

ABSTRACT

As an individual who proclaims faith in God, theology forms the principle foundation which must be entrenched in the life of particular religion adherents. In this dissertation, to detail out the overall theology of two major religions in the world is a very difficult task, thus this research is designed to focus mainly on the concept of messenger in two major religions, namely Hinduism and Islam. Lately, many religious disputes and misunderstandings have threatened to tear apart the once peaceful and multi-religious society of Malaysia. As history has proven, no nation in the world can achieve development or success without cooperation and understanding among its citizens. The main purpose of this research therefore is to find a common ground on which the two groups of religious adherents can live in tolerance of respect of each other, as commanded in their sacred scriptures. Hopefully, this research will give shed some light to help the current and future generation stay united and live harmoniously. The research methodology is done in the form of a library research. As a qualitative research approach, the writer uses inductive, deductive and comparative methods in analyzing the data. This dissertation is divided into five chapters. The first deals with the background of the problem, the second and third chapters focus on with the concept of messenger in Hinduism and Islam. The fourth chapter reveals the comparative points, and the fifth chapter presents the conclusion and closing remarks on the overall research. In general, the research outcome explains that Islam believe that God Almighty choose a man among men to deliver his message to human and such individuals are called Messengers of God. By contrast, Hinduism believes the Supreme Deity comes down to the earth in some bodily form to protect the religion, to set an example or to set the rules for human beings. This is to bring mankind gradually to a realization of the concept of incarnation, and ultimately, of God in man and man in God. On the common ground, both religions agree on the concept of messenger and their role in freeing mankind from ignorance, protecting righteousness, setting an example and laying down the rules for peaceful and harmonious living among humankind.

ABSTRAK

Bagi seseorang individu yang percaya kepada kewujudan pencipta, akidah merupakan asas utama di dalam kehidupan hariannya dan wajib diyakini oleh seseorang yang mengaku beriman kepada Tuhan. Dalam disertasi ini, memandangkan soal akidah bagi dua agama utama dunia bukan sesuatu yang mudah untuk dibincangkan secara menyeluruh, penulis mengambil pendekatan untuk hanya membincangkan sebahagian kecil daripadanya iaitu konsep pesuruh atau kenabian dalam Agama Hindu dan Agama Islam. Sejak akhir akhir ini, banyak masalah berkaitan keagamaan tercetus di dalam negara yang penduduknya terdiri daripada berbilang kaum dan agama. Diharap, dengan memberikan penjelasan yang menyeluruh berkenaan konsep kenabian dan perbandingan yang terdapat dalam kedua agama, ianya dapat membentuk dua masyarakat yang boleh hidup dalam keadaan bertolak ansur dan hormat menghormati satu sama lain seperti yang dijanjikan di dalam kedua-dua kitab agama dan perlembagaan persekutuan. Berdasarkan sejarah-sejarah yang lepas, sesebuah negara tidak boleh mencapai pembangunan atau status negara maju jika rakyatnya tidak menyemai sikap berkerjasama dan memahami satu sama lain bagi kepentingan bersama. Kajian ini dibuat dalam bentuk kajian perpustakaan. Sebagai sebuah penyelidikan kualitatif, penulis menggunakan metode induktif, deduktif dan komparatif dalam menganalisis data. Disertasi ini terbahagi kepada lima bab. Bab pertama menghuraikan latar belakang permasalahan kajian, bab kedua dan ketiga merupakan penjelasan konsep pesuruh dalam Agama Hindu dan Agama Islam. Bab keempat merupakan hasil perbandingan kepada dua agama yang dipilih dan bab kelima pula adalah kesimpulan serta saranan yang diberikan kepada pihak-pihak yang terbabit dalam permasalahan ini. Secara keseluruhan, kajian ini mendapati Islam percaya bahawa Allah yang Maha Esa memilih manusia pilihan dari kalangan manusia untuk menyampaikan mesej kepada umat manusia. Individu tersebut dipanggil Nabi atau Rasul di dalam Agama Islam. Sebaliknya, Agama Hindu percaya dan menerima Tuhan yang Maha Esa melalui Maha Dewanya mengambil sebarang tubuh dan turun ke atas muka bumi bagi menjaga kebenaran, memberikan contoh teladan dan peraturan hidup. Ini bagi membolehkan kalangan manusia secara

berperingkat memahami teori di sebalik reinkarnasi (hukum karma) dan akhirnya menerima hakikat bahawa Tuhan yang Maha Esa di dalam manusia dan manusia didalam Tuhan yang Maha Esa. Secara kesimpulan, kedua dua agama ini menerima konsep pesuruh bagi tujuan mengangkat umat manusia daripada kekufuran, melindungi kebenaran, menetapkan beberapa syarat atau peraturan bagi umat manusia hidup dalam suasana harmoni dan aman. Penganut agama Islam memanggil pesuruh tersebut sebagai Nabi atau Rasul manakala penganut Agama Hindu memanggil pesuruh tersebut sebagai Avatar.

APPRECIATION

This thesis, in part, is the culmination of years of research that has been done since I came to University of Malaya. During that time, I worked with a number of great people whose contribution in assorted ways to my research and the making of this thesis deserves special mention. It is a pleasure to convey my humble gratitude to them all. In the first place I would like to express my gratitude to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Khadija Mohd Hambali for her supervision, advice, and guidance from the very early stages of this research, which has been for me an extraordinary experience. She provided me unflinching encouragement and support in various ways. Her truly scientific intuition has made her a constant oasis of ideas and passion in philosophy, which has inspired and enriched my growth as a student, researcher and a theologian to be. I am indebted to her more than she knows.

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List of Symbols and Abbreviations

B.C	-	Before Common Era
A.C.	-	After Common Era
AH	-	After Hijri

Translation

Hinduism

1. Purna	-	Whole
2. Manu	-	The Law code
3. Rama	-	The 7 th incarnation of Hindu Lord Vishnu
4. Krishna	-	The 9 th incarnation of Hindu Lord Vishnu
5. Parusurama	-	The 6 th incarnation of Hindu Lord Vishnu
6. Dasavatama	-	10 incarnation of Lord Vishnu
7. Bhagavad Gita	-	The Holy book of Hindu's
8. Bhagavad Purana	-	The Secondary Holy book of Hindu's
9. Advaita	-	Monoism philosophy (6 main Hindu philosophies)
10. Maya	-	Illusion
11. Jivaatma	-	Individual soul
12. Karma	-	Good and bad deeds
13. Moksha	-	Liberation
14. Brahman	-	God in Hinduism
15. Sivapuranam	-	Tamil song compose by saint Manikavasagam

16. Alvar	-	Lord Vishnu followers from Tamil Nadu South India
17. Dasavatiraca	-	Book written by Ksemendra
18. Vaishnava	-	Lord Vishnu followers
19. Gita Govinda	-	Song of God
20. Srimad Bhagavatam	-	The Secondary holy scripture of Hindu's
21. Kali-Yuga	-	The 4 th cycle of Hindu calendar
22. Sudra	-	Low born or Birth
23. Dvija-janas	-	Twice born
24. Tattwa-Jnana	-	Knowledge of God
25. Nrdevas	-	Labour class of humankind
26. Vrsalars	-	Ministers of Government
27. Kalki	-	The 10 th incarnation of Lord Vishnu
28. Yuga	-	The Age
29. Lord Vishnu	-	One of Trinity Lord in Hinduism (Preserver)
30. Vishnudharamotara	-	The Secondary Holy book of Hinduism
31. Rajo Guna	-	Mode of passion
32. Sattva Guna	-	Mode of goodness
33. Tamo Guna	-	Mode of Ignorance
34. Shaivas	-	One of the sect in Hinduism
35. Shiva	-	One of Trinity Lord in Hinduism (Destroyer)
36. Puranas	-	The Epic story of Hinduism
37. Maha	-	Big
38. Vedic	-	The Primary Scriptures Philosophy of Hinduism

39. Brahminism	-	The higher caste in Hinduism
40. Sindhu	-	The people who lived beyond the River of Sindu
41. Hindu	-	The people who lived beyond the River of Sindu
42. Hindustan	-	Land of Hindus
43. Sanathana Dharma	-	The Eternal Truth
44. Aryan	-	Indo-European speaking people
45. Panca Chada	-	Five Pillars
46. Phala	-	The Rewards
47. Purrabhava	-	Belief on reincarnation
48. Moksha	-	Liberation
49. Jivas	-	Human Soul
50. Sutra	-	Scripture
51. Rigveda	-	One of the four primary scripture of Hindus
52. Yajurveda	-	One of the four primary scripture of Hindus
53. Samaveda	-	One of the four primary scripture of Hindus
54. Atharaveda	-	One of the four primary scripture of Hindus
55. Srutis	-	Revelation which has been heard
56. Apaurusheya	-	Entirely superhuman
57. Veda	-	Knowledge
58. Rishi	-	Saints or seers
59. Manthra	-	Hyms
60. Sruthi	-	Has been heard
61. Lord Brahma	-	One of the trinity God (Creator)

62. Vaikuntha	-	Upper Planet
63. Brahmanas	-	Religious documents, including ritualistic precepts and sacrificial duties
64. Aranyakas	-	Transition link between the ritual of the Brahmins and the philosophy of the Upanishads
65. Upanishads	-	Knowledge section
66. Karma Kanda	-	Ritualistic Section
67. Upasana Kanda	-	Worship Section
68. Jnana kanda	-	Knowledge Section
69. Nigguda Brahman	-	Formless God
70. Ramayana	-	Epic of Hindu (Lord Rama)
71. Mahabharata	-	Epic of Hindu (Lord Krishna)
72. Dharmasastras	-	Systematic treatise on conduct of life
73. Sruti	-	Revealed Scriptures
74. Sutra	-	Preserve material
75. Nyaya	-	Logical realism
76. Vaisesika	-	Realistic pluralism
77. Samkhya	-	Evolutionary dualism
78. Yoga	-	Disciplined Meditation
79. Vedanta	-	The essence of Veda (Knowledge)
80. Purva Mimamsa	-	Earlier interpretive investigations of the Vedas
81. Darshanas	-	6 Hindu Philosophical System
82. Agamas	-	Theological treatise and practical manual of divine Worship
83. Tantras	-	Treatises explaining the external worship of God, in idols, temples and etc

84. Mantras	-	Treatises explaining the external worship of God, in idols, temples and others
85. Yantras	-	Treatises explaining the external worship of God, in idols, temples and others
86. Nyana	-	Knowledge
87. Yoga	-	Concentration
88. Kriya	-	Esoteric Ritual
89. Charya	-	Esoteric Worship
90. Saiva	-	Worship of Lord Shiva
91. Sakta	-	Worship of Goddess
92. Saivism	-	Lord Shiva Sect
93. Saktism	-	Goddess Sect
94. Vaishnavas	-	Lord Vishnu Sect
95. Pancharatra	-	Lord Vishnu Sect
96. Lord Shiva	-	One of trinity God in Hinduism
97. Saiva Siddhanta	-	School of philosophy
98. Devi	-	Female manifestation of goddess
99. Vaikhanasa	-	Four kinds of Vaishnava Agamas
100. Nakshataras	-	Daily stars
101. Pratishthasara	-	four kinds of Vaishnava Agamas
102. Vijnanalaita	-	four kinds of Vaishnava Agamas
103. Lord Vishnu	-	One of the Trinity God in Hinduism
104. Lord Krishna	-	7 th re-incarnation of God Vishnu
105. Mathas	-	Sects
106. Advaitism	-	Qualified no dualism

107. Upa Agama	-	Sub ritual
108. Lord Parvati	-	Goddess
109. Yugas	-	Period
110. Dharma	-	Deeds or action
111. Manvantaras	-	Period of man
112. Kalpa	-	Period of Universe
113. Antarakalpas	-	Between periods
114. Aasaukhyeyakalpas	-	Between periods
115. Mahakalpas	-	The Big or huge period
116. Sankalpam	-	Time Reading or chanting
117. Tithi	-	The Moon timing or slope
118. Ayanam	-	Half year
119. Krita Yuga	-	1 st Cycle of Hindu calendar
120. Detu Yuga	-	2 nd Cycle of Hindu calendar
121. Dvagana Yuga	-	3 rd Cycle of Hindu calendar
122. Kali Yuga	-	4 th Cycle of Hindu calendar
123. Sandhi	-	Time Junction
124. Kalpa	-	Huge time period in Hinduism
125. Nakshatra	-	27 stars
126. Puranic	-	Epics
127. Vishnunabhi	-	The Centre of Universe
128. Parampara	-	Succession of teachers and disciples in traditional Indian culture
129. Sampradhaya	-	Tradition

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 139. Sittars | - | The highest saints in Saivism |
| 140. Nayanars | - | The disciple of Lord Shiva |
| 141. Thirumantiram | - | Song of God |
| 142. Shaiva Shiddantha | - | The system of knowledge |

Islam

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|--|
| 1. Kitab | - | Scripture |
| 2. Sabian | - | Worshippers group |
| 3. Ashab al-ruhaniyyat | - | Proponent of spiritual beings |
| 4. Abadat al-kawakib | - | Star worshippers |
| 5. Abadat al-asnam | - | Idol worshippers |
| 6. Tafseer | - | Commentary |
| 7. Hadith | - | The Second Primary Scripture in Islam |
| 8. Saheh | - | Authentic or proved |
| 9. Barzakh | - | Eternal life |
| 10. Matn | - | Text |
| 11. Isnad | - | Chain of reporters |
| 12. Tabi'un | - | The Successors |
| 13. Mursal | - | Loose |
| 14. Al-Samawiyah | - | Believe to be Heavenly revelation religion by Judaism, Christianity, and Islam adherents |
| 15. Daif | - | Weak |
| 16. Hasan | - | Agreeable |
| 17. Maodoo | - | Fabricated |

18. Muttawatir	-	Successive' narration
19. Mudal	-	Categories of discontinuity
20. Munkar	-	Denounced
21. Holy Qur'an	-	Primary scripture in Islam
22. Hadith	-	Second primary scripture in Islam
23. Allah	-	The God in Islam
24. Hasan	-	Good (categorization of a Hadith authenticity as acceptable for use as a religious evidence)
25. Zakat	-	Donation
26. Ramadhan	-	Fasting month in Islam
27. Rukun Islam	-	Islamic Pillars
28. Rukun Iman	-	Islamic Principle
29. Jannah	-	The Heaven
30. Sunnah	-	Instruction by Prophet Muhammad
31. Damana	-	Small curl-like diacritic placed above a letter
32. Fataha	-	Small diagonal line placed above a letter
33. Kasra	-	Similar diagonal line below a letter
34. Samad	-	Eternal
35. Sahabah	-	Companions
36. Tasiun	-	Successors
37. Tahwid	-	Concept of Oneness
38. Isnad	-	Chain of transmission
39. Shadhhdh	-	Not contain disparaged reporters
40. Sihah Al-Sittah	-	6 famous Sunni collections

- 41. Ijma - Consensus
- 42. Qiyas - Analogy
- 43. Istishab - Presumption and Continuity
- 44. Ilham - A form of revelation in Islam
- 45. Nubuyuwah - Prophet Hood
- 46. Nabwah - Land
- 47. Kufr - Ignorance
- 48. Ayah - Verses