

Mohammed Image Archive

Depictions of Mohammed Throughout History

Controversy over the publication of images depicting Mohammed in the Danish newspaper *Jyllands-Posten* has erupted into an international furor. While Muslims worldwide are calling for a boycott of Denmark and any other nation whose press reprints the cartoons, Europeans are trying to stand up for Western principles of freedom of speech and not cave in to self-censorship in the name of multiculturalism and fear.

While the debate rages, an important point has been overlooked: despite the Islamic prohibition against depicting Mohammed under any circumstances, hundreds of paintings, drawings and other images of Mohammed have been created over the centuries, with nary a word of complaint from the Muslim world. The recent cartoons in *Jyllands-Posten* are nothing new; it's just that no other images of Mohammed have ever been so widely publicized.

This page is an archive of numerous depictions of Mohammed, to serve as a reminder that such imagery has been part of Western and Islamic culture since the Middle Ages -- and to serve as a resource for those interested in freedom of expression.

The images in the archive below have been divided into the following categories:

- Islamic Paintings and Miniatures Showing Mohammed in Full
- Islamic Depictions of Mohammed with Face Hidden
- European Medieval and Renaissance Images
- Book Illustrations
- Dante's *Inferno*
- French Book Covers
- Various Eras
- Contemporary Christian Drawings
- Animated TV Parodies
- Satirical Modern Cartoons
- The *Jyllands-Posten* Cartoons
- Recent Responses to the Controversy
- Links

(Please note that the Arabic name "Mohammed" has over the years been transliterated into Western languages with several different spellings -- some of which you'll encounter below -- including Mahomet, Muhammad, and Mohamed.)

Islamic Paintings and Miniatures Showing Mohammed in Full

Medieval Muslim artists often created paintings and illuminated manuscripts depicting Mohammed in full. Several examples are presented here. Other artists of the era drew Mohammed but left his face blank so as to technically comply with the Islamic ban on depicting the Prophet; these images are shown in the second section.



Persian or central Asian illustration showing Mohammed (on the right) preaching.





Miniature of Mohammed re-dedicating the Black Stone at the Kaaba. From *Jami Al-Tawarikh* ("The Universal History" written by Rashid Al-Din), a manuscript in the Library of the University of Edinburgh; illustrated in Tabriz, Persia, c. 1315.

(Hat tip: Brett K.)



The Night Journey of Muhammad on His Steed, Buraq; leaf from a copy of the *Bustan of Saadi*, dated 1514. From Bukhara, Uzbekistan. In [The Metropolitan Museum of Art](#).

(Hat tip for this image and the following two images: Jos.)



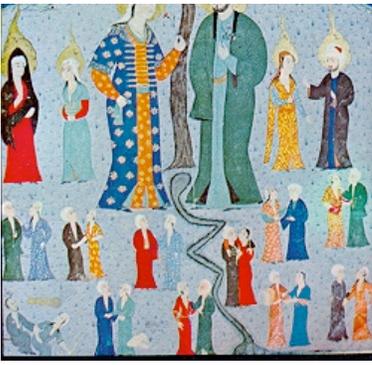


Muhammad's Call to Prophecy and the First Revelation; leaf from a copy of the *Majma' al-tawarikh* (Compendium of Histories), ca. 1425; Timurid. From Herat, Afghanistan. In [The Metropolitan Museum of Art](#).

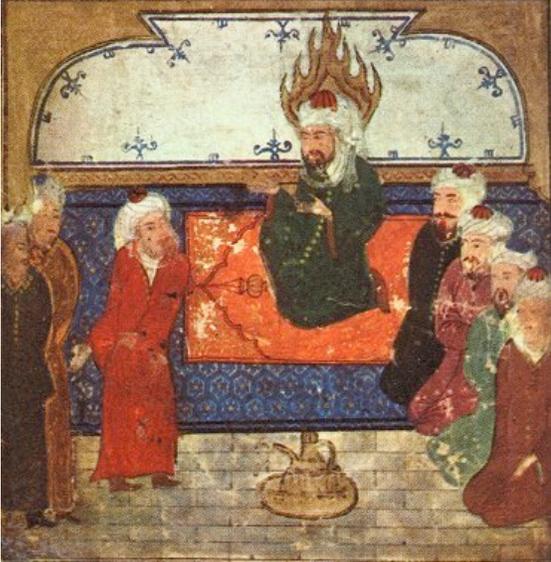


Journey of the Prophet Muhammad; leaf from a copy of the *Majma' al-tawarikh* (Compendium of Histories), ca. 1425; Timurid. Herat, Afghanistan. In [The Metropolitan Museum of Art](#).





The Ascension of the Prophet, also from *Jami Al-Tawarikh* ("The Universal History").



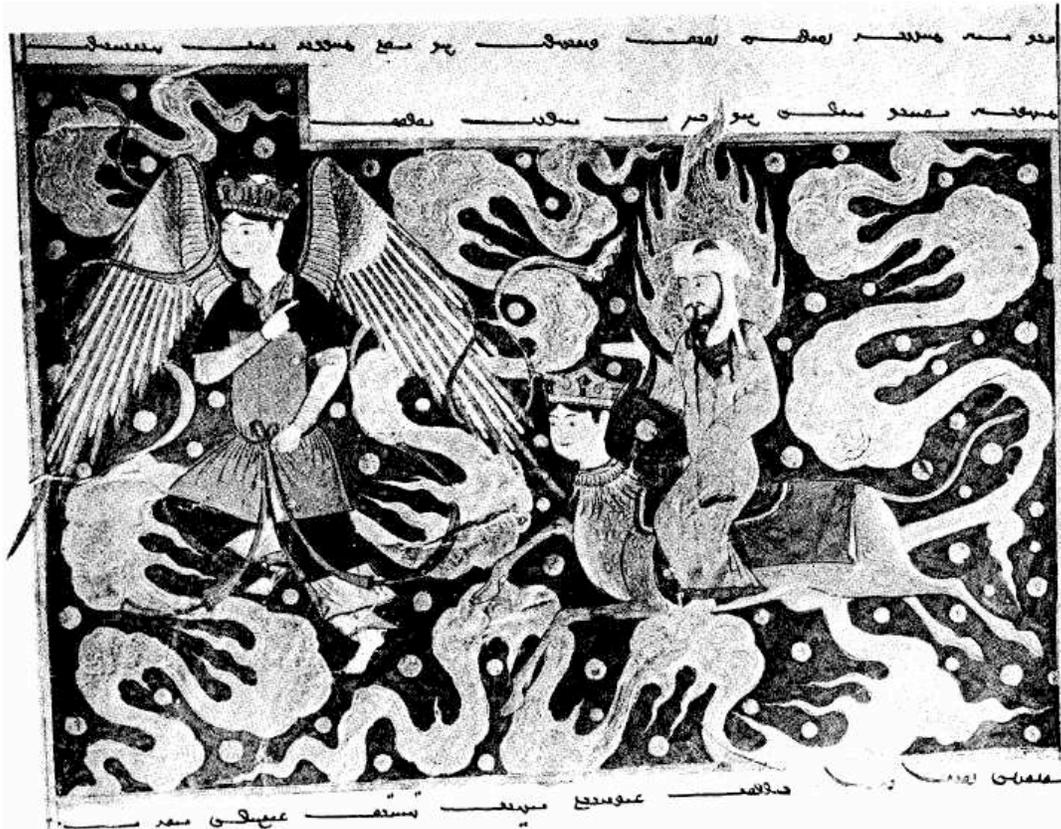
Mohammed on his prayer rug; Persia, late medieval (date unknown).





Mohammed meets the prophets Ismail, Is-hak and Lot in paradise. From the *Apocalypse of Muhammad*, written in 1436 in Herat, Afghanistan (now in the Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris).

(Hat tip for this image and the image below: Buck.)



Mohammed arrives on the shores of the White Sea. Also from the *Apocalypse of Muhammad*, written in 1436 in Herat, Afghanistan (now in the Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris).

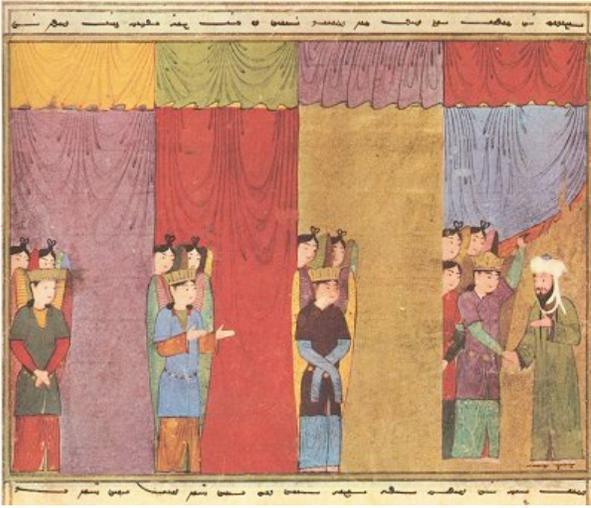


Fourteenth-century Persian miniature showing the Angel Gabriel speaking to Mohammed.





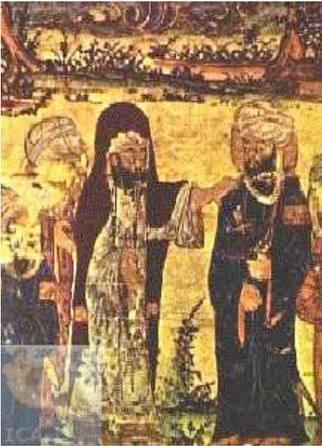
Mohammed at Medina, from an Arab or central Asian medieval-era manuscript.



Mohammed Received by the Four Angels; Persia, 1436.



Close-up of a medieval-era drawing showing Mohammed preaching, along with a Christian-style halo.



A medieval illustration showing Mohammed (on the right). Source unknown.



Mohammed with head emanating flames (a sign of holiness). Source unknown.

(Hat tip: Steve N.)



The Birth of the Prophet Muhammad, from *Jami' al-tavarikh* (*Compendium of Chronicles*). Tabriz, Persia, c. 1314-15. In [Edinburgh University Library](#). (Hat tip: Jos.)



Close-up of the baby Mohammed from the painting above. (Hat tip: Nils.)



Mohammed's death. Source unknown.



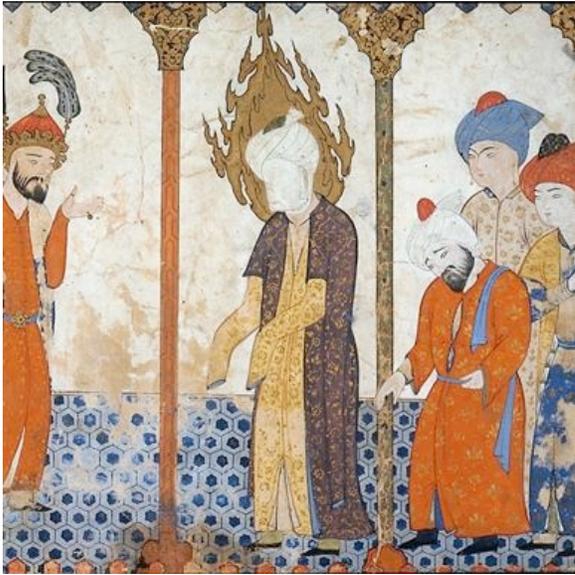
This Iranian site contains a photograph of a mural which appears to depict Mohammed (sixth picture down) on a contemporary building in Iran. The mural show Buraq (the animal that carried Mohammed on his Night Voyage, described as being white and having the face of a woman and the tail of a peacock, which this creature does) carrying a figure who could therefore only be Mohammed. A word-for-word transliteration of the caption to that picture in Farsi says (according to [this automated translation site](#)) "The Messenger mounted mainland shiny door village (yzdlaan) (kvyry) village blinds to ascension wine river," which obviously doesn't translate well but which does make mention of "The Messenger," a traditional epithet for Mohammed (as the messenger of Allah). Note: this image is hosted on the Web site of the Iranian newspaper Hamshahri, which is [sponsoring a contest of cartoons about the Holocaust](#) as an outraged reponse to the publication of the Mohammed cartoons in the West. Yet the newspaper itself is currently displaying this depiction of Mohammed.

(Hat tip: Kilgore Trout.)

[Three more images](#) of the full Mohammed can be found here (Hat tip: [No Pasaran!](#), foreign devil and Dusty).

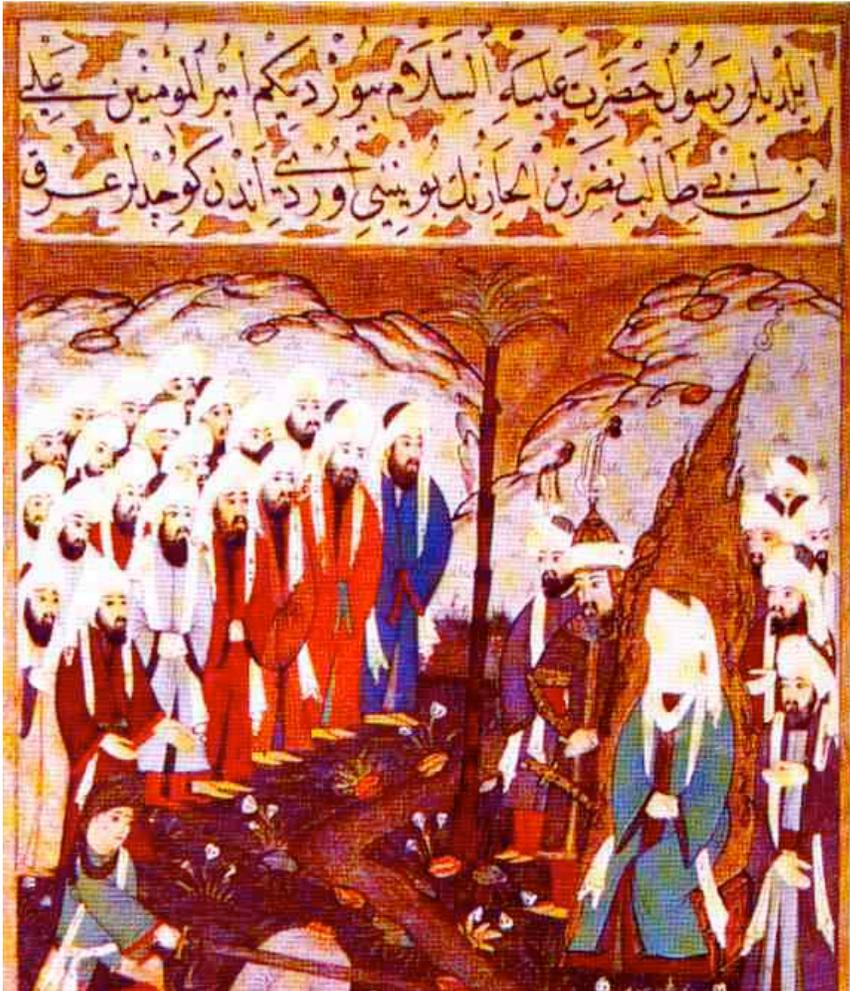
Islamic Depictions of Mohammed with Face Hidden

Note: Scholars have written in to say that some of the faceless Mohammeds shown here were likely to have been originally drawn *with* faces that were later scratched out.



The Prophet Mohammed in a Mosque. Turkish, 16th Century, painting on paper. Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. The artist depicted Mohammed in very long sleeves so as to avoid showing his hands, though his neck and hints of his features are visible.

(Hat tip: Brett K.)



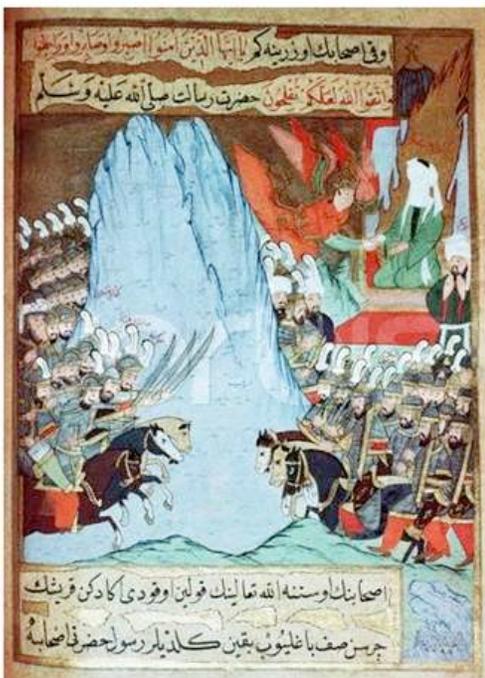


This is a miniature from *Siyer-i Nebi*, an Turkish religious biography of Mohammed completed in 1388 and later lavishly illustrated with 814 miniatures under the reign of Ottoman ruler Murad III, being completed in 1595. Many of the miniatures depict Mohammed, and this particular one shows Ali bin Abu Taleb beheading Nasr bin al-Hareth in the presence of Mohammed and his companions.



Newly born Muhammad in his mother's arms being shown to his grandfather and Meccans. From Turkish book painting (date unknown). University of California, San Diego.

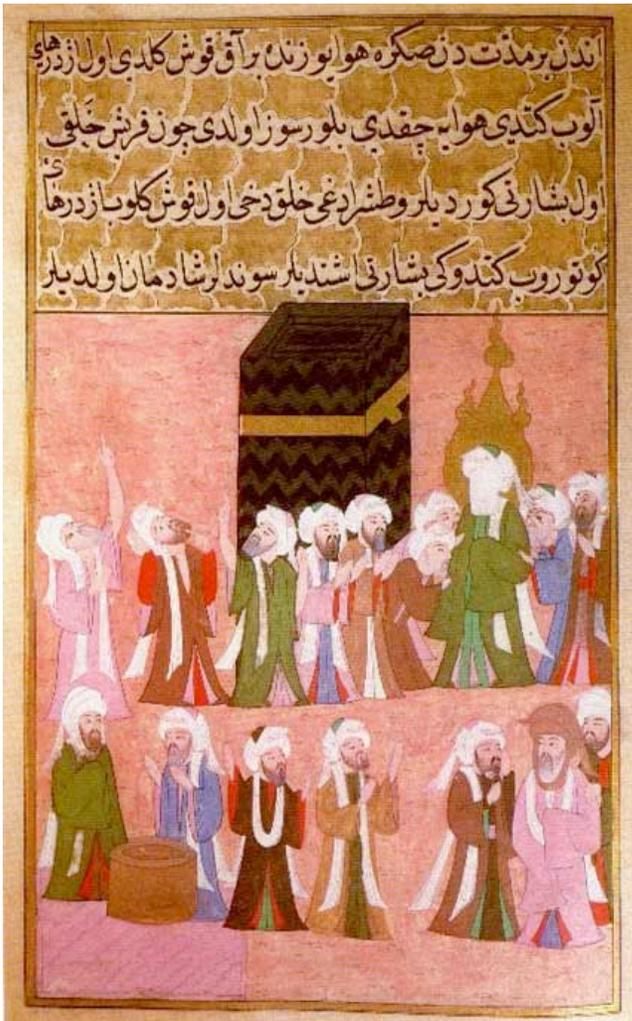
(Hat tip: Brett K.)



Islamic image of the Qur'an being revealed to Mohammed during a battle. Source unknown.



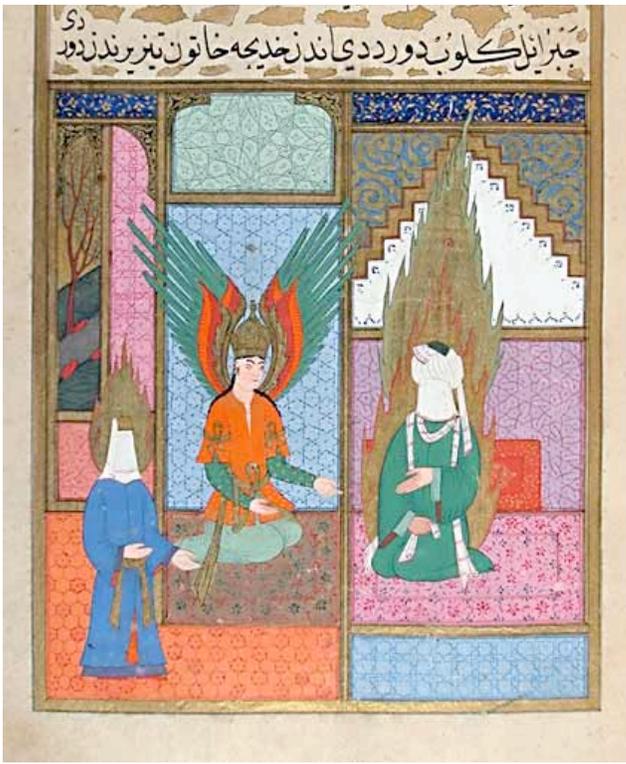
Indonesian allegorical scene of Mohammed riding a mythical beast -- possibly a depiction of his "Night Voyage." Date unknown.



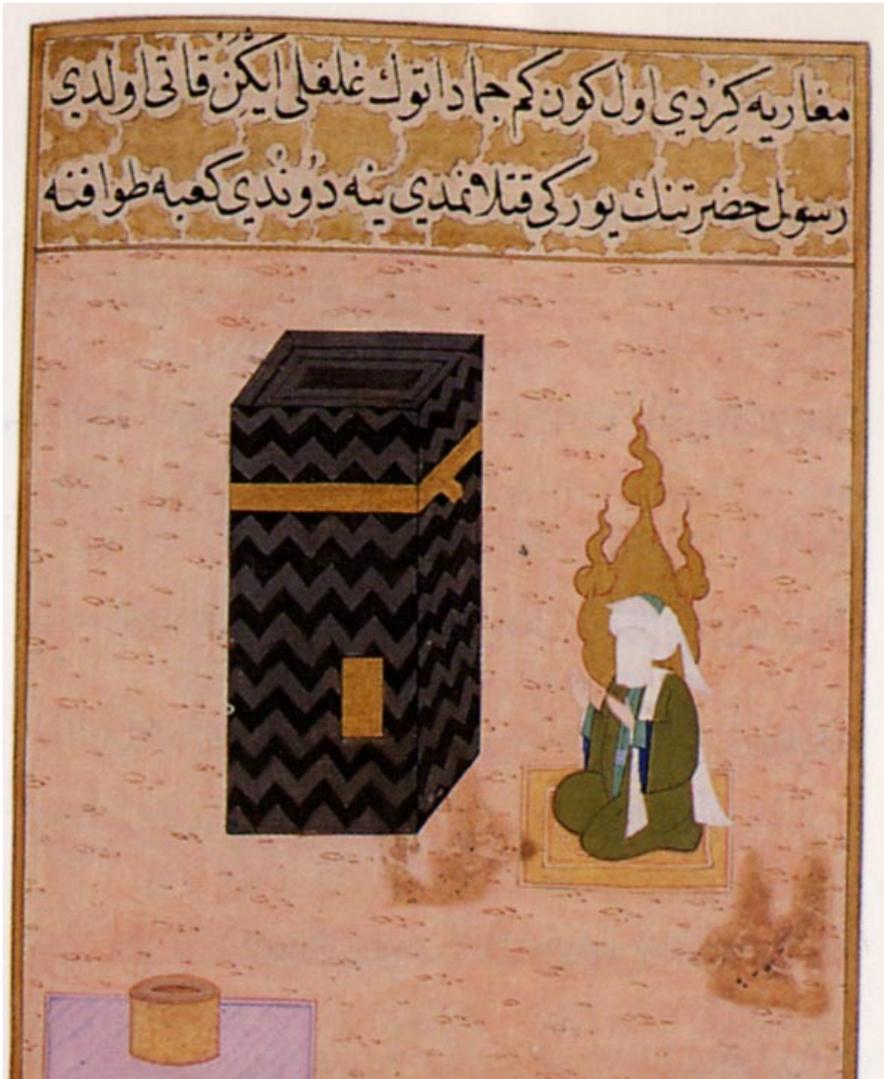
Mohammed at the Kaaba. Miniature from the Ottoman Empire, c. 1595. In [The Topkapi Museum, Istanbul](#).

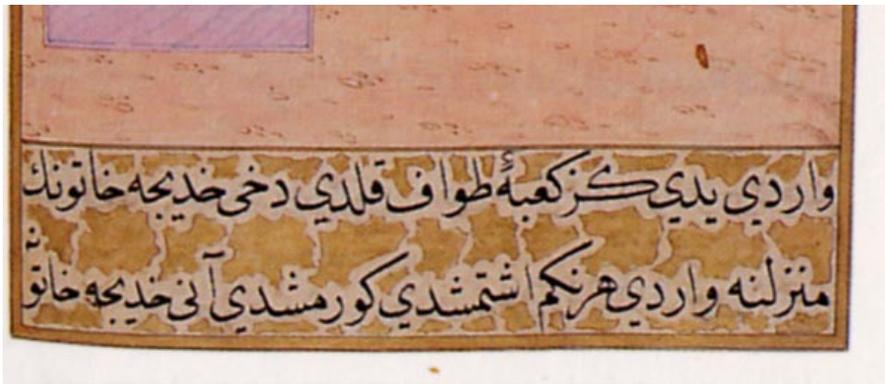
(Hat tip: Jos.)





Mohammed with the Angel Gabriel. Miniature from the Ottoman Empire, c. 1595. In [The Topkapi Museum, Istanbul](#).
(Hat tip: Jos.)





Mohammed praying at the Ka'aba in Mecca. Turkish miniature from the Ottoman Empire; date unknown.
(Hat tip: S.)



The Ascension of Mohammed, as depicted in a Persian manuscript. Opaque watercolor and gold on paper, c. 1570. From the collection of the Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco. Mohammed upon his winged steed al-Burak ascending into heaven.

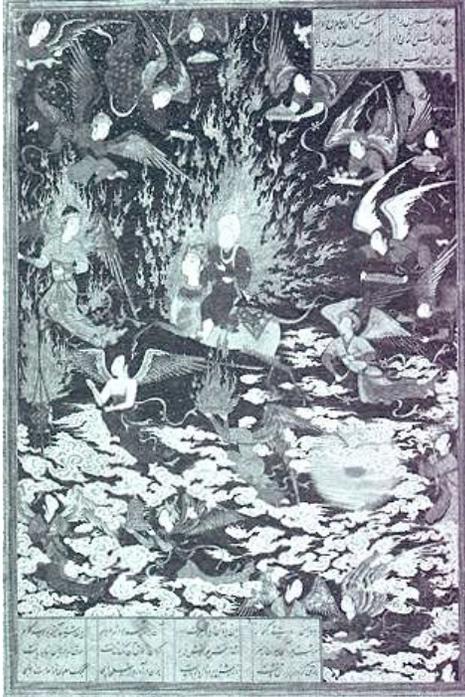


Mohammed (with face not visible) lying (possibly dead) in a grotto, with anachronistic Mongol warriors looking on.





Indian or Asian painting of Mohammed receiving visions.



Mohammed astride a mythological beast; provenance unknown.





Mohammed preaching. Origin unknown.
(Hat tip: S.)



Mohammed ascending to Paradise.



Mohammed (face not visible) in an illustration of an episode from the Qur'an.

Additional links to online images of Mohammed with his face hidden (hat tip: Rune):

[Angels visit Muhammad to prepare him for the Miraj.](#) Detail from *The Progress of the Prophet*, Turkey, 16th century.

[Ascent of the Prophet to Heaven.](#) Persia, 1550.

[\(Another\) Ascent of the Prophet to Heaven.](#) Persia, 1550.

[Muhammad on Buraq.](#) Persia, mid-16th century.

[Muhammad and Abu Bakr visit poor Bedouins.](#)

The book *The Legacy of Jihad* features an illustration of Mohammed (sitting alone, to the right, his face covered) observing the massacre of the Jewish tribe the Banu Qurayzah; from a 19th-century Kashmiri illustration in the British Library.

European Medieval and Renaissance Images

Medieval and Renaissance Christian and secular artists had no religious restrictions regarding depictions of Mohammed, and were free to show his face and body in their entirety.



Fig. 11. Caricature de Mahomet, en marge d'une traduction latine du Coran. Manuscrit de la Bibliothèque de l' Arsenal, 1162.

Illustration depicting a schematized Mohammed from an early medieval Latin translation of the Koran, from a manuscript in la Bibliothèque de l' Arsenal, in Paris. This may be the earliest known depiction of Mohammed, possibly dating from the mid-12th century. This reproduction is from the book *Naissance de l'Europe*, by Robert S. Lopez (published 1962) (taken from *Deux traductions latines du Coran*, by Marie-Therese D'Alverny [published 1948]).

(Hat tip: joker-x.)



Mohammed preaching, from a medieval illuminated manuscript, with historically inaccurate landscape and clothing (a common problem in medieval and Renaissance paintings, which usually showed fashions that were contemporary with the time the painting was *made*, rather than showing the costumes of the era depicted).



This picture is of an early Renaissance fresco in Bologna's Church of San Petronio, created by Giovanni da Modena and depicting Mohammed being tortured in Hell.

(Hat tip: brenda.)



In 2002, Islamic extremists plotted to blow up the church in order to destroy the image.



The fresco is in an inaccessible part of the church and is now only visible at an angle from a distance; this old black-and-white image is one of the few official photos ever taken that shows a straight frontal view of the figures.



Colored Renaissance print showing Mohammed at court, with wildly inaccurate fashions.

The following two peculiar line drawings show Mohammed dressed in Renaissance-era German garb and not behaving as one might expect:



"His Wife Scolding the Drunken Mohammed," German woodcut print, c. 1481. Source (for this image and the one below): *The Illustrated Bartsch. Vol. 83, German Book Illustration before 1500: Anonymous Artists, 1481-1482.* Series title: *Reysen und Wanderschaften durch das Gelobte Land / Travels and Wanderings Through the Holy Land.*

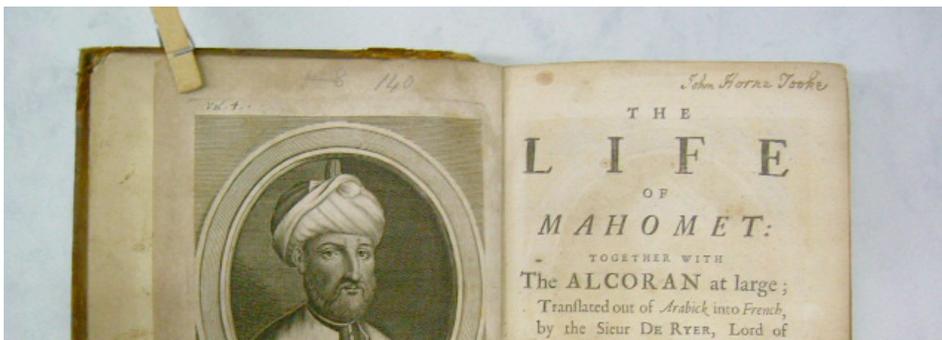
(Hat tip for this image and for the following image: Brett K.)

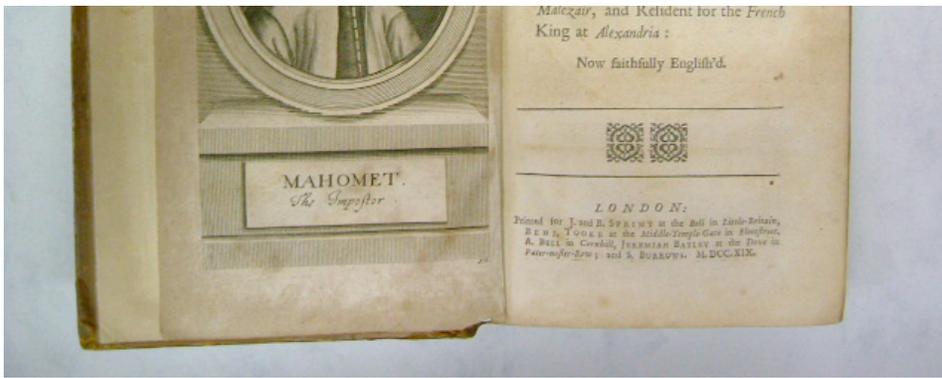


"Mohammed Cursing the Vines," German woodcut print, c. 1481. Presumably Mohammed is cursing the vines for producing the grapes that got him drunk.

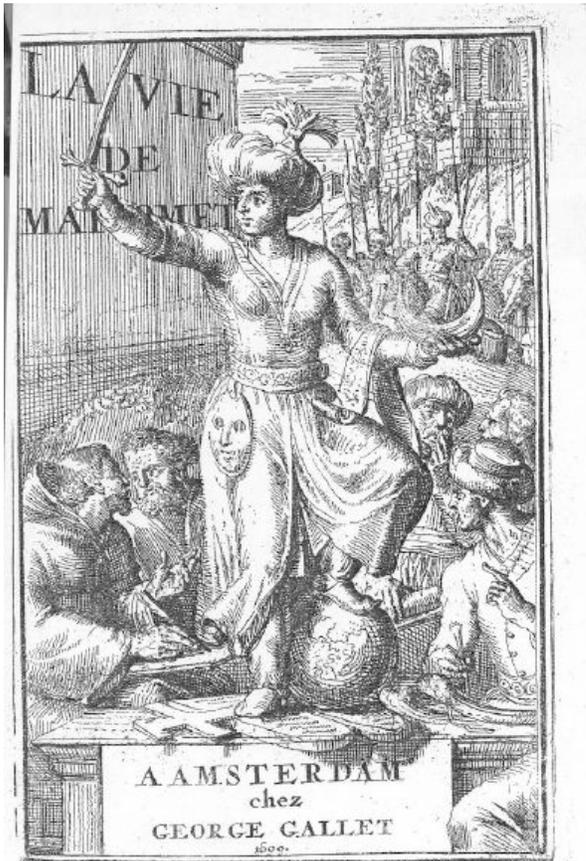
Book Illustrations

Many popular American and European books about Islam from the 18th, 19th and early 20th centuries included lithographs and line drawings depicting Mohammed. Here is a small sampling:





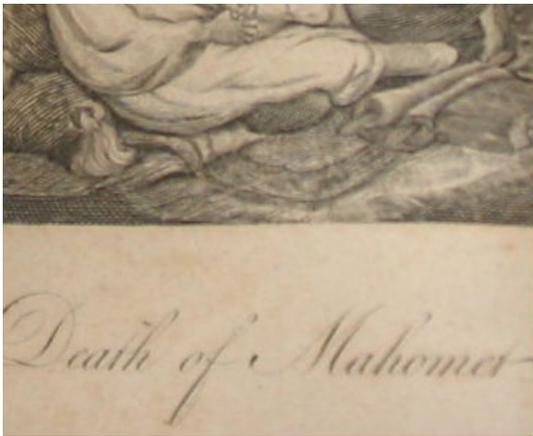
Frontispiece from *The Life of Mahomet*, published 1719.



This illustration is taken from *La vie de Mahomet*, by M. Prideaux, published in 1699. It shows Mohammed holding a sword and a crescent while trampling on a globe, a cross, and the Ten Commandments.

(Hat tip: Andy B.)





Death of Mahomet; photograph of a page in the book *The History of the Arabs, Including the Life of Mohammed*, by William Mavor (published in New York in 1804).

(Hat tip: little old lady.)

The following five images are of line drawings depicting Mohammed from various 19th-century books about Islam:





Dante's *Inferno*

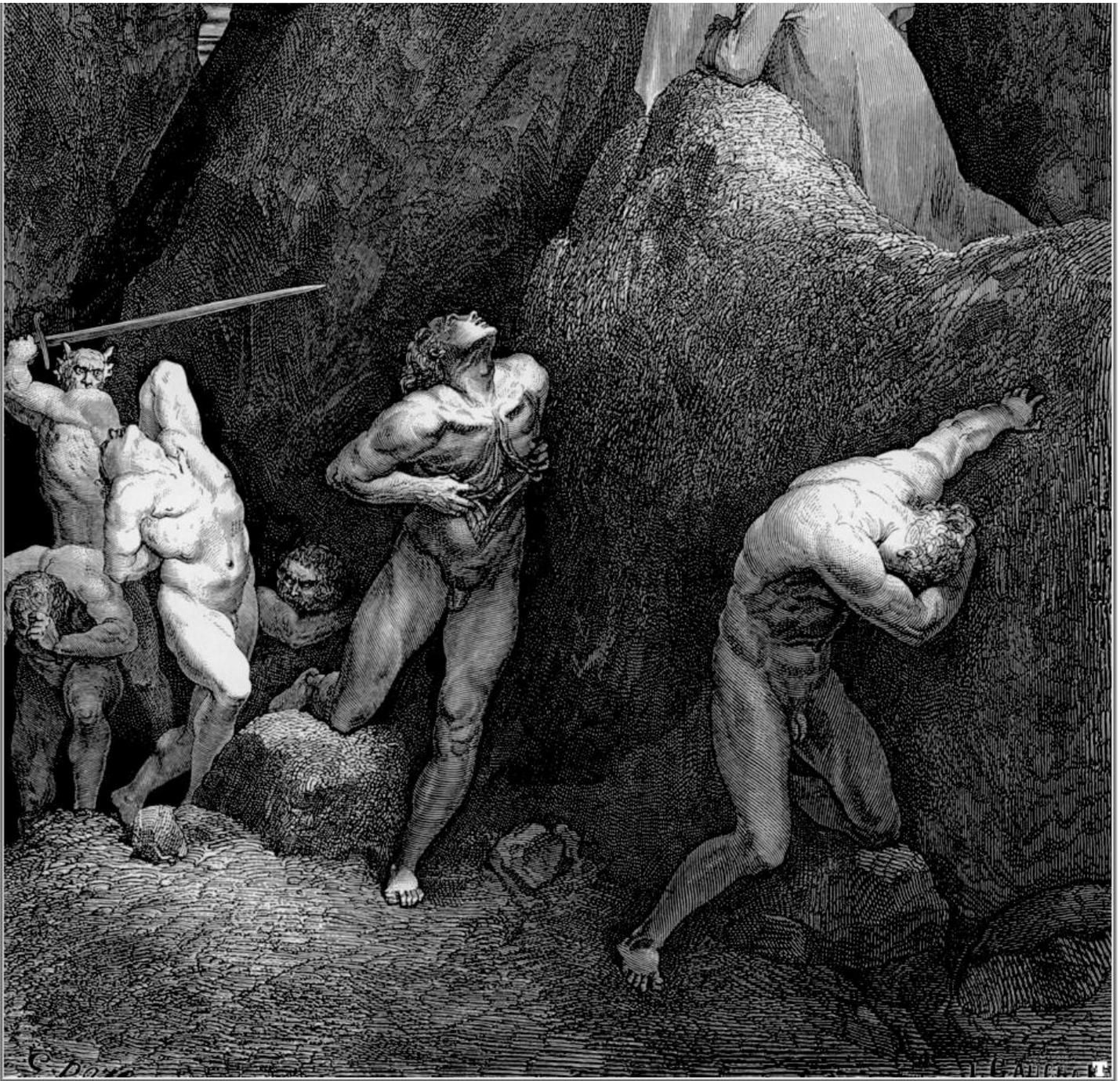
In the *Inferno* chapter of Dante's trilogy *The Divine Comedy*, Mohammed is described as being one of the "Sowers of Discord," showing his entrails to Dante and Virgil in the Eighth Circle of Hell:

Inferno XXVIII, 19-42.

The poets are in the ninth chasm of the eighth circle, that of the Sowers of Discord, whose punishment is to be mutilated. Mahomet shows his entrails to Dante and Virgil while on the left stands his son Ali, his head cleft from chin to forelock.

Several famous artists have created their own illustrations of this scene. In each drawing, Mohammed is the one with his torso slit open.

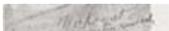




Gustave Doré.

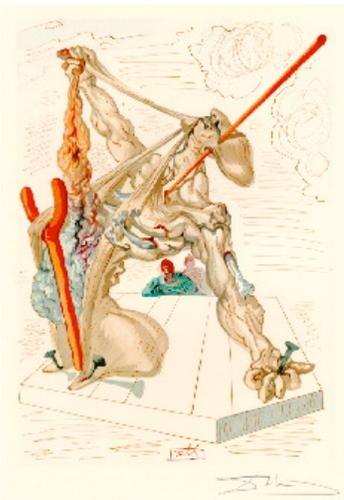


William Blake.

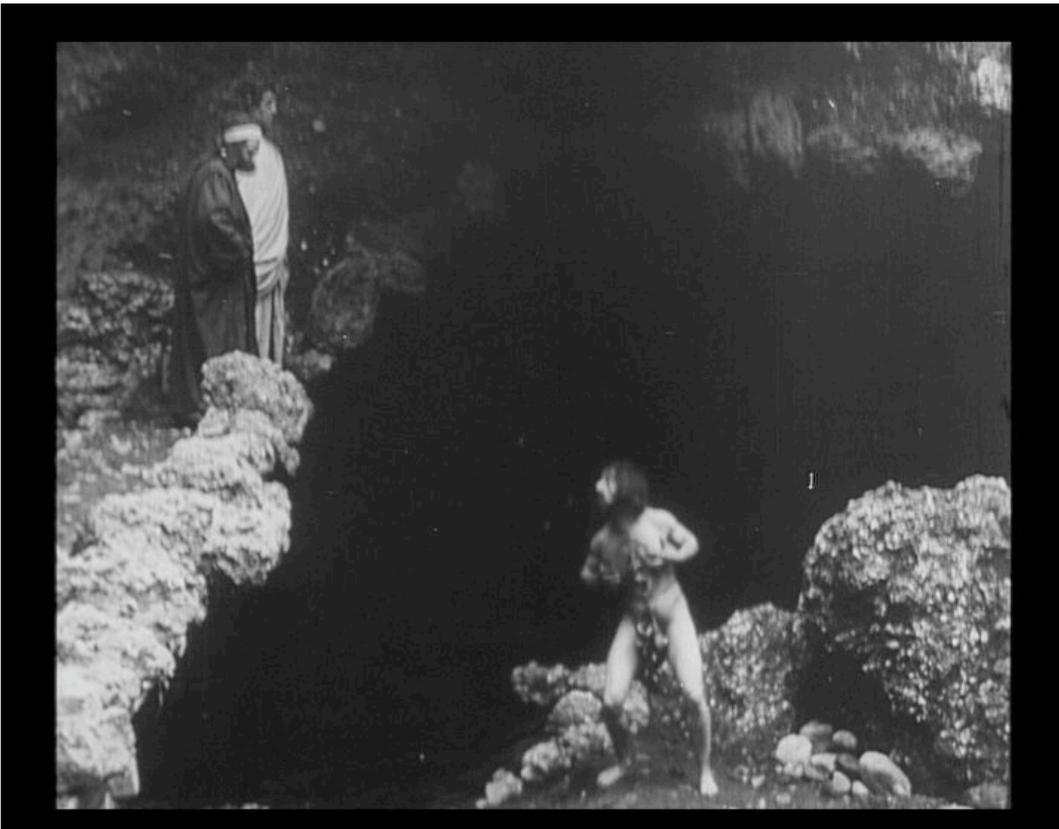




Auguste Rodin.



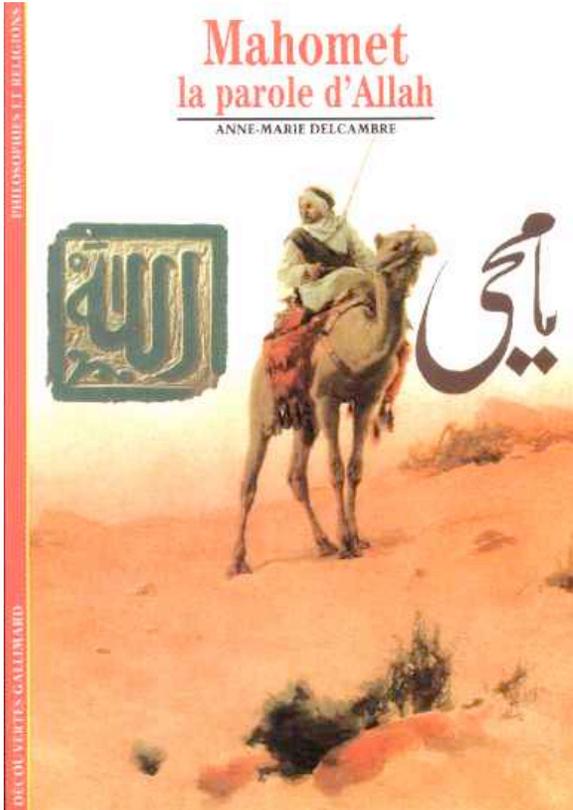
Salvador Dalí.



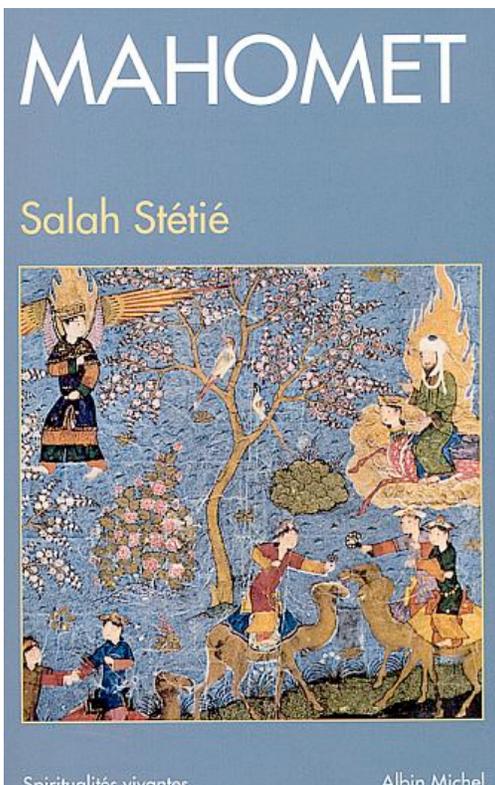
The 1911 Italian silent film *L'Inferno* contained a dramatization of the scene; Mohammed is here on the right with his entrails hanging out.
(Hat tip: Peter R.)

French Book Covers

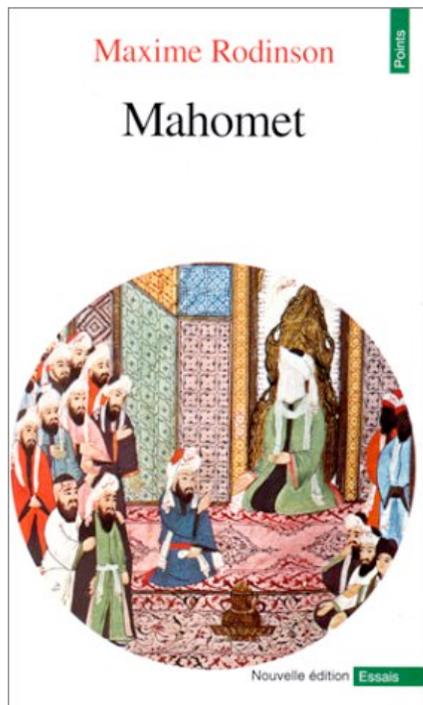
Several books about Islam published in France in the last 20 years have unabashedly depicted Mohammed on their covers. None of them caused any uproar or were noticed in the Muslim world at all.



Mahomet: la parole d'Allah, by Anne-Marie Delcambre.



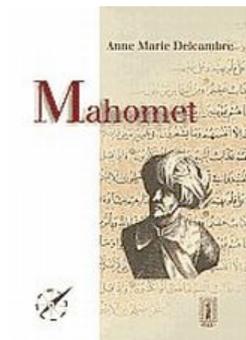
Mahomet, by Salah Stétié.



Mahomet, by Maxime Rodinson.



Nouveau Tintin comic book, May 17, 1977 edition.



A different edition of *Mahomet*, by Anne-Marie Delcambre.

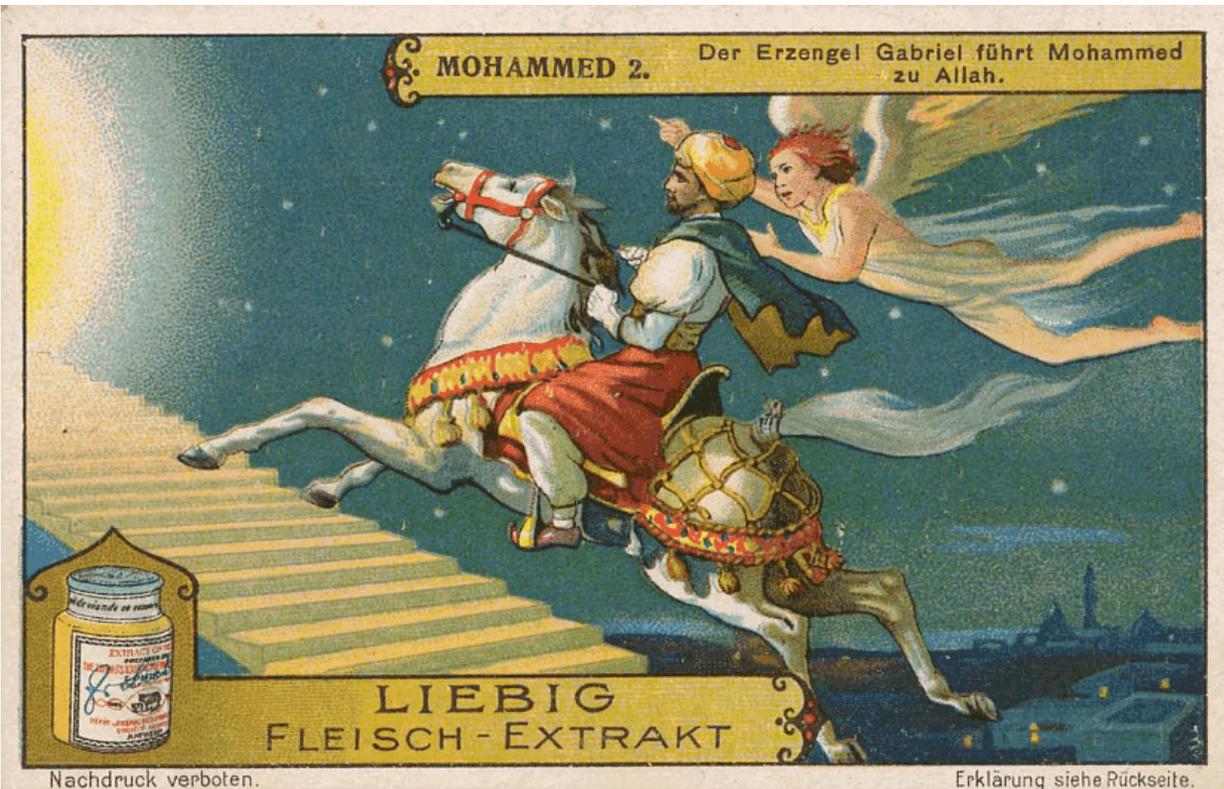
Various Eras

There have been depictions of Mohammed in every era. Here are a few from periods not covered in other categories:



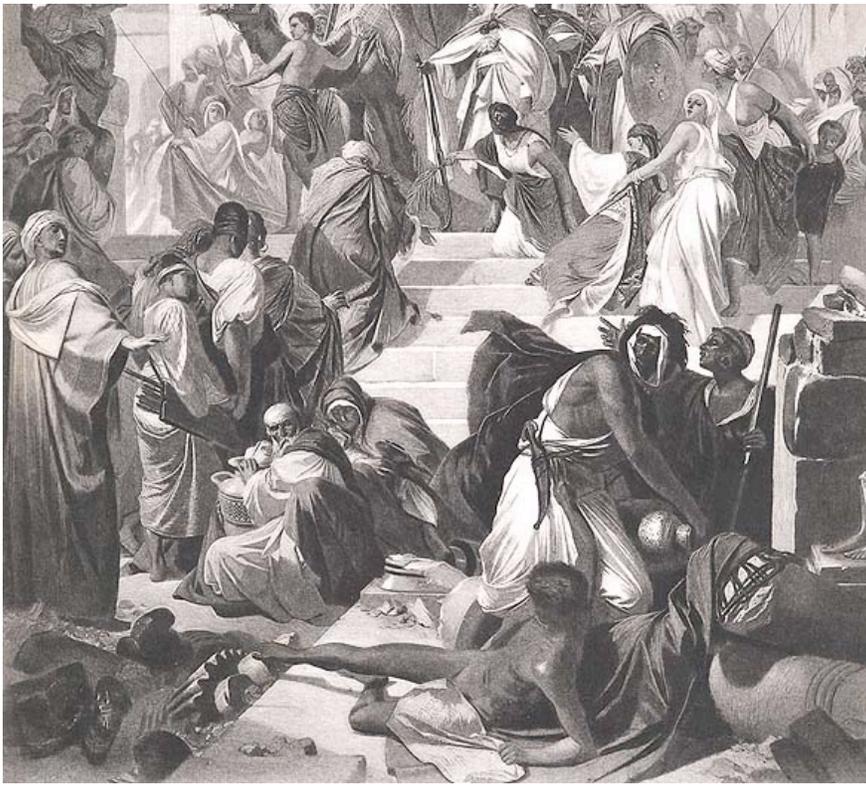


The North Frieze on the Supreme Court building in Washington, DC features a bas-relief sculpture of Mohammed, among several other historical law-givers. He is in the center of this image holding a curved scimitar; on the left is Charlemagne, and on the right is Byzantine Emperor Justinian. You can download a detailed pdf of the Supreme Court friezes [here](#). The urban legend site [Snopes.com](#) has info about the frieze in this entry. (Hat tip: js, C. Reb, and Matt R.)



1928 German advertisement for bouillon extract shows Gabriel guiding Mohammed up to Allah. (Hat tip: karmic inquisitor.)

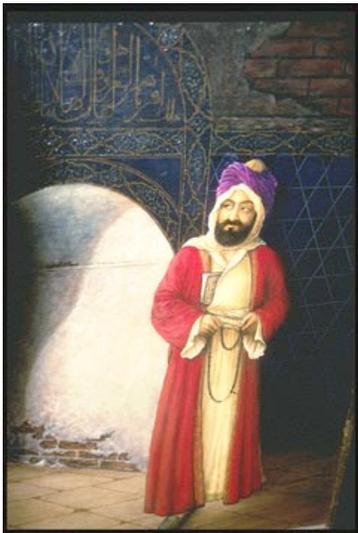




Mohammed at Mecca, by Andreas Muller, late 19th century; this is a photogravure reproduction printed in 1889; the original is in the Maximilianeum Gallery, Munich. Mohammed is the one on the camel, and is depicted casting the idols out of the Kaaba.
(Hat tip: little old lady and Andrew.)



Color print of Mohammed in anachronistic 17th- or 18th-century garb.



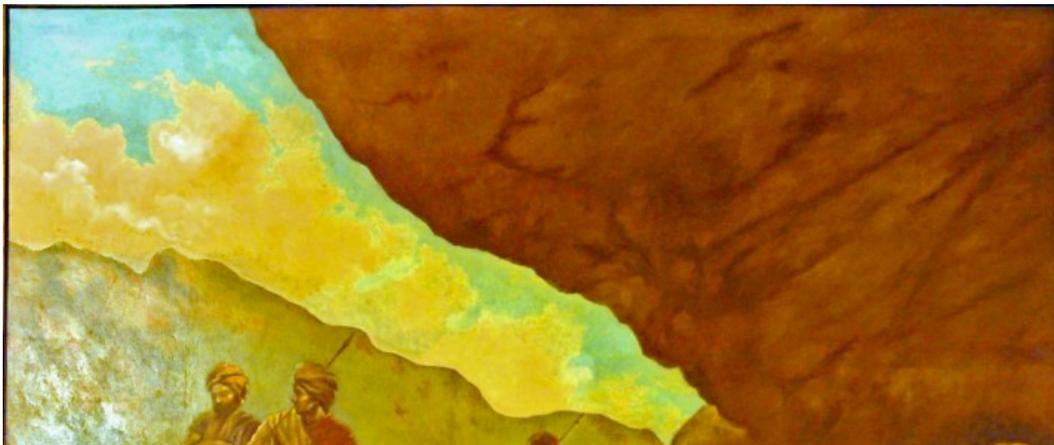
Modern-era painting showing Mohammed. Artist unknown.



Recent issue of French magazine *Le Nouvel Observateur* with Mohammed on the cover. The current issue has [coverage of the Muslim reaction to the Danish cartoons](#) but makes no mention of their own Mohammed cover.



This 20th-century painting from a Shriners' Hall in Maine shows Mohammed receiving a vision.





Another Shriners' painting showing Mohammed (in the red robe on the right) being comforted by his uncle as he hides from Meccans during his flight to Medina.



Iranian woman artist [Oranous](#) (who is a Muslim and lives in Tehran) created [this iconic painting of a young Mohammed](#) and is selling it online. Though this would seem to violate Islamic and Iranian law, an expert in Iranian Shi'ite customs writes in to say that this particular painting is not forbidden because it depicts a young Mohammed *before* he was visited by the Angel Gabriel and started receiving his visions, which means that at this stage in his life he is not yet the Prophet.

(Hat tip: baldy.)

[**Note: What became of the other Iranian icons that used to be on this page?** Several readers emailed to say that the few modern icons from Iran (formerly visible here) that supposedly depicted Mohammed in fact depicted his cousin Ali, who is considered the founder of the Shi'ite branch of Islam. The sites from which these pictures were obtained -- The University of Bergen and *Jyllands-Posten* -- misattributed the images by accident. Our research indicates that it was indeed most likely Ali in the icons, so we apologize for the mix-up. Click [here](#) to see the most well-known of these icons (still misidentified as Mohammed) on the *Jyllands-Posten* site.]

(Hat tip: Takin, Darmin, and Paul C.)

Contemporary Christian Drawings

Some modern evangelical Christian groups have created biographies of Mohammed as part of their proselytizing materials. Many of these brochures and booklets contain drawings of Mohammed at various points in his life. Here is a sampling:



Mohammed getting romantic with Khadijah, who would become his first wife.



Mohammed receiving a vision in a cave. These two panels are among many depicting Mohammed to be found in Jack Chick's 1988 booklet *The Prophet*. The tract is quite long -- Mohammed doesn't make an appearance until [page 13](#) (as a pawn in a convoluted historical conspiracy).

(Hat tip: baldy.)



This painting was originally done by Russian symbolist painter and Theosophist [Nicholas Roerich](#) in 1932, and is entitled "Mohammed the Prophet," showing Mohammed receiving a vision. It has appeared in the literature of various Christian groups.

(Hat tip: David B., Aquarius, and Nicholas.)





Contemporary stylized drawing of Mohammed.



This reproduction is a bit small, but it shows Mohammed destroying the idols at the Kaaba in Mecca. It is not a Christian illustration exactly, but rather is taken from Manly P. Hall's occult guide *The Secret Teachings of All Ages*, which incorporates ideas from many religions, Christianity (and Islam) among them.

(Hat tip: MikalM.)

Animated TV Parodies



The television cartoon *South Park* aired an episode on July 4, 2001 called *Super Best Friends*. In it, the founders of the world's great religions -- including Mohammed -- team up for super-hero action. Mohammed (seen here) is depicted repeatedly throughout the show. The entire episode can be viewed online [here](#).

(Hat tip: Dayenu and Alouette.)



Spike TV created a parody advertisement for an imaginary video game called *Holy War*, featuring religious icons battling to the death. One of the characters is Mohammed, who is shown first defeating Joseph Smith...





...and then getting beaten by Moses, who cuts off his head with the Ten Commandments. You can view a streaming video of the *Holy War* ad [at this site](#).
(Hat tip: Andrew.)

Satirical Modern Cartoons

A few contemporary cartoonists have ignored any potential threats and created satirical and/or mocking cartoons about Mohammed.



The caption to [this cartoon by Steph Bergol](#) says, in French:
Mohammed (being carried away by devils): "It is a judicial error! I am Mohammed, the prophet!"
St. Peter (with a scimitar through his chest): "Definitely: GUILTY!"
(Several other [cartoons](#) by Bergol on a similar theme can be found [here](#).)
(Hat tip: *thierry and etienne*.)



This panel is one of hundreds satirizing Mohammed in the humorous cartoon biography called *Mohammed's Believe It or Else!* by pseudonymous artist "Abdullah Aziz." (Click to see the full biography; the images there are copyrighted, so they can't be reprinted on other Web sites.)





A Dutch Web site called [Pret Met Mohammed](#) (loosely translated as "Fun With Mohammed") features a series of politically incorrect cartoons. Three of the Pret Met Mohammed cartoons are presented here; click on the link above for a few more and for English translations of the Dutch word balloons.

Mohammed diende officieel een klacht in na het WK hoofdenhakken te Mekka...



PRET MET MOHAMMED !

PRET MET MOHAMMED

Onthou vooral dat de hel hoofdzakelijk bevolkt is met slechte vrouwen zonder burkha..

Zochten ze verkoeling?

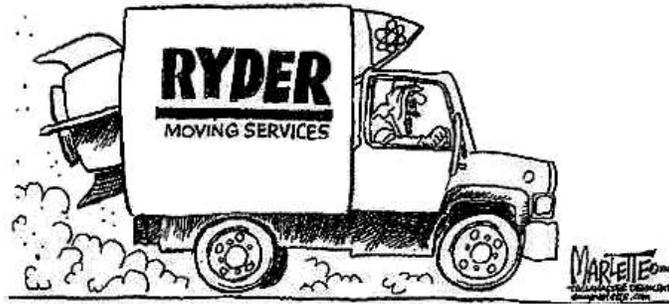




In 1997, an Israeli woman named [Tatiana Soskin](#) drew this caricature of Mohammed as a pig authoring the Koran and tried to display it in public in the city of Hebron. She was arrested, tried and sentenced to jail.

(Hat tip: [helloworld.](#))

What Would Mohammed Drive?



In 2002, political cartoonist Doug Marlette published this drawing of Mohammed driving a truck with a nuclear bomb.

(Hat tip: [Thomas G.](#))



In 2002, the French publication *Charlie Hebdo* ran this panel by cartoonist Cabu. The sign translates as "Election of Miss Sack-of-Potatoes, organized by Mohammed," who says "I choose the Beauty of Fontenay!" while drinking and smoking. His words contain a French pun: "Belle-de-Fontenay" is a well-known type of French potato, originally from the Parisian suburb of Fontenay-sous-Bois which later saw unrest from Muslim immigrants during the riots of 2005.

(Hat tip: [etienne](#), [karmic inquisitor](#), and [haoyuep.](#))





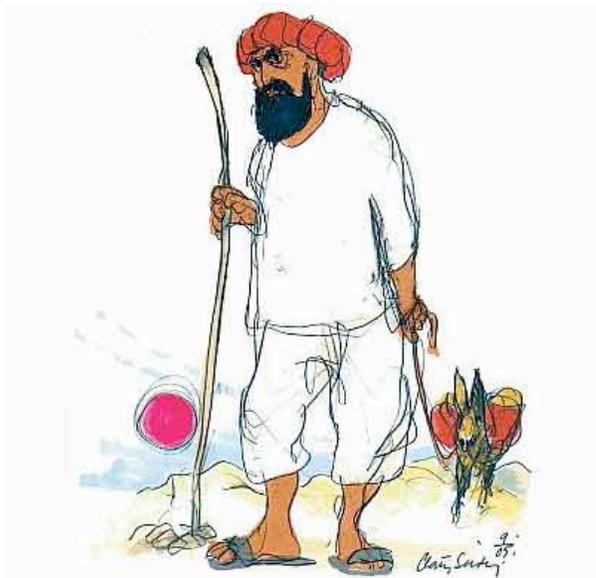
In 1973, French cartoonist Marcel Gotlib published a booklet entitled "Gods' Club" that featured not Mohammed but Allah (seen here second from the right, with a turban) along with the deities of several other cultures.

(Hat tip: Erik.)

The Jyllands-Posten Cartoons

The Danish newspaper *Jyllands-Posten* created the furor over depictions of Mohammed by publishing a series of 12 drawings after a local author said he was unable to find any artist willing to depict Mohammed for his upcoming illustrated book. The publication of the images in *Jyllands-Posten* has been condemned around the Islamic world, and has led to calls for a boycott of Denmark by Muslim nations.

Here are the *Jyllands-Posten* drawings, for the record:



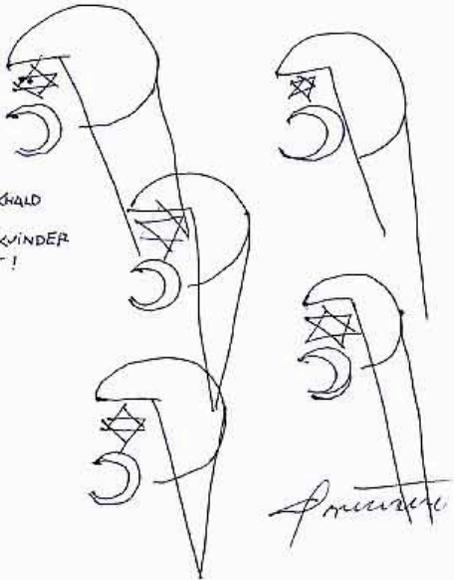


On the blackboard it says in Persian with Arabic letters that 'Jyllands-Posten's journalists are a bunch of reactionary provocateurs'





PROFET!
 MED KUK OG KHALD
 I LÅGET
 SOM HOLDER KVINDER
 UNDER LÅGET!



- ROLIG, VENER, NÅR ALT KOMMER TIL ALT ER DET JO BARE EN
 TEGNING LAVET AF EN VANTRØ SONDERDYDE...
 Relax folks it is just a sketch made by a Dane
 from the south-west Denmark.





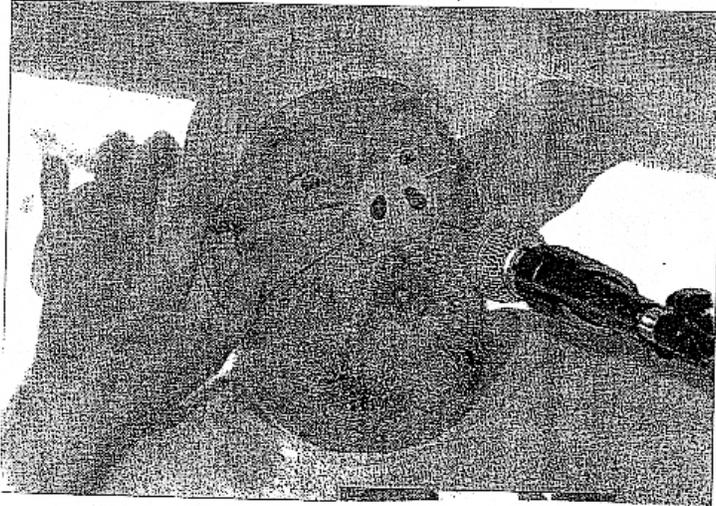
Higher-resolution jpegs of each individual cartoon can be found [here](#) (scroll down the page).



This is what the original *Jyllands-Posten* page looked like. Notice that there were only 12 cartoons. (Hat tip: Joanna.)

Yet when a delegation of Danish imams went to the Middle East to "discuss" the issue of the cartoons with senior officials and prominent Islamic scholars, the imams openly distributed a booklet that showed 15 images -- not only the original 12 cartoons, but three fraudulent anti-Mohammed depictions that were much more offensive than the ones published in Denmark. It is now thought that these three bonus images are what ignited the outrage in the Muslim world. The newspaper Ekstra Bladet obtained a copy of the booklet and presented the three offensive images on its Web site (though not in an easy-to-find place). All look like low-quality photocopies. Here they are:
(Hat tip: Gerry, Martin H., and rfs.)

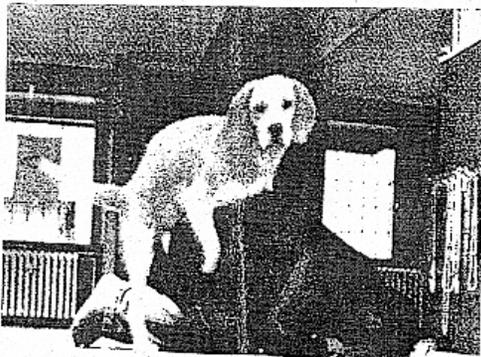
HER ER DET RIGTIGE BILLEDE AF
MUHAMMED



هذه الصورة الحقيقية لمحمد

Mohammed with a pig snout, singing into a microphone. (Link to original source file at Ekstra Bladet is temporarily overloaded.)

DERFOR BEDER MUSLIMER



لأن هذا يمسى المسلمون

The caption says in Arabic, "This is why Muslims pray." (Link to original source file at Ekstra Bladet is temporarily overloaded.)
(Hat tip: Daniel and Ken.)

DEN PÆDOFILE
"PROFET" هذا النبي

MUHAMMED

محمد الزبي
بفتحة القاصريه



A sketch of Mohammed as a demonic pedophile. (Link to original source file at *Ekstra Bladet* is temporarily overloaded.)



The entire controversy started when Danish author Kåre Bluitgen complained that he could not find an artist brave enough to illustrate his upcoming book about Mohammed. The newspaper *Jyllands-Posten* issued a call for submissions from any artists willing to take up the challenge. In the ensuing brouhaha, the original book was almost forgotten; it has now been released, and does feature page after page of Mohammed depictions. [This site](#) features scans of several of the pages (*hat tip: Rune, Kim and Mikkel*). This image above, taken from the book (titled *Koranen og profeten Muhammeds liv*, or *The Koran and the life of the prophet Mohammed* in English), apparently shows Mohammed with his child-bride Aisha. [This Danish blog](#) also has some information about the release of the book.

Recent Responses to the Controversy



Filibuster cartoons features a new comic that really hits the nail on the head.
(Hat tip: [Ole and Benjamin.](#))

Several artists (both professional and amateur) have created their own responses to the controversy over the Danish cartoons. Many of the artists expressed their mockery of and disdain for the Muslim world's violent reaction with new Mohammed depictions that are intentionally disrespectful and/or obscene, to make a point about freedom of speech. If you are easily offended, you might want to stop reading here.



Steve D., the proprietor of [this blog](#), fashioned his own statement about the controversy by Photoshopping one of the *Jyllands-Posten* drawings onto the rear end of a camel.
(Hat tip: [Rant Wraith.](#))



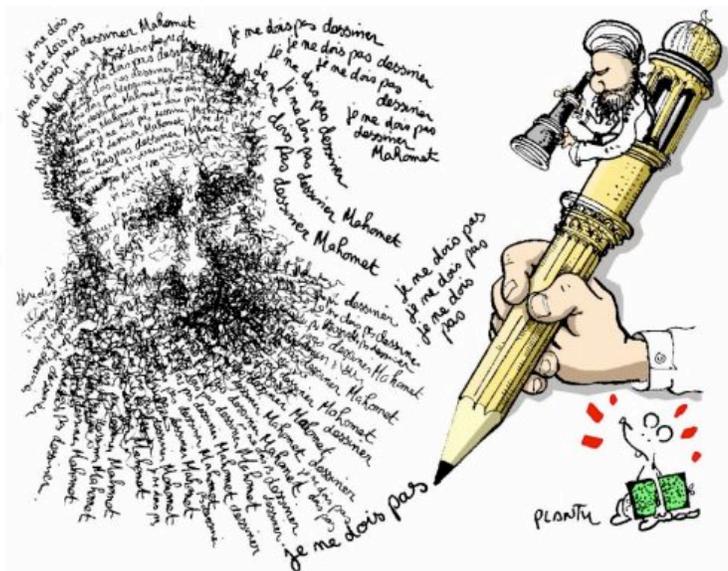
OUI, ON A LE DROIT DE caricaturer Dieu



La parution de douze dessins dans la presse danoise a provoqué l'émotion du monde musulman pour qui la représentation d'Allah et de son prophète est interdite. Mais parce que nul dogme religieux ne peut s'imposer à une société démocratique et laïque, France Soir publie les caricatures incriminées

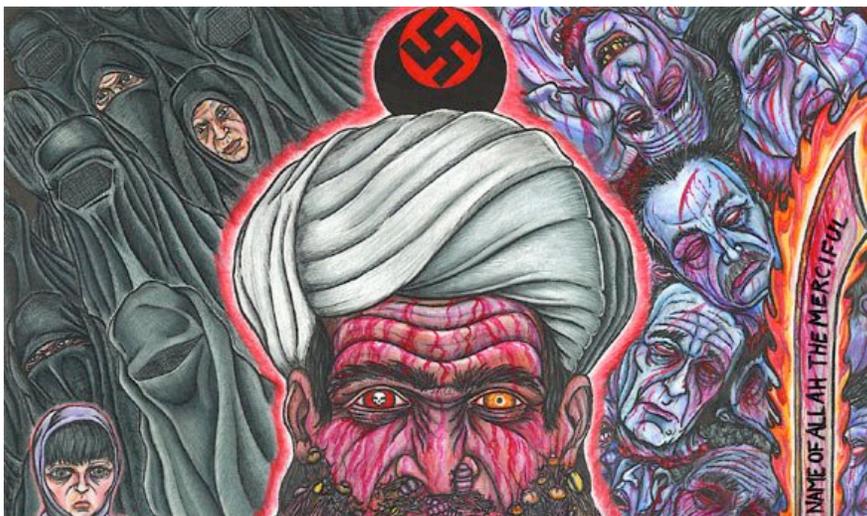
On February 1, *France Soir* newspaper published this cartoon on its cover, caricaturing Mohammed equally with other religious figures. The artist Delize drew [another similar cartoon](#) as well.

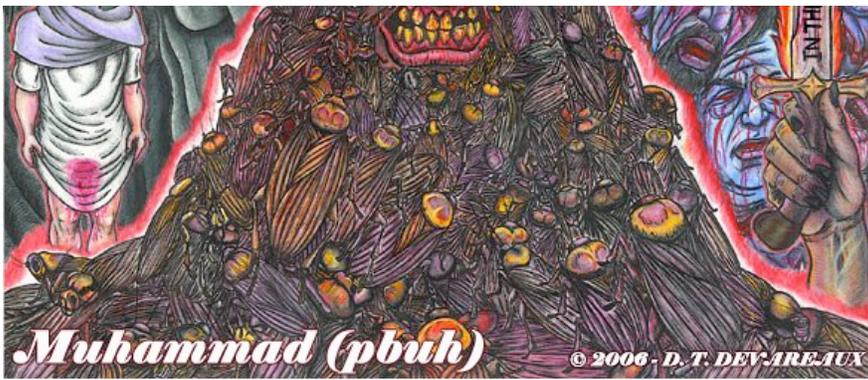
(Hat tip: [Gathers and etienne.](#))



On February 3, *Le Monde* newspaper published this cartoon by artist Plantu on its front page -- a drawing of Mohammed composed of sentences that say "Je ne dois pas dessiner Mahomet," or "I should not draw Mohammed."

(Hat tip: [John](#), [Erik](#), and [Breteuil.](#))



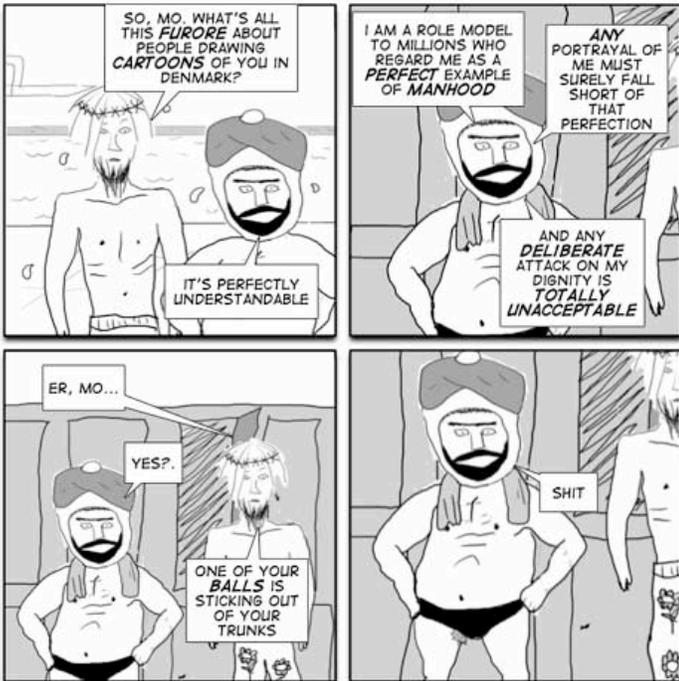


The Study of Revenge blog featured this uncompromising image by D. T. Devareaux.
(Hat tip: JHW.)

CRYBABY MUHAMMAD SAYS...



The Crybaby Mohammed.
(Hat tip: Buck.)



© jesusandmo.net

The "Jesus and Mo" comic strip showed one of Mohammed's testicles.

Today's letter asks... "Dear Mohammed the Prophet, I've offered a bounty on the heads of the cartoonists who defile your image. Allah be praised! With love, Syed Munawar Hassan"

Are you stupid? Do you not read Allah's revelations at all?



In The Cattle (6:68), I said: "And when thou seest those who meddle with Our revelations, withdraw from them until they meddle with another topic."



Thank you, Mohammed.

And could you send me a copy of the cartoons? All we get down here in Hell is Ted Rall and Pat Oliphant. Man, do they suck.



Mohammed offers some Koranic wisdom about meddlesome artists in the "Mohammed the Prophet Answers Your Emails" cartoon strip.



This Czech Web site featured an artist's three responses to the controversy. This one shows Mohammed as a nude suicide bomber, with his six-year-old bride Aisha on the right.



This one shows Mohammed as a pig, apparently (?) being inspired by the Devil.





And this is a more traditional portrait.



Several postmodern satirists have highlighted the point that -- since no one really knows what Mohammed looked like -- *any image* could be said to depict him. To that end, they have captioned photos of their thumbs or rudimentary stick figures as "Mohammed." This image -- of a generic figure from the Danish toy company Lego, identified as being Mohammed -- is a good example of the [genre](#).

(Hat tip: darmin.)



MSNBC political cartoonist Daryl Cagle emphasized the point with this response to the story, which includes a stick-figure Mohammed.

If you know of any other interesting depictions of Mohammed that you think should be included on this page, email suggestions [here](#).

Media Coverage

On February 2, 2006, the BBC broadcast a televised news segment featuring pictures and information from the Mohammed Image Archive. [Click here](#) to see a short QuickTime mpeg video of the broadcast:

Reporter: "This Islamic scholar says the crucial injunction in the Koran is against mocking the Prophet, or other authorities."

Sheikh Haitham al-Haddad: "It's totally prohibited to do something that belittle the prophets of Allah, and depiction is part of belittling the prophets of Allah, from one[s] anger.

[Printed-out pages of the Mohammed Image Archive shown being placed on a table.]

Reporter: "Traditionally, Islam has frowned on any representations of living beings. But painters in Islamic countries have depicted Mohammed for centuries."

[Close-up of [this image](#) from above showing a medieval Islamic depiction of Mohammed.]

Reporter: "Despite official disapproval, portraits of the Prophet are sold to devout Muslims in Iran today."

[Close-up of [this image](#) from above showing Iranian portrait.]

Sheikh Haitham al-Haddad: "Some people have a Muslim name, and they claim that, oh, they might have Muslim parents, but they have left Islam totally."

Reporter: "But [gesturing toward Mohammed Image Archive pages] these are from, these are from medieval Persia, from the medieval Ottoman Empire, so surely they're Muslims."

Sheikh Haitham al-Haddad: "No, not necessarily. Islam is a practice. It is not just a claim. Islam is a way of life. So, we practice Islam in our daily life in every inch and each aspect. It's not just a claim and then we can do whatever we want. No."

Reporter: "So [pointing to Mohammed Image Archive pages] these pictures were wrong."

Sheikh Haitham al-Haddad: "Of course. Hundred percent wrong."

(Hat tip: bweep and Max Darkside.)

[Article about this page](#) in the February 1, 2006 edition of the *Ekstra Bladet* newspaper in Denmark.

The *Sydney Morning Herald* [links to the Mohammed Image Archive](#) at the end of this column published on February 8, 2006.

The *Times* newspaper of London has copied the information off the Mohammed Image Archive (which was not credited) in [an article entitled "Portraying prophet from Persian art to South Park,"](#) published on February 4, 2006. *The Australian* [ran the same article](#) on February 6, 2006.

(Hat tip: brenda and Michelle.)

[Wikipedia references the Mohammed Image Archive](#) (footnote 35) in its entry about the controversy.

Links

Mirror sites:

(Note: Mirror sites do not contain the latest updates to this page.)

[info2us.dk](#) (Denmark)

[jthz.com](#) (Germany)

[Beth](#)

[Outpost911](#) (USA)

[Nordish.net](#)

[Aaron's cc](#)

[Retecool](#) (Netherlands)

[evtek.fi](#) (Finland)

[Anti-Semitic cartoons from contemporary Arab media.](#)

[Major anti-Semitic motifs in Arab cartoons.](#)

In the February 3, 2006 *Der Spiegel*, Ibn Warraq makes a powerful argument for freedom of speech.

[Mo Parody's Mohammed Pics page](#) has several Mohammed images not included here.

Prescient monologue about Muslim oppression of free speech from Beaumarchais' play *The Marriage of Figaro*, from 1784.

[A Memo to the Saudi Royal Press Secretary from the Religious Policeman](#) features The Mohammed Image Archive.

The Chester Beatty Library in Dublin has put up a display of [Mohammed images](#).

Daryl Cagle's [Web Log](#) has many interesting political cartoons about the controversy from artists around the world.

[Cox and Forkum](#) snuck a Mohammed picture into their cartoon about the controversy.

[DailyKos post](#) with links to and examples from the Mohammed Image Archive, plus discussion of the Islamic tradition of depicting Mohammed.

[Does an explosive head lead to exploding heads?](#)

[Irregular Times](#) has some [Mohammed cartoons](#) and thoughts on the situation.

[Aaron's cc: Mohammed's Breakfast of Blasphemy](#)

[Iraqi children with a poster that includes a picture of Mohammed at the Al-Huda squatter's camp, Baghdad.](#)

The Miraculous Journey of Mahomet, a book by Marie-Rose Seguy, contains many images of Mohammed throughout the ages.

[CAGE](#) has a [compilation of photos](#) showing the reaction to the publication of the cartoons.

As a point of comparison -- when these two artworks were widely published around the world, there were no riots:

[Andres Serrano's Piss Christ](#) (photo of a crucifix in a jar of urine).

[Chris Ofili's "The Holy Virgin Mary"](#) (made from paint and elephant dung).

*****Warning***: Links to Offensive Satirical Mohammed Images Below**

Mohammed Satire Collections

[DrawMohammed.com](#) has dozens of outrageous Mohammed parodies.

[Retecool's Mohammed Photoshop contest](#) (though not all the entries use actual depictions of Mohammed).

[The Infidel Bloggers Alliance Mohammed Cartoon Contest](#)

[Mohammed's buttocks.](#)

[Three-way.](#)

[Four-way.](#)

[Piggy Mohammed.](#)

[Gregorius Nekschot's notorious cartoon](#) of "Mohammed" deflowering "Aisha" -- both depicted as middle-aged Russian peasants.

["Unfortunately for God and Allah, Ganesh exists as well."](#)

[Mohammed as Hitler.](#)

[Mohammed and his porcine friend.](#)

[Seed of Mohammed.](#)

(Click here to return to the main [zombietime page](#).)