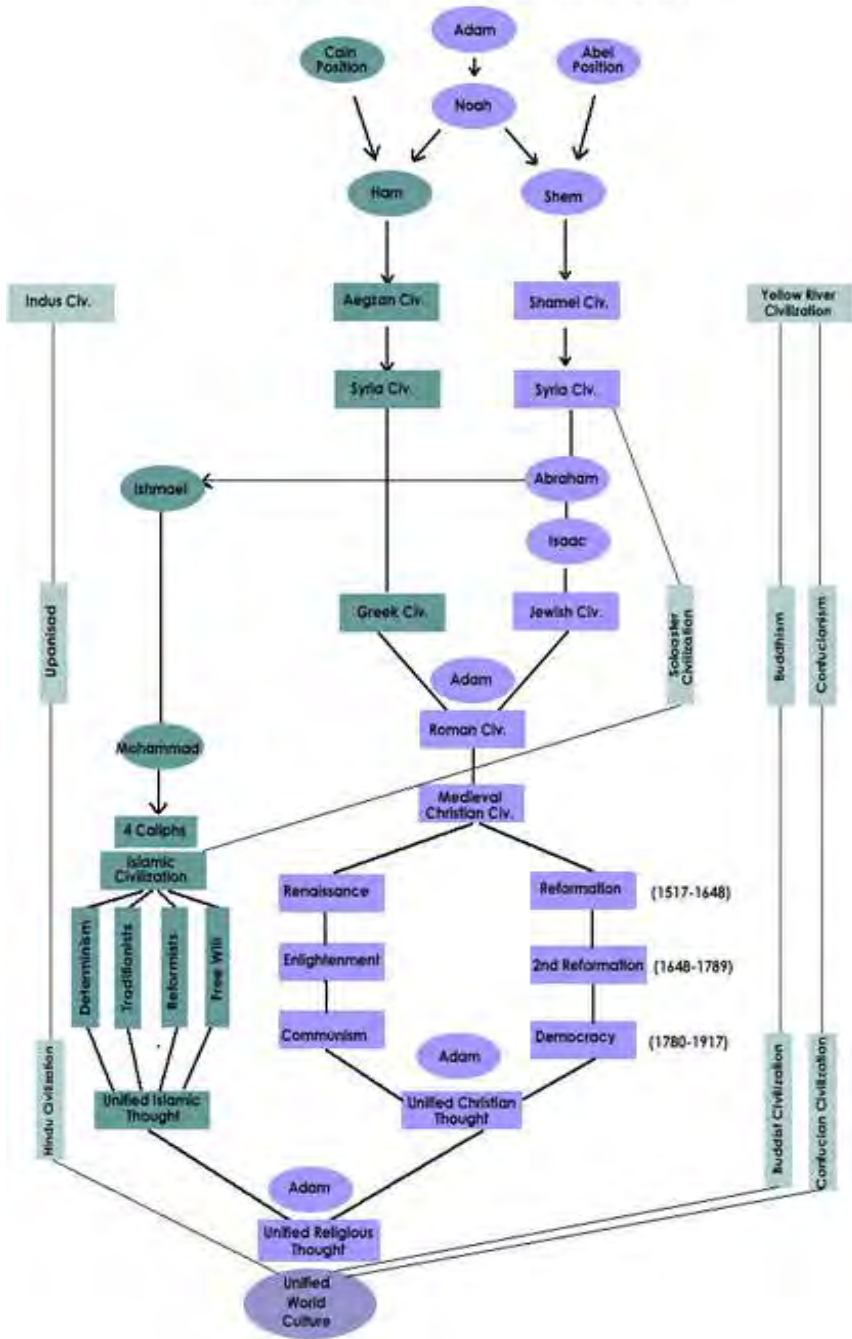


Mohammad in the Dispensation for Restoration

(compiled John Doroski, 1976, Kuwait)

God chose to bless the Ishmaelites directly and set up a 2nd providence to complement and counterbalance Christianity if needed by sending the prophet Mohammed. Historically, Islam is the only major prophetic religion to appear since Jesus gave birth to Christianity. This makes Mohammed the last of the Abrahamic prophets.

Development of Cultures Toward a Unified World Culture



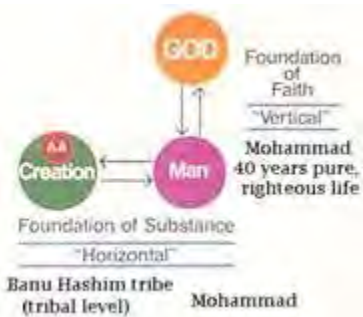
Viewing the difficulty of Christianity to spread out across the world and establish a foundation to receive the Coming of Christ in the Last Days, Mohammed was called to purify the lineage of Ishmael, to separate it from idolatry and to provide it with a clear understanding of God's truth so it could fulfill a providential role in preparing for the true parents.

Note: Prophet Mohammed came to Ishmael's descendants who were burying babies in the desert if they were girls and worshiping idols. Unlike Jesus who came upon the foundation of Moses, "the learnt wisdom and established culture of the Old Testament", Mohammed had to raise the culture from pre-Formation Level to the top of the Growth Level. Thus within Islam there is a natural focus on the Old Testament Rule of Law, but Islam also contains the essence of Jesus' message of love and forgiveness. However it is easy for Muslims to get stuck in the Old Testament Era thinking because of the quantity of daily life details.

Following the restoration time periods, establishing the Foundation of Faith and then the Foundation of Substance, Mohammed laid a foundation for true parents with Ishmael's descendants, bringing them directly into the orbit of the central providence of restoration. Just as Jacob, Moses, and Jesus - Mohammad had 3 Courses to his Providential Foundation



Mohammad's 1st Course (Tribal Level)



Foundation of Faith

Prophet Mohammad was born in 570 A.D., the son of an illustrious family. Because his father died before he was born and his mother when he was only six, Mohammad was cared for by his grandfather and raised by his uncle. At age twelve, he met a Syrian monk who predicted that someday he would become a great prophet of God. As a young man, he worked as a shepherd, as did Prophet Moses and King David.

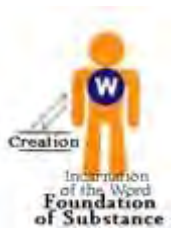
Throughout his youth Mohammad was distinguished by his refined manners, extreme righteousness and absolute chastity, so much so, that his companions nicknamed him "al-Amin" (the true and reliable). At age 25 he married his employer, the rich and much older Khadijah (40) who restored the historic mother position. His wife had been a prosperous merchant and Mohammad was so capable as a trader that the couple lived in very comfortable circumstances. His love for Khadijah was deep and lasting. Until her death a quarter century after their marriage, he took no other wife. Because of her being 15 years older than Mohammad, Khadijah was able to help Mohammad restore three kinds of lost love: brother/sister love before their marriage, mother/son love through her guiding and supporting Mohammad, and husband/wife love through believing Mohammad's relationship with God and his mission was more important than their personal relationship. This was typified by Khadijah insisting to Mohammad to believe in and accept his mission, although it meant great difficulty and sacrifice for her.

By temperament, Mohammad was restrained and talked little. Where his own personal rights and prerogatives were concerned, the Prophet was always yielding and indulgent. Even when he had subsequently won high position and great power, his life remained simple and frugal. Pomp and luxury were avoided at all times by the Prophet and his family. It was in this way that Mohammad established a -foundation of faith- to become the central figure.



Even though he lived surrounded by wealth and the possibility of living an easy life, Mohammad never let this change his readiness to endure hardship and suffering to discover deeper truths and serve God. Consequently, when God called Mohammad to Prophethood at age 40, he without hesitation sacrificed the pleasures of a worldly life (physical wealth) to accept his mission.

Foundation of Substance (Family/Tribal Level)



After establishing a foundation of faith, Mohammad had to next establish a foundation of substance to remove fallen natures. This was to be accomplished by his first gaining 3, then 12 people to recognize and support his Prophethood (willing to risk their lives supporting him) and progressively gaining 70 disciples to complete the tribal level.

"Read in the name of the Lord who created. He created man from a clot. Read, and thy Lord is most honorable, Who taught (to write) with the pen, taught man what he knew not". -al-Alaq

When Mohammad discovered that his dreams turned out to be accurate predictions of the future, he became interested in spending as much time as possible in meditation. While fasting and praying in solitude at Mt. Hira, north of Mecca, he saw a vision of the archangel Gabriel. The angel then told Mohammad to read.

Naturally, Mohammad was completely overcome, even a little fearful of his sanity. When he told his wife what had occurred, she reassured him. So did her cousin (Warqa-bin-Naufal) who predicted that he would be the prophet announced by Jesus 600 years earlier. As Mohammad received further revelations he began to gather his family of disciples (3 then 12) - Khadijah, Abu Bakr, Ali - then Saad, Zohair, Talha, Othman, Abdur Rahman son of Auf, Abu Obeida, Othman son of Mazun, Abu Salma, Obeida son of Al-Harith. After 3 years his following numbered 40, which brought to a close his secret preaching and saw him make his first public announcement of his Prophethood.

During the next 4 years Mohammad proceeded to restore a tribe of believers by teaching and strengthening at least 70 believers, and he also proceeded to restore a clan of believers by insisting to the Quraish tribes publicly that there is only one God and that they must leave their worship of idols. Through this demanding the people to leave their evil ways and because of the power he was gaining by an increase of supporters, Mohammad aroused intense opposition. Men called him a fool, a bigot, a mad poet, and a man possessed by demons.