

A non-Muslim researcher is asking about the proof that Jibreel spoke to the

Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him)

I'm a student of a college in the USA. This question is for my paper of Western Civil class. What proof do you have that Gabriel spoke to Muhammad?

Praise be to Allaah.

Jibreel (peace be upon him) spoke to Muhammad

(peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) directly, with no barrier in between, and the Prophet Muhammad

(peace and blessings of Allaah be

upon him) saw him in his true form. This was reported in many aayaat

(verses of the Qur ' aan) and ahaadeeth (reports of the things that the Prophet Muhammad

(peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said and

did).

1.

Allaah says (interpretation of the meaning):

“ By the  
star when it goes down (or vanishes).

Your

companion (Muhammad) has neither gone astray nor has erred.

Nor

does he speak of (his own) desire.

It

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is only a Revelation revealed.

He  
has been taught (this Qur ' aan) by one mighty in power [Jibreel  
(Gabriel)]. ”

[al-Najm  
53:1-5]

The  
mufasssireen (commentators on the Qur ' aan) have stated that what is meant  
by “ one mighty in power ” is Jibreel (peace be upon him), who taught  
Muhammad  
(peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) the Revelation.  
One of the ways in which Revelation happened is when the angel spoke  
directly to the Prophet. This indicates that Jibreel (peace be upon him)  
spoke to Muhammad  
(peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him). This  
idea is also supported by the aayahs (interpretation of the meaning):

“ And  
truly, this (the Qur ' aan) is a revelation from the Lord of the ‘ Aalameen  
(mankind, jinn  
and all that exists),

Which  
the trustworthy Rooh  
[Jibreel (Gabriel)] has brought down

Upon  
your heart (O Muhammad)

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that you may be (one) of the warners,

In  
the plain Arabic language ”

[al-Shu ' araa '  
26:192-195]

“ Say  
(O Muhammad): “ Whoever is an enemy to Jibreel (Gabriel)  
(let him die in his fury), for indeed he has brought it (this  
Qur ' aan) down to your heart by Allaah ' s Permission, confirming what  
came before it [i.e. the Tauraat (Torah) and the Injeel (Gospel)] and  
guidance and glad tidings for the believers ”

[al-Baqarah  
2:97]

2.

The First Revelation, as is well known, happened when the Prophet

(peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) was in seclusion in the  
cave of Hiraah ' . Jibreel (peace be upon him) came to him and commanded  
him to read. It was narrated  
that ' Aa ' ishah the Mother of the Believers (may Allaah be pleased with  
her) said:

“ The first  
of the Wahy (Revelation)  
that came to the Messenger of Allaah  
(peace and blessings of Allaah

be upon him) was seeing true dreams; he never saw any dream but it came true like the break of day. Then the love of seclusion was bestowed upon him. He used to go into seclusion in the cave of Hira' where he would worship Allaah continuously for many nights, until he went back to see his family to collect more provisions. He would go back to Khadeejah, and take provisions with him for a similar number of nights. (This went on) until the truth came to him when he was in the cave of Hira' . The angels came to him and said, ' Read! ' He said, ' I am not a reader. ' He [the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him)] said: he embraced me and squeezed me so hard that I almost could bear it no longer, then he released me and said, ' Read! ' I said, I am not a reader. ' Then he embraced me a second time and squeezed me so hard that I almost could bear it no longer, then he released me and said, ' Read! ' I said, I am not a reader. ' Then he embraced me a third time and squeezed me so hard that I almost could bear it no longer, then he released me and said, ' Read! In the Name of your Lord Who has created (all that exists). He has created man from a clot (a piece of thick coagulated blood). Read! And your Lord is the Most Generous. ' [al- ' Alaq 96:1-3 – interpretation of the meaning]. Then the Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) came back with (the Revelation) and with his heart pounding wildly. ” (Narrated by al-Bukhaari, no. 3; Muslim, no. 231).

3.

It was narrated from ' Aa ' ishah (may Allaah be pleased with her) that al-Haarith ibn Hishaam (may Allaah be pleased with him) asked the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him), “ O Messenger of Allaah, how does the Revelation come to you? ” The Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him)

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said: “ Sometimes it comes to me like the ringing of a bell, which is the hardest of all, then it passes once I have grasped what is said. And sometimes the angel comes to me in the form of a man and speaks to me, and I grasp what he says... ” (Narrated by al-Bukhaari, no. 2).

4.

The lengthy hadeeth about Jibreel, when he came in the form of a man, a stranger, and sat down with the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) and asked him about Islam, Eemaan (faith) and Ihsaan (goodness, perfection). The Messenger (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) answered his questions, knowing that he was Jibreel. When he had finished asking his questions and had gone away, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) told his companions that this was Jibreel, who had come to teach them their religion. See Saheeh al-Bukhaari, no. 48; Muslim, no. 9.

5.

The reports about the Israa ' and Mi ' raaj (Prophet ' s night journey from Makkah to Jerusalem, and ascent from Jerusalem into the seven heavens). The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) asked Jibreel questions, and Jibreel answered him. See Saheeh al-Bukhaari, no. 2968; Muslim, no. 238, and the ahaadeeth which tell the story of the Israa ' and Mi ' raaj.

6.

There are also many ahaadeeth in which the Prophet (peace and

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blessings of Allaah be upon him) says, “ Jibreel came to me and said... ” , such as the hadeeth in which he (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: “ Jibreel (peace be upon him) came to me and said, ‘ Whoever among your ummah (nation) dies not associating anything with Allaah, will enter Paradise. ’ I said, ‘ Even if he does such and such? ’ He said, ‘ Yes. ’ ” (Narrated by al-Bukhaari, no. 2213; Muslim, no. 137)

When the Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) came back from (the battle of) al-Khandaq, he and his companions put down their weapons and washed themselves. Jibreel came to him with his head covered with dust and said, “ You have put down your weapons! By Allaah, I have not put down mine. ” The Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said, “ Where to? ” He said, “ Over there ” – and pointed towards Bani Qurayzah. So the Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) set out [to resume the campaign]. (Narrated by al-Bukhaari, no. 2602; Muslim, no. 3315).

And there is more, similar, evidence. And Allaah knows best.