From Jesus to the caliphs:

Waiting for the Messiah, ruling in the name of the Messiah, being the Messiah

Odon Lafontaine

THE GREAT SECRET OF ISLAM

Scholars unveil the hidden history of Islam
Arab leaders claim “messianist powers”
What does “muhammad” mean?

- According to the Standard Islamic Narrative: the “praised one”
- According to the linguists: the “desired one”, the “coveted one”, the “beloved one”

ish-hamudot: Hebrew equivalent to Arabic mu-hamad

- The meaning of the Arabic HMD root drifted from “Desire” to “Praise” due to the invention of the ahmad-Paraclet forgery by the Standard Islamic Narrative and its interpolation of ahmad in Q61:6 in order to fit the Islamic understanding of the Greek gospel of John: Paraclet → periklutos (“renowned”), instead of parakletos (“the one who speaks for another”)

See E.-M. Gallez, “References to muhammad in the Quran: History of a Research”, in Inârah 10, Die Entstehung einer Weltreligion VI, Schiller & Mücke, 2020

Daniel 10:11
The Arab leaders claim Jesus’ “messianic powers”

Historical

Muhammad(s)

*mu-hamad* (Arabic)

*ish-hamudot* (Hebrew)

"The man of predilections, he who is coveted"

(Dan 9:23; 10:11; 10:19)

The new Daniel, the forerunner,

the precursor who announces the coming of the Messiah (the Messiah himself ?)
Arab leaders as the empires’ auxiliaries
Some Byzantine empire patterns

Follis (fals, νοῦμος) - Justinian I (527 – 565)

Solidus - Heraclius (610-641)

Solidus – Justinian II (1st reign 692–695)
Christian coin minted between 640 and 660 by the Arab power in the Levant, a copy of Byzantine fals

(cf. Clive Foss, "Coins of two realms", In Aramco World 66, n°3)
The Arab leaders claim Jesus’ "messianic powers"

Construction of the Third Temple in Jerusalem

Umar
al-faruq
The savior, the redeemer

Historical Muhammad(s)
mu-hamad (Arabic)
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Ali & Alids
"Jesus speaks through my mouth".

Shiite Imams
"The revelation continues through me"

www.thegreatsecretofislam.com
Fals minted in Syria between 644 and 656 “during the reign of Uthman ibn Affan”, a copy of Byzantine fals

Fals minted in Syria between 644 and 656 “during the reign of Uthman ibn Affan”, a copy of a Byzantine fals

Sassanid empire drachma pattern

Sasanian Silver Drachma, 7th cent.
Obverse: effigy of Khosrow II (590-628) facing right wearing a crown
Reverse: fire altar between attendants [Odon Lafontaine’s private collection]
Zoroastrian symbolism: fire altar with two attendants (priests?) ; star & crescent
On the obverse, mention of the emperor Yazdgard III (in Pahlavi) and his effigy copied from that of Khosrow II; Zoroastrian symbolism on the reverse

Silver Drachma minted by an Arab governor in Persia (651/661), probably affiliated to Uthman

See also David Collection, Denmark - https://www.davidmus.dk/en/collections/islamic/dynasties/umayyads/coins/c1
Arab leaders make new claims to justify their power
On the obverse, mention of the emperor Yazdgard III (in Pahlavi) and his effigy copied from that of Khosrow II; on the reverse, Zoroastrian symbolism.

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*bsm llh*: “in the name of God”

See also David Collection, Denmark - https://www.davidmus.dk/en/collections/islamic/dynasties/umayyads/coins/c1
• Byzantine empire pattern
• Byzantine emperor figure
• Christian symbols

Umayyad fals (copper coin, 661-684)

David Collection, Denmark - https://www.davidmus.dk/en/collections/islamic/dynasties/umayyads/coins/c4
The text is introduced by a Christian cross and refers to Muawiya as ΑΒΔΑΛΛΑ ('abdalla') and ΑΜΗΡΑΑΛΜΥΜΕΝΗΝ ('ameraalmoumehene'), direct transliterations into the Greek alphabet of the Arabic expressions *abd allah* and *amir al-mu'minin*, "servant of God" and "commander of the believers".
Muawiya, Commander of the Believers" [Persian script, in orange].

*bsm llh*: "in the name of God" [Arabic script in red].

Arabic inscriptions commemorating the construction of a dam at Taif (678) by Muawiya, mentioning him as a **servant of God** and **commander of the believers**

https://www.islamic-awareness.org/history/islam/inscriptions/muwinsc1.html
Umayyad gold solidus (probably 678) minted by Muawiya

Obverse (front side): dechristianised imitation of a gold solidus of Byzantine Emperor Heraclius, standing figures of Heraclius, Heraclius Constantine and Heraclonas
Note: the three figures are devoid of Christian symbolism (no crosses!)

Reverse: a staff with a bar (tau cross?) replacing the Byzantine cross, and imitation of Byzantine wordage (CONOB., meaning Constantinople, as the conventional (fake) mint name)

The Arab leaders claim Jesus’ ”messianic powers”

Construction of the Third Temple in Jerusalem

**Coins with Christian & Zoroastrian symbolics & Byzantine and Persian empire patterns**

**UMAR**
* al-faruq
  - The savior, the redeemer

**UTHMAN**
* bism allah
  - In the name of God
  - Intermediary between God and men

**MUAWIYA**
* abd allah: "servant of God"
* amir al-mu'minin: "commander of the believers"

**ALI & ALIDS**
* "Jesus speaks through my mouth".

**Historical Muhammad(s)**
* mu-hamad (Arabic)
  - ish-hamudot (Hebrew)
  - "The man of predilections, he who is coveted"  
    (Dan 9:23; 10:11; 10:19)

**The new Daniel, the forerunner, the precursor who announces the coming of the Messiah** (the Messiah himself ?)

**SHIITE IMAMS**
* "The revelation continues through me"
Ghassanid Arab coin (Banu Nu'man) with Christian crosses and the inscription MHMD (Muhammad)
Copy of a Byzantine coin dated between 679 and 691
The Arab leaders claim Jesus’ "messianic powers"

**Construction of the Third Temple in Jerusalem**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Muhammad(s)</th>
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<th>ish-hamudot (Hebrew)</th>
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**The new Daniel, the forerunner, the precursor who announces the coming of the Messiah** (the Messiah himself?)

**Historical**

- UMAR al-faruq: The savior, the redeemer
- UTHMAN bism allah: In the name of God
- MUAWIYA : "servant of God" amir al-mu'minin: "commander of the believers"
- GHASSANIDS: muhammad: a new precursor? Jesus?

**In the name of God**

- Intermediaries between God and men
- Intermediaries between God and men

**www.thegreatsecretofislam.com**
Coin minted by Abd Allah ibn al-Zubayr (686 or 687, minted in Bishapur), still mimicking the Sassanid-Persian pattern (effigy of Khosrow II on the obverse, Zoroastrian fire-worship symbolism on the reverse); on the obverse, on the right, it is inscribed *bsm llh* ("in the name of God") and on the left *mhmd rsl llh*: “may the one sent by God be desired”

[https://www.sixbid-coin-archive.com/#/de/single/l29977613](https://www.sixbid-coin-archive.com/#/de/single/l29977613) (attributed to Abd al-Malik ibn Abd Allah, a “Zubayrid”, who was Abd Allah Ibn al-Zubayr’s brother-in-law)
What does “muhammad rasul allah” mean?

• According to the Standard Islamic Narrative: 
  the “praised one” (Muhammad) is God’s apostle

• According to linguistics and history: 
  may the one sent by God be desired / coveted / loved (worshipped?)

• Is there a link with the Biblical messianic acclamations?
  - Ps 118, v26: "Blessed is he who comes in the name of God"
  - Jesus' entry into Jerusalem: "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord" (Mt 21:9); "Hosanna ["save us", "God saves"]! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord" (Mk 11:9); "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord" (Lk 19:38); "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel" (Jn 12:12)
  - "For I tell you, you will not see me from now on until you say: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord" (Mt 23:39)

• Who is sent by God? The Messiah or the Arab leader? Is the Arab leader pretending to be a new Messiah, an equivalent to Jesus?
The Arab leaders claim Jesus’ ”messianic powers”

**Construction of the Third Temple in Jerusalem**

**Coins with Christian & Zoroastrian symbolics & Byzantine and Persian empire patterns**

**Umar al-faruq**
*The savior, the redeemer*

**Uthman bism allah**
*In the name of God*

**Muawiya**
*abd allah: "servant of God"
amir al-mu'minin: "commander of the believers"
*Intermediary between God and men*

**Ghassanids**
*Muhammad: a new precursor? Jesus?*

**Abdallah ibn Al-Zubayr**
*Muhammad rasul allah: "may the one sent by God be desired"*
*Messianic acclamation for God’s envoy*

**Muhammad(s)**
*mu-hamad (Arabic)*
*ish-hamudot* (Hebrew)*"
The man of predilections, he who is coveted"
*(Dan 9:23; 10:11; 10:19)*

**Ali & Alids**
*"Jesus speaks through my mouth".*

**Shiite Imams**
*"The revelation continues through me"*

**www.thegreatsecretofislam.com**
Umayyad fals minted by Abd al-Malik (690-696)

- Byzantine empire pattern
- Byzantine emperor figure replaced by Abd al Malik
- No more Christian symbols

li-'abd allah 'abd al-malik amir al-mu'minin
"For the servant of God, Abd al-Malik, commander of the Believers"

bism allah la ilah illa allah wahdahu muhammad rasul allah
"In the name of God. There is no god but God, may the one sent by God be desired".

David Collection, Denmark - https://www.davidmus.dk/en/collections/islamic/dynasties/umayyads/coins/c363
"We ask you, O God (...) to bless the Muhammad [the coveted one, the desired one], your servant, your prophet, and to accept his intercession with you for his people"

"Muhammad is the servant of God and His messenger [May the servant of God and his envoy be desired], whom He sent with the guidance and the religion of truth, that He may make it conqueror of all religion"
Umayyad gold dinar (692) minted by Abd al-Malik

Obverse (front side): Abd al Malik tries to pay tribute to Justinian II (669-711 AD) using this (mocking?) copy of a byzantine gold coin picturing Justinian & his two sons (and then they went to war).
Note: the three figures are devoid of Christian symbolism (no crosses!)

A staff with a globe replacing the Byzantine cross, and inscribed: *bism allah la ilah illa allah wahdahu muhammad rasul allah* / "In the name of God. There is no god but one God, may the one sent by God be desired"

[Bates, Walker, Miles, Foss & Islamic Awareness]
Umayyad gold dinar (694-695) minted by Abd al-Malik

- Byzantine empire pattern
- Byzantine emperor figure replaced by Abd al-Malik
- No more Christian symbols

bism allah la ilah illa allah wahdahu muhammad rasul allah
"In the name of God. There is no god but one God, may the one sent by God be desired"

bism allah duriba hadha'l dinar sana khamas wa sab`in
"In the name of God. This dinar was minted in the year 75"
A new power has arisen: the caliphate
bism allah la ilah illa allah wahdahu muhammad rasul allah
"In the name of God. There is no god but God unique, may the one sent by God be desired"

amir al muminin / “Commander of the Believers"
khalifat allah / "Lieutenant of God [Caliph]"

- Persian empire pattern
- Persian emperor figure & Abd al-Malik
- Zoroastrian symbols

Umayyad drachma (694-695)

694-695


www.thegreatsecretofislam.com
Umayyad drachma (694-695)

- Persian empire pattern
- Persian emperor figure holding a sheathed sword
- Zoroastrian symbols

bism allah la ilah illa allah wahdahu muhammad rasul allah
"In the name of God. There is no god but God unique, may the one sent by God be desired"

amir al muminin / "Commander of the Believers"
khalifat allah / "Lieutenant of God [Caliph]"

nasr allah: “God’s help”

Q110,1 When the help of God comes, and the victory
Q110,2 and you see the people entering into the religion of God in crowds,
Q110,3 glorify your Lord with praise, and ask forgiveness from Him. Surely, He turns (in forgiveness).

www.thegreatsecretofislam.com
• Byzantine empire pattern
• Byzantine emperor figure replaced by Abd al Malik
• No more Christian symbols

“khalifat Allah” Umayyad fals minted by Abd al-Malik

amir al muminin
khalifat allah
Commander of the Believers" / "Lieutenant of God [Caliph]”

https://www.numisbids.com/n.php?p=lot&sid=1510&lot=122
https://www.thegreatsecretofislam.com
Umayyad dinar minted by Abd al-Malik (697-698)

- No more Byzantine or Persian pattern
- Islamic (or pre-Islamic) symbols

Centre
la ilah illa
"no divinity other than..."
allah wahdahu
"... God unique"
la sharik lahu
"He has no partner"

In margin
Muhammad rasul allah arsalahu bi’il-huda wa din al-haq li-yuzhirahu ‘ala al-din kullih:
"May the Messenger of God be desired who sent him with guidance and the religion of truth so that it may triumph over all other religions" (cf. Q9:33 & Dome of the Rock)

Centre
allah ahad allah
"God is one. God..."
al-samad lam yalid
"...is eternal, he has not begotten...
wla lam yulad
"...nor was it begotten"
(cf. Q112,1-3 & Dome of the Rock)

In margin
bism allah duriba hadha'l-dinar fi sana thaman wa sab’in /
"In the name of God, this dinar was minted in the year 78 [697-698]."
"O God bless the Muhammad and accept his intercession in his community (*). And have mercy on us in the Hereafter as you have mercy on us in this world. And Bakr bin Abi Bakra Al-Aslami wrote at the end of the year 80."

(*: invocation similar to the inner inscription of the Dome of the Rock "Bless the muḥammad, your servant, your envoy, and accept his intercession in his community")
Identification with the Messiah as a \textit{muhammad} and as God's envoy

\textbf{The Arab leaders claim Jesus' "messianic powers"}

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textbf{Construction of the Third Temple in Jerusalem}
  \item \textbf{Construction of the Dome of the Rock}
  \item \textbf{In the name of God}
  \item \textbf{Intermediaries between God and men}
  \item \textbf{Caliphs of God}
\end{itemize}
The standing caliph statue from Khirbat al-Mafjar

- Statue found in the Khirbat al Mafjar palace (north of the Dead Sea), built by Walid II ibn Yazid (744 - †745)
- The statue would have been sculpted under the reign of his predecessor and uncle, Hisham ibn Abd al Malik (724 - †743)
- Reminiscent of the Abd al-Malik coins
- Whereas Walid II coins abided by Abd al Malik “Islamic” coinage reformation
The Arab leaders claim Jesus’ “messianic powers”

Coins with Christian & Zoroastrian symbolics & Byzantine and Persian empire patterns

Construction of the Third Temple in Jerusalem

Construction of the Dome of the Rock

MUWAYYADS
Successors of the muhammad
(Abd al-Malik)

UMAYYADS
Successors of the muhammad

ABD AL-MALIK
khalifat allah: caliph of God

GHASSANIDS
muhammad: a new precursor? Jesus?

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Coins with pre-Islamic / Islamic symbolism

Intermediaries between God and men

In the name of God

Messianic acclamation for God’s envoy

ABD AL-MALIK
khalifat allah: caliph of God

MUWAYYADS
Successors of the muhammad

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The new Daniel, the forerunner, the precursor who announces the coming of the Messiah (the Messiah himself?)

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The Abbasid revolution
The Arab leaders claim Jesus’ "messianic powers" and create Islam

**Coins with Christian & Zoroastrian symbolics & Byzantine and Persian empire patterns**

**Coins with pre-Islamic / Islamic symbolism**

**Construction of the Third Temple in Jerusalem**

**Coins with pre-Islamic / Islamic symbolism**

**Construction of the Dome of the Rock**

**ABD AL-MALIK**

**khalifat allah**:

- caliph of God

**ABDALLAH IBN AL-ZUBAYR**

**muhammad rasul allah**: "may the one sent by God be desired"

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**SHIITE IMAMS**

"The revelation continues through me"

- **www.thegreatsecretofislam.com**

**Construction of the Third Temple in Jerusalem**

**In the name of God**

**Intermediaries between God and men**

**SHIITE IMAMS**

"The revelation continues through me"

**In the name of God**

**Successors of Muhammad**

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**Construction of the Third Temple in Jerusalem**

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**SHIITE IMAMS**

"The revelation continues through me"
Islam emerged from a long political and religious process, deeply rooted in some Jewish (Nazarene-Jewish) and ex-Christian apocalyptical expectations: there was a plan to trigger the end of times, have Jesus come back, and have him establish God’s political reign on earth.

The plan failed and Jesus did not come back; the Arab rulers kept on waiting on his return as they gradually took on his clothes as the Messiah to inaugurate the new messianic times. By claiming to establish God’s political reign on earth, they in fact no longer needed Jesus, and found other justifications for their power by inventing the Islamic revelation, and thus the prophetism of Muhammad. The caliphs, starting from Abd al-Malik, slowly replaced Jesus.

The figure of the "eschatological Jesus", the Jesus of the end of time, has thus been postponed by the Islamic narrative to another end of time. It could not be completely removed because of the sociocultural collective memory (cf. the eschatological traditions which still transmit the former expectation of Jesus’ imminent descent in the 7th century).

Furthermore, Jesus' return has been used by the Standard Islamic Narrative as a “reinforcement” of Islam’s main hope and goal: should the Muslims fail to establish God’s political reign on earth by themselves, they can rest assured they will achieve it anyway at the end of times, when Jesus himself will come back, take command of the Muslim armies (with the Mahdi), conquer the world, slay the Antichrist (al-Masih ad-Dajjal), and be the judges of all mankind. Deep inside, Muhammad’s religion is actually (and still) Jesus’ religion.