was attacked through their beloved Prophet, whom they hold dearer than themselves.

So, at the beginning of our lesson today, I will try to answer the following three questions: The first question: What does it mean to attack an ummah through its prophet? The second: Why does the West attack Islam, Muslims through their Prophet? The third is: What should we, as Muslims, do in the face of this situation, and how should we react?

Firstly, the worst, most cruel, most mean way to insult an entire belief group, an ummah is to insult and try to humiliate the prophet they believe in.

As we send away all this anger and hate, attempting to humiliate Islam and Muslims through the Prophet, who realized the greatest enlightenment of all, who took humanity from darkness to the light, who fought cruelty and ignorance, who was an example to humanity from the most Bedouin society on earth, who built a civilized society and was a pioneer in the establishment of civilizations in all geographies, is an unprecedented evil in history.

Because the Prophet is more of a saint of every Muslim's mother or wife. As our Lord commanded, "أَمْهَاتُهُمْ وَأَرْوَاجُهُمْ أَنْفُسُهُمْ مِنْ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ أَوْلَى النَّبِيِّ". Prophets are dear to believers. Their

wives are the mothers of believers. " Insulting an ummah through the Prophet of Allah is a cultural torture and this is unacceptable. Not only our prophet, no prophet or ummah can be humiliated through their holy values. And no one can insult or curse the sacred values of a nation or an ummah by taking shelter behind the concept of freedom of expression.

Moreover, Hatemü'l-Anbiya Resul-i Ekrem is not only the prophet of Muslims. He is the last messenger of all realms and has been sent as a mercy to all realms. Actually, insulting Muhammad (saw) is like insulting all the prophets from Adam to Hatem. It is an insult to Adam, Abraham, Moses, Jesus. It is an insult to all sacred values that the prophets brought to humanity.

He told us "هُنَا لَا نُفَرِّقُ بَيْنَ نَبِيِّنَا / We do not discriminate between prophets." He brought the verse as a gift of ascension. He often calls himself "إبراهيم دعوة" / I am the prayer of my ancestor Abraham, the good news of my brother Jesus, my mother Amine's dream." he stated. In a hadith, "أنا، والآخره الدنيا في مريم ابن بعيسى الناس أولى أنا، وإخوة والأنبياء، ودينه، شتى أمهاتهم، لعلات" / I'm the closest person to Mary's son Jesus in this life and the afterlife. We prophets are children of the same family. Our mothers are different, our religion is one. " He commanded. He started his letter to a Jewish community by saying: "أخي الله رسول محمد من" / From Moses' brother and friend Rasul Muhammad ...".

\*\*\*

*Dear Youth,*

The second question is the following: Why do some people in Western neighborhoods, some circles attack Islam and Muslims through their prophet? Even though insulting the Messenger of Allah is such a great evil, why has Islamophobia in the West focus on the personality and personality of the Prophet for centuries? There are not only religious, theological reasons for this. There are historical, cultural, social and even economic reasons.

I regret to state that this evil is an evil that is placed in the subconscious of every person who grows up in Western neighborhoods. Without knowing the historical background of this consciousness, from Salman Rushdie's novel *Satanic Verses* to *The Van Gogh's Surrender*, from the cartoon crises in Denmark to the Pope's Prophet. We find it difficult to understand this process, from his unfortunate statements about the Prophet, from Charlie Hebdo's repetition of these cartoons, to Macron's overwhelming aggressive attitude towards Islamic engineering.

First of all, in the Middle Ages, a consciousness of evil adorned with cursing, concerning all Muslims was built through the Prophet. The West's understanding of swearing and insulting Islam has diversified; from theological debates to artistic endeavors such as painting, music, poetry, theater, from official documents to epics, and even to folkloric elements.

When we look at the Middle Ages, in the works that gained fame as handbooks in the West, especially in churches, from the church fathers John Ed-Dımeşki to Thomas Aquinas, We see that the Prophet, who was sent to complete good morality, was shown as a fraud, the Prophet sent as a mercy to the realms was portrayed as a prophet of violence, and the Prophet, who taught humanity to people, was described as a lecherous. These works continue

to be taught as sample texts in language and literature classes, as they are the first examples of national languages in some European countries.

This dark consciousness built on hate in the age of Enlightenment never enlightened. On the contrary, it got even darker. Although Europe claims that it was enlightened, in this period too, Dante Herbelot's Divine Comedy, who placed the Prophet in the lowest part of hell. This hate consciousness of the Middle Ages has been carried forward in many works, even the encyclopedia that shows the Prophet as a trickster who is the founder of Muhammedanism. Herbelot's encyclopedia basically divides history into two as holy history and common history, and qualifies Judeo-Christian history as "Holy History" and Muslim history as "Ordinary History." Let me give a more serious example. In many French dictionaries written in this period, unfortunately, the Prophet is given as an example to the word "cheater, fraud".

In fact, such definitions have become a permanent part of the West's rhetoric against Islam, especially of the French-speaking worlds. Moreover, Islam has been a material used by Catholics and Protestants to accuse each other in their debates. In his discussions with the Catholic Church, Martin Luther introduced the Muslims (Turks) as the plagues and devil worshipers that God sent to punish the Pope.

Orientalism, which set out with academic methods, was expected to correct these inaccuracies. However, instead of eliminating this mistake, Orientalism tried to give an academic character to Enlightenment ignorance with knowledge based on the superstitions of the Middle Ages. Today, there is hardly any Orientalist who has not written a book about the Prophet. And the overwhelming majority of them could not get rid of the influence of that notorious consciousness invented in the Middle Ages. Each of them expressed Islam as Muhammedanism. They attempted to prove that the spread of Islam was with the sword instead of science, morality, mercy, violence and lust.

Some Orientalists believed that hadith analysis would have a similar effect on the Islamic world, as Christianity transformed into different religions with the spread of the Bible into Western languages. Because they observed that circumcision and hadiths unite Muslims with different cultures in different geographies by bringing them a homogeneous culture, especially in the colonized Islamic lands, and can turn into a separating element when it cannot be read within a certain method, integrity and methodology. Therefore, Orientalism, circumcision and hadiths focused on analytical studies as an anthropology material.

Meanwhile, among both literary and Orientalists, there are those who listen to their conscience. The Quran's "سَوَاءٌ لِّئْسُوا / All are not one." One should not forget the principle of justice. The German poet Goethe wrote a special hymn to our Prophet in the Eastern Council and described it as the Spirit of the Orient. He portrayed it as a river flowing into every heart. Rilke, one of the famous poets of German Literature, crowned his admiration with a poem and he wrote a poem called The Embassy of Muhammad (saw). The Irish essayist and historian, Thomas Carlyle, portrayed him as a heart-warming hero. But all this, the West's Prophet. The Prophet was not in a size that could change his consciousness.

In the meantime, among the literary and Orientalists, who attack Islam and Muslims through the Prophet in addition to the historical reasons, which I just mentioned, another reason is that the civilization that Europe lives with demographic concerns is insufficient. It is an inability to arise with big claims and not be able to manage multiculturalism. This is a confusion and incompetence arising from not being able to carry the thirty million immigrant Muslim presence in Europe and not accepting France's six million Muslim presence. This is the most important reason why Islamophobia turns into hatred, hatred into hostility, hostility into racism and discrimination, discrimination into cultural humiliation, cultural humiliation into cultural torture.

But are we not involved at all in this? Do we have no fault in this matter? Since we cannot live by the example of the Messenger, we need to take into account ourselves here, whether this is happening to us. Our false imaginations of prophets and our erroneous religiosities that carry false information and caricature crises have nothing to do with this? Did the situation in which the world Islam fell into never played a role in this matter? Since 2005, when the first cartoon was published, there have been million shows in the struggle for fifteen years. Dozens of people lost their lives. All humanity has lost; nobody won anything. Around the same vicious circle, evils continued. The losers were the Muslims. Instead, we could renew our conversation with him. We could live better of his morality. Can we say that we introduced it correctly? Most importantly, can we claim that we represent him? I will not go here because this point is other. However, it should not be forgotten.

Let's get to our third question. The aspect of the issue facing us: How will we, as Muslims, react to this situation? What should our attitude be in such situations?

Our first duty in this matter should be to avoid responding to such ugliness with the same ugliness. For, as I have just stated, we do not distinguish between Muslims and prophets. The Quran forbids us to swear even the stone and tree idols of idol worshipers. "الَّذِينَ تَسُبُّوا وَلَا / Do not insult those who worship other than Allah (swt)." We are commanded not to curse even the idols of others. In this case, using violence means serving the purposes of those who do this evil. Especially our brothers and sisters living in Europe should be more careful about this issue.

How we will respond to this attitude is again taught by our Prophet. How did he respond to the insults, attacks, enmities against him? He never responded hatred with hatred, cursing with cursing. There were those who insulted him, poisoned him, and stoned him - and even all the prophets. The general attitude of the Messenger of Allah in the face of all these is "اللَّهُمَّ الْيَوْمَ عَلَيْكُمْ تَثْرِيْبٌ لَا يَوْسُفُ قَالَ كَمَا أَقُولُ" / Allah! Forgive my people. They don't know. " happened. Even to the Quraysh who was so unjust to him during the Conquest of Mecca, who displaced him from his homeland, who wanted to abolish them with wars, I say "Today I cannot even tell you that Yusuf told you his brothers." he said and did not touch any of them.

Our second duty should be to make a great effort with knowledge and wisdom in order to eliminate this consciousness settled in Western neighborhoods.

By the way, I would like to tell an incident I experienced in 2011, which is closely related to this issue. She was a lady named Karen Armstrong who wrote a book about the life of the

Prophet and spent her life as a nun in a Catholic church, and then met Islam. She wrote me a letter first. Then she met with me via an appointment. She told her journey in meeting with Islam as follows: "I dedicated my life to the Church. But eventually I entered a period of questioning. Love and mercy have been the words I heard the most with Jesus in my life. However, I saw how these words identified with Jesus turned into stone and gloom on the church walls. Then I went on a quest. I researched Buddhism first. But it did not satisfy my mind and soul. Then I turned to religions such as Hinduism and Brahmanism. During this period, I never thought of researching Islam. Because the biggest obstacle before me, like every Western researcher, is the Prophet who is in my mind. It was false awareness of Muhammad. Finally, to overcome this obstacle, Hz. I decided to investigate Mohammed's life. As I read every stage of his life, I overcame the obstacles in my mind one by one. We, Muslims today, Hz. His greatest duty against the Prophet should be to eliminate this false image of the Prophet created in the mind of every Western person. Otherwise, humanity will not be able to reach the compassion identified with it. "

We should know that there may be those who are enemies of Islam, but Islam does not have any enemies or enemies. There may be those who are enemies of the Prophet, but the Prophet has no enemies. Our duty is to fight these enemies in a Muslim and Prophetically wise way. As his ummah in our hearts, we are not hatred, anger, hatred and revenge; we have to have mercy. Because he was sent as a mercy not only to us but to all the worlds. Those who are ummah to him can also help him by spreading this mercy. "اللَّهُ نَصْرُهُ فَقَدْ تَنْصُرُوهُ إِلَّا" / It doesn't matter if you don't help the prophet, its assistant is God."

\*\*\*

I want to finish my words with a verse from the Quran: "شياطين عدوا نبي لكل جعلنا وكذلك / يفترون وما فذرهم فعلوه ما ربك شاء ولو غرورا القول زخرف بعض الى بعضهم يوحى والجن الانس / We, made humans and jinns the enemies of Prophets. They whisper gilded words to each other to deceive. Had your Lord willed, they could not have done this. Leave them alone with their fabrications, lies and slanders. " Today those gilded words appear as ugly cartoons. In the words of the poet, "Languages, pages, lines say" Abu Lahab is dead ": Abu Lahab is not dead, ya Muhammad; Ebu Jahil, the continents are roaming! " As the ummah of Muhammad, the Prophet. Be it Abu Lahab, Abu Jahil or E. Macron who are hostile to the Prophet; While struggling, we cannot deviate from his circumcision and his path.

*I greet you all with respect.*

*May Allah protect you.*

