

The Life Of **Muhammad**

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jtkoch@pbs.org pbsinternational.org "An excellent primer"—The Telegraph

From the director/producer of the acclaimed Seven Wonders of the Muslim World, The Life of Muhammad charts the extraordinary story of a man who, in little more than 20 years, changed the world forever. In a journey that is both literal and historical, host Rageh Omaar travels to the place of Muhammad's birth to retrace the actual footsteps of the Prophet, from his humble beginnings in Mecca to his struggles with accepting his Prophetic role; from his flight to Medina and the founding of the first Islamic constitution to his subsequent military and political successes and failures—through to his death and his legacy.

Episode One: The Seeker

Drawing on the expertise of some of the world's leading academics and commentators on Islam, the program examines Muhammad's birth and early life, his first marriage to Khadijah at the age of 25, and how he received the first of the revelations that so profoundly affected both his life and the lives of those closest to him.

Episode Two: Holy Wars

Omaar shines a light on key events in Muhammad's life, including the Night Journey to Jerusalem—one of the holiest cities in Islam, his escape from Mecca, the establishment of the Constitution of Medina that recognizes the rights of all people (Jews, Christians and pagan tribes) living in that city, and the eight-year war with the Meccan tribes, which some claim has led to the historic enmity between Muslim and Jewish people, while others that it is the creation of Israel and modern politics.

Episode 3: Holy Peace

This episode focuses on key events during the later part of the Prophet's life, including the introduction of a moral code known as Sharia and the concept of Jihad. Although Muhammad pardons all his enemies and declares an amnesty at the time of his greatest triumph, he and Islam are seen today as being violent and aggressive. Holy Peace examines how Muhammad dealt with this issue during his lifetime. The program also explores Muhammad's use of marriage to build alliances, and looks at the key messages included in his final sermon.

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credits

Director: Faris Kermani Producer: Faris Kermani

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