

*Was Muhammad's life documented well? Are details of his life known?*

The existence and historical details of Muhammad, the central figure in Islam, are subjects of scholarly debate. While Muslim tradition holds that Muhammad was born in Mecca around 570 CE and received divine revelations that formed the Quran[1], some non-Muslim scholars question the reliability of these accounts due to the lack of contemporary evidence[2]. The earliest non-Muslim sources mentioning Muhammad date to shortly after his reported death in 632 CE, describing him variously as a trader, monotheist preacher, and military leader[3]. However, these sources present conflicting portrayals, and some scholars argue that there is insufficient archaeological and historical evidence to confirm the traditional Islamic narrative of Muhammad's life and the early spread of Islam[2][3]. The details of his life remain uncertain[3][4].

[1] McGonigle, T. D., & Quigley, J. F. (1988). *A History of the Christian Tradition: From Its Jewish Origins to the Reformation* (p. 126). Paulist Press.

[2] Qureshi, N. (2016). *No God but One: Allah or Jesus? A Former Muslim Investigates the Evidence for Islam and Christianity*. Zondervan.

[3] Ibrahim, A. S. (2020). *A Concise Guide to the Quran: Answering Thirty Critical Questions* (p. 18). Baker Academic.

[4] Rippin, A. (2012). *Muslims: Their Religious Beliefs and Practices* (J. Hinnells & N. Smart, Eds.; Fourth edition, p. 42). Routledge Taylor & Francis Group.