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## The Comparison Life of “Prophet Zakariya (A.S) in the Bible and the Quran

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### **Abstract:**

The life of Hazarat Zakariya (A.S) is discussed in both the Bible and the Quran. In the Bible, he is described as a righteous priest who prayed to God to grant him a child. He was then given the news that he would have a son and that the son would be a sign of God's favor. This was fulfilled when he had a son named John (Yahya in Arabic). In the Quran, Hazarat Zakariya (A.S) is described as a Prophet of God and an important figure in the Muslim faith. He is known for being very devoted to God and for being a righteous man. He is also known for his miracles, including being able to speak to God and being able to bring a dead body back to life. In the Quran, he is also described as being a model of faithfulness and piety for all Muslims. Overall, both the Bible and the Quran provide important information about the life of Hazarat Zakariya (A.S). Although there may be some differences in the details of his life and the miracle stories, both provide important insights into the life of this important figure in both Christian and Islamic faith.

**Keywords:** Bible, Quran, Philosophy, Discussion

### **PROPHET ZAKARIYA (A.S)**

Allah mentions many prophets by name in the Quran. And from the Ahadith, we come to know that Allah sent prophets to various nations and tribes of the past to guide them. One of them with a very compelling story in the Quran is Prophet Zakariya (AS).

“And Zakariya and Yahya and Issa and Ilyas – and all were of the righteous.” (Quran 6:85)

Prophet Zakariya (AS) was one of the profits from the Bani Israel. As we already know, Allah sent many prophets to this nation, and he was among them. He was one of Prophet Suleiman's (AS) descendants. He made his living as a carpenter. Furthermore, he was a very righteous person. He was in charge of a temple, and there, he prayed to Allah and worshiped Him as a true believer.

Prophet Zakariya (AS) was a very kind man and always remained thankful towards Allah. He lived a life of simplicity and was not at all profligate in his lifestyle. The people around him lacked the strong belief that he had. Rather than obey Allah and do the things what Allah commands them to do, they followed their own urges. Hence, they would commit all sorts of sinful deeds. As a result, they were deviating from the strong path that Zakariya (AS) was on. He was worried about what would happen, and he anxiously tried to make the people return to the straight path by preaching to them.

### **Prophet Zakariya (A.S) in holy Bible:**

In the study of Holy Bible, the Prophet Zakariya (A.S) was a young man, who was sent to Jerusalem to encourage the construction of Haikal. The meaning of his name was, the one who is remembered when the House of Worship is seen destructed. He was admired over his skills and his passion to construct the Haikal. He was very concentrated and hardworking in his duty and told the people of his time that he will continue working until the construction of House of God is not completed. He use to take interest in the building of other people's houses as well not only the Haikal. He had good knowledge about the God and the prophets who was sent before him.

### **Birth and Full Name:**

The name of Prophet Zakariya (A.S) in English is 'Zacharah'. He was from the tribe named 'Laavi' and was a successor of Prophet Haroon (A.S). He was a priest by profession and it was a blessing over the family of Prophet Haroon (A.S) that every kid of his family got the position of priest. The most important position in Haikal after the Chief Priest, was the one who use to burn the Bakhor. And this opportunity came into the life of priests very rarely. The name Zakariya was very famous all around at that time and many people were named with the name Zakariya. A rare guess was that in the era of Atique the number of people with the name; Zakariya were 30. But the number of people with the same name discussed in Holy Bible are 25. The meaning of the name Zakariya is 'the one who is remembered, remembrance or sometimes the meanings are the one who is remembered by God'.

That is why Prophet Zakariya (A.S) is often called as the 'Prophet of Hope and Blessing'. The name of the father of Prophet Zakariya (A.S) is Barkiyah. And the name of his grandfather is Addu. So, he is also called as Zakariya bin Barkiyah bin Addu. And in some places the name of the father of the Zakariya (A.S) is written as 'Addu'. And in other place it is also written as that, the name of the father of Prophet Zakariya was 'Barkiyah' but he died early and therefore he was raised by his grandfather Addu. Some people have quoted that the Barkiyah was the biological father of the Prophet Zakariya (A.S) and the spiritual father of the Prophet Zakariya (A.S) was Addu. The meaning of name of Prophet Zakariya (A.S) is 'the one who is remembered and the meaning of the name of his father Barkiyah is 'the one who is blessed' and the meaning of the name of his grandfather Addu is of 'the specific time'. So Prophet Zakariya (A.S) use to encourage his people by telling them that the God blesses and remembers everyone on specific time.

### **Marriage and Children:**

The name of Prophet Zakariya (A.S)'s wife was 'Eeshba' and she was also from the successors of Prophet Haroon (A.S) and they both spouses were followers of God's commandments and were true preacher of God. They didn't had any children because Eeshba had problem of infertility and both were so aged. When they were priests, according to the customs of Haikal there was lucky draw and the one who wins, gets a chance to burn the incense in the Haikal, and it was considered was a very blessed and important job to do. So they won and got chance, and when they were burning it up before dawn, an angel was standing there and when he saw he got scared.

And the Angel Gabriel, gave the good news to the Prophet Zakariya that, they are going to have a baby boy. And Prophet Zakariya was not ready to accept this because he knew about the situation of his wife and about their age as well. Even when their child was born, eight days after baby's birth, Prophet Zakariya was unable to talk and he was all silent. And on the eighth day when the name of the baby was decided then Prophet Zakariya started talking and prayed and thanked God for this blessing.

### **Prophecy:**

There was very hustle bustle and quite rush in the Jerusalem when Prophet Zakariya declared his prophecy. The second message have created a hiatus over the people and they started thinking over it and thought about it. They were the followers of the priests and Zakariya and his predecessors all were priests and this was a little pause of thinking for the people. The major part of his book contained the information about the construction and holiness of the Haikal. A brief context of the book was;

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Forgiveness

The dreams of Night

The crown ship of Yashu

Fast

### **The Shepherd King**

The hajji has given a very courageous message and Prophet Zakariya warned his people about the previous people who disobeyed their prophets and God. He taught that, to have God's help and assistance with you, you have to change your heart and mindset first.

### **Second Prophecy:**

The second prophecy of the Prophet Zakariya (A.S) was about the dreams of night. The Excellency of the prophet is all about his stories and problems faced by his people, and God help and assist the Holy Prophets. The every dream was about the future and a great attention and concentration was required to understand that. Like the dream was about, there came four horse riders and they patrol all around and then afterwards came and told, that there is peace everywhere.

The God's order about the Jerusalem was very clear that the regulation of Haikal will happen. And then about dreams; four carpenter came to the dream and they got four horns and they broke all four of them, those horns representing the different tribes and their people that how they wronged the other people as well.

### **Seeing Angel:**

The Prophet Zakariya saw an angel who measuring the land and, the Jerusalem will become that much populated densely that the boundary walls will be extended. And God will be the guard to that city and all four corners and sides of this city will guarded by fire and secure blessings of God. From this city the God will unite his people and therefore every tribe will be scared of them.

A dream was about Prophet Zakariya seeing the Yashu along with clothes that the God have accepted the Jerusalem. This is how the Satan was contrived and therefore he puts fuel to the fire. The Yashu was made wear new dress, and was told that now you can represent people in front of God. The future's in the success in with in the entity, and also mentioned as the branch. People will clean out all the branches of the city in order to secure the future.

### **Construction of Haikal:**

Zarbabal have started the construction of Haikal and will also complete the construction. The God keeps a great eye over all around the world, and there are two of God's servants which are Zarbabal and Yashu. In the dream of Prophet Zakariya, four horses are seen, dispersing towards

all four corners of the world, and which shows the kingship of God alone. When Prophet Zakariya, delivered this message to his people, at that time the situation of the Jerusalem was very critical. According to the orders of Hajji the construction of Haikal was started, and five months were past. And in between this time the Tattni and the other Persian leader came to visit the situation of Jerusalem, and after their visit there. They wrote letters to different leaders, requesting to stop the construction of the Haikal.

When Prophet Zakariya's Prophecy was started, people didn't know about the orders of the Persian King of the time. And they thought that the construction of the Haikal can be paused at any time, like it was paused before. They all were relying on the final commandments of the Persian King of time. In these crucial times, the Prophet Zakariya continued teaching his people about God's help and blessing over them. That the Jerusalem will rise again and the tribes who irritate the Jerusalem will be devastated by God and the wall of the Jerusalem will extend before its actual length. It will be blessed and there will be abundance of every resource by the grace of God. And after that it was made sure that the God's special assistance is with the Zarbabal and the construction of the Haikal will be completed by the will of the God.

Prophet Zakariya made a crown of Gold and Silver, took three Jewish men with him and gifted that crown to the Yashu. And Yashu was authorized to choose the 'Shaakh' who will complete the construction of the Haikal. And will be assisted by the tribes and leaders of many areas. And the upcoming leader will be the King and the Chief Priest of the state both at once. Prophet Zakariya wrote the first eight chapters of his prophecy when he was at the age of thirty years old and wrote the last six chapters of his prophecy when he was seventy years old. Zakariya was the member of that great worship place where the books of the era of Atique were saved. The significance of the book of the prophecy of Prophet Zakariya can be analyzed by this fact that the most predictions about the Masih are in Zakariya's book. For example.

Angel of the God.

A stone, having seven eyes.

A Gentle King.

Bow of War.

A neglected good shepherd, who was sold for thirty gold coins.

The pierced one.

The shepherd who was killed.

Upcoming writer and true king.

The book of prophecy of Prophet Zakariya is the longest book in the books of twelve Prophets. And also is a book whose excerpts are discussed

commonly. And even in modern era the excerpts of the Prophet Zakariya's book are present.

**Fast:**

The prophet was unable to see the signs like before but still had revelations from God. And wise people asked about fast from the Prophet Zakariya, that whether we continue the fasting of five months or not? And was asked from the God's will and orders from his mighty lord.

That the people use to obey the do the worship of fasting and use to pray to god after this worship. And was known after that, they people use to fast, in the fourth month which was kept in some memory of Jerusalem, second fast was kept on 5th of July in the memory of the burning the Haikal, third fast was kept on 3rd of September in the memory of the murder of Jadliyah and fourth fast was kept on 10th of December in the memory of the starting of the siege of Jerusalem.

They asked that whether shall we continue to maintain this practice of worship or not and was portrayed in such a way that it is the problem of one person only. Keeping was fast was obligatory but only not eating anything was not enough, there should be a strict view and embarrassment about the wrongful acts of the people. When someone is ill, its medication must be continued if stopped then it is not an act of wise.

The question was very important but the people who were asking the question were not sincere. They were more concerned about the customs then the reality behind it. So the first answer was in anger, "did you ever kept the fast purely for me, just me?" Keep fasts with hardships but never awake us for the prayers and don't change our attitudes. The thing which was prohibit they use to do it and which was ordered and encouraged to do so, was not done properly. Seek forgiveness from God and keep yourself on right path. This is not the new teachings but these are the teachings from your forefathers and your older parents. The state was happy but now it was all devastated and problematic. So look upon this issue, if not then your fasts are meaningless.

**Justice:**

God taught the Prophet Zakariya that the rules of justice should be taught to the people and the leaders and the kings must do justice with their people. The neighbors should take care of their neighbors.

See other people's problems and issues in a sympathetic way. Never plan something wrong for your brother. The disobedience of the forefathers of those people that, whatever they have listened and if they showed any soft corner about them. So they are like the bull who is not habitual of the rope. Like who put the neck in the rope and quickly push it back of scare. Who showed the soft corner about the religion but didn't

permanently obeyed it. Then God ordered that, you should do justice and, every man should do the matter of justice with his brother, the widows and the orphans, the travelers and the poor should never be crushed but should be taken care of.

### **Rehabilitation of Jerusalem:**

Then Rab ul Afwaaj ordered that, I'm much dishonored and my honor is threatened and I'm furious. That God said I should stay in Jerusalem and the name of Jerusalem should be called the City of Truthfulness and the mountain should be called the Holy Mountain. And the Rab ul Afwaaj said the old people of the city will sit peacefully in the streets and the young boys and the girls will play in the same streets. And this will be the shocking site for the people. And then I will free my people from western and eastern countries and I will take them back to the Jerusalem. They will stay here, truthfully and I will be their God. The god will promise and God will do mercy upon them and it is a promise of God that, God will never leave them. The streets will be again alive and the hustle bustles of the streets will again revive.

### **The Wrath on Neighbor Tribes:**

Bani Adam and especially all tribes of the Israel were looking upon the God. From the side of the God Almighty, against the state of Hadraak and Damascus the Prophecy and against Hamaat with is adjacent to them. And against Soor and Suhdaa which are very intellectual in their own mind. The Soor construction a powerful castle for himself and like soil, he arranged the silver mountains and like Giliyon Khi keech he arranged the bundles. And God Almighty will ruin their proud in the waters, Asqaloon will be scared of, the kingship of Ghaza will be ended and Asqaloon will also be perished and a stranger man will rise as a new leader of Ashdod. And I will devastate the proud of Palestinians.

### **The King of Future:**

"Oh the son of Siyon be happy, oh the daughter of Jerusalem challenge them because your king is coming and he is truthful. And he owns forgiveness, he is gentle, and he is riding on young donkey. And I will cut the horses of Jerusalem and the bow of war will be broken. And he will convey the message of peace to the tribes. And his state will stretch from ocean to ocean and even to the depth of earth.

### **The Reestablishment of people of God:**

And I took your your captives and returned to you, and I will tell you today that I will give him a great reward, for I have bowed my head. Oh Judah, Oh Ibrahim, I have shot an arrow and I will rise up your children in Zion, and you will be brave. And the lord shall be seen above them and

his arrows shall go forth as lightening. The lord will blow the trumpet and come out with the south wind.

### Death:

The Prophet Zakariya did governance for just 6 months and was killed by Salom.

### IN HOLY QURAN:

Prophet Zakariya was the priest of the Bani Israel which was their honorable religious position. He had to perform the sacred rites of the temple. Allah Almighty has given him prophet hood. He used to work as a carpenter to earn his living. He was a glorious prophet of God. Quran says about him.

وَزَكَرِيَّا وَيَحْيَىٰ وَعِيسَىٰ وَإِيلَاسَ كُلٌّ مِّنَ الصَّالِحِينَ

“And Zakariya, Yahya, Issa, and Ilyas are among the righteous. God, the Lord of Glory, in his old age and in a state of despair, gave Prophet Zakariya a pure son named Yahya.”

### Name and Family tree:

His genealogy has been narrated by various commentators as follows. Prophet Zakariya bin Aden (Dan) or Ibn Shabvi or Ibn Ladan or Ibn Barkhiya bin Muslim bin Saduq bin Habshan bin Sulaiman bin Daud bin Muslim bin Siddiqa bin Barkhiaban Nahor bin Shalom bin Bighat bin Anna Man bin Rajam bin Salman bin Daud (peace be upon him). It is almost a coincidence that you belong to the descendants of Hazrat Sulaiman bin Dawood. I was no one can say for sure what his name was about his father. At the time when Zakariya was sent, the Israelites were under Roman rule. Zakariya was commissioned to serve in Jerusalem. He was a servant of Jerusalem and was also called the High Administrator.

### Prophet Zakariya in Quran:

In the Holy Qur'an, Hazrat Zakariya is mentioned in four Surahs, Surah Al-Imran, verses 2 to 3. Surah Al-An'am, verse no. Surah Al-Maryam, verses 1 to 5. and Surah Al-Anbiya.

Zakariya was one of the prophets of Israel and a contemporary of Jesus. The prophets are named Zakariyas in Israel. One of them is Zakariya bin Barkhaya who was one of the prophets of Torah. They appeared during the reign of Darabin Gushtasib, king of Persia (Iran). The other is Zakariya Abu Yahya who's aunt was the Hazrat Maryam and a contemporary of Hazrat Isa. The first mention of Zakariya is not in the Qur'an, but it is mentioned in Zakaria. The story of Prophet Zakariya came in Holy Quran twice, and it is like;

(فَتَقَبَّلَهَا رَبُّهَا بِقَبُولٍ حَسَنٍ وَأَنْبَتَهَا نَبَاتًا حَسَنًا وَكَفَّلَهَا زَكَرِيَّا كُلَّمَا دَخَلَ عَلَيْهَا الْمِحْرَابَ وَجَدَ عِنْدَهَا رِزْقًا قَالَ يَا مَرْيَمُ أَنَّى لَّكَ هَذَا قَالَتْ هُوَ مِنْ عِنْدِ اللَّهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَرْزُقُ مَنْ يَشَاءُ بِغَيْرِ حِسَابٍ)



And Zakariyas carried the burden of caring for Maryam. Whenever Zakariya entered the mihrab (room) near Maryam, he would find food and drink with him. She asked, "Where does this come from?" She said, "It is Allah who gives to whom He wills more than they can imagine."

Elsewhere, it is mentioned at the beginning of Surah Maryam, where Allah mentions special prayers for the children of His servant Zakariya because their expected successors were not of good character and Zakariya feared that he would be their successor. Will not be eligible. In the time when Prophet Zakariya was sent. At that time the Israelites were under Roman rule. Zakariya was commissioned to serve in Jerusalem. He was also known as the Servant of Jerusalem and the Supreme Administrator.

### **Surname:**

The other name (surname) or nickname of Prophet Zakariya was Abu Yahya.

### **Profession:**

Prophet Abu Hurayrah says that the Holy Prophet said that Zakariya used to work as a carpenter.

### **Prophecy:**

Zakariya was sent to the Bani Israel. He became a prophet after Prophet Uzair. He used to stand in the mihrab and offer prayers. He was also a glorious prophet. This is how you are mentioned in the Quran. And Zakariya, and Yahya, and Issa, and Iliyas, are among the righteous.

### **Preaching:**

When you came to the Bani of Israel, you invited them to Tawheed. They were idolaters and disobedient people. Instead of accepting your invitation and believing and rebelling, they started harassing you. When you were sent as a prophet, King Herodotus was a great pagan.

### **Marriage:**

Hannah bint Makhoz had a sister named Isha. This issue was called Elizabeth. Zechariah was married to a woman named Isha, who was also the aunt of Jesus, that is, the mother of Jesus, the sister of Ms. Hannah. His wife belonged to Prophet Haroon.

### **Children:**

The Holy Quran narrates.

وَزَكَرِيَّا إِذْ نَادَىٰ رَبَّهُ رَبِّ لَا تَذَرْنِي فَرْدًا وَأَنْتَ خَيْرُ الْوَارِثِينَ \* فَاسْتَجَبْنَا لَهُ وَوَهَبْنَا لَهُ يَحْيَىٰ وَأَصْلَحْنَا لَهُ زَوْجَهُ

..الى... وَيَدْعُونَنَا رَغَبًا وَرَهَبًا وَكَانُوا لَنَا خَاشِعِينَ

"And remember the case of the prophet Zakariya when he called upon his Lord. Lord, do not leave me alone in this world and by the way you are the best heir of us all. We heard their cries and gave them a son

Yousaf and healed his wife for them. All of them were active in the paths of righteousness and prayed for our grace, hoping and fearing our glory."

( هُنَالِكَ دَعَا زَكَرِيَّا رَبَّهُ قَالَ رَبِّ هَبْ لِي--وَاذْكُرَّ بَكَ كَثِيرًا وَبَسِّحْ بِالْعِشِيِّ وَالْإِبْكَارِ )

"At that time Zakariya prayed to his Lord. He said: My Lord! Grant me from Thee good offspring out of Thy bounty. Lo! He is the Hearer of supplication."

قَالَ رَبِّ أَنَّى يَكُونُ لِي غُلَامٌ وَكَانَتِ امْرَأَتِي عَاقِرًا وَقَدْ بَلَغْتُ مِنَ الْكِبَرِ عِتِيًّا

"And Zakariya said: O my Lord! Where can I have a son when my wife is barren, and I am in my old age? This question was of such a nature as Prophet Ibrahim had asked Allah Almighty for his satisfaction that there is no doubt as to how he would burn the dead. The angels said in reply to 'Zakariya."

قَالَ رَبِّ اجْعَلْ لِي آيَةً قَالَ آيَتُكَ أَلَّا تُكَلِّمَ النَّاسَ ثَلَاثَ لَيَالٍ سَوِيًّا

"Prophet Zakariya (may Allah bless him and grant him peace) asked Allah Almighty to tell me any sign of this gift before it. Allah Almighty replied that, this would be the sign of fulfillment of our promise. Three days before that your tongue will be closed. Make sure you get what you want."

"In his old age and hope, Allah Almighty gave Prophet Zakariya a pure son named Yahya and at a very young age exalted Prophet Yahya with intellect and wisdom and revelation of Prophet Hood. Prophet Yahya was so fond of worship that he became very weak due to the abundance of Tahajjud. With his knowledge and gnosis, he could easily solve difficult situations in the Torah."

"If the demand for children is against the ascetic life, then it is not against the asceticism. However, children alone should not be required. Good children should be sought. In the supplication of Prophet Zakariya, the wish of (good offspring) is fulfilled which fulfills the requirements of Islam. The religion of Islam has declared the children to be the Sunnah of the Prophets and the Sunnah of the truthful."

### Death:

There is disagreement about the martyrdom of Prophet Zakariya, whether he died a natural death or was martyred. The narrator of these two traditions is Wahab bin Manbah. According to a tradition, when the Jews martyred Prophet Yahya, they also sought to martyr Prophet Zakariya. When they approached him with this intention, he ran and entered a cave in the tree. The Jews sawed the tree and cut it in two. According to his second narration, these two pieces were not made by Prophet Zakariya but by Prophet Shia and Prophet Zakariya was not martyred. He died of natural causes. The popular saying is that you were martyred by the Jews but only

Allah knows where you were martyred. After the martyrdom of Zakariya, God again destroyed the Jews as He had promised.

### **A Comparative Study of The Statements of Zakariya And Syedna In The Bible And The Qur'an:**

Prophet Zakariya is mentioned in the Bible as the English name Zechariah. They belonged to the tribe of Levi and belonged to the family of Aaron. His profession was priesthood. He has also been called the prophet of hope and mercy.

In the Holy Qur'an, Prophet Zakariya is mentioned in four Surahs. It is mentioned in Surah Al-Imran, verses 1 to 3, Surah Al-An'am, verse 2, Surah Al-Maryam, verses 1 to 5, Surah Al-Anbiya, verses 1 and 2.

فَتَقَبَّلَهَا رَبُّهَا بِقَبُولٍ حَسَنٍ وَأَنبَتَهَا نَبَاتًا حَسَنًا وَكَفَّلَهَا زَكَرِيَّا

And Zakariya carried the burden of supporting Maryam.

Elsewhere, it is mentioned at the beginning of Surah Maryam, where Allah mentions a special prayer for the children of His servant Zakariya.

According to the Bible, Zakariya's message has much to do with the rebuilding of the temple. The following is a brief outline of the book of Zakariya according to the Bible.

Forgiveness.

Dreams of night.

Crown ship of Yashu.

The issue of Fasting.

The shepherd King.

In the Quran, Prophet Zakariya came to the children of Israel and invited them to Tawheed. The Israelites were idolaters and disobedient people. Instead of accepting your invitation and believing and rebelling. He started harassing Prophet Zakariya. King Herodotus was a very big idolater when he was sent as a prophet.

According to the Bible, Zakariya's government lasted only six months, and Zakariya was killed by Shalom.

There is disagreement in the Holy Qur'an about the martyrdom of Prophet Zakariya, whether he died a natural death or was martyred. The narrator of these two traditions is Wahab bin Manbah. According to a tradition, when the Jews martyred Prophet Yahya and came to martyr Prophet Zakariya, he ran and fell into the hollow of a tree. The Jews cut the tree with a saw and martyred you too. According to another tradition, he died a natural death. Allah knows best.

In this chapter, the Bible and the Qur'an of Prophet Zakariya (AS) and Ayub (AS)

It is mentioned with reference to their birth certificate, marriage, children, prophecy, worship, fasting, justice, their trials, etc.

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