

Muslim beliefs are described as fact while Christianity and Judaism are subject to much more critical treatment

Table 5.1: Comparison of Language Used for Beliefs of the Three Major Religions in Selected Textbooks

Textbook	Judaism	Christianity	Islam
<i>The World</i> (Pearson/Scott Foresman)	Caption to a picture of a seder plate: "Foods on the seder plate are symbolic of an ancient Hebrew <i>story</i> ."		"The pilgrimage, or hajj (haj), to Mecca is an essential part of Islam, the religion <i>revealed</i> to Muhammad . . ."
<i>World History: Continuity and Change</i> (Holt)	Glossary entry: "Ten Commandments Moral laws Moses <i>claimed</i> to have received from the Hebrew God Yahweh on Mount Sinai."		Glossary entry: "Qur'an Holy Book of Islam containing <i>revelations received by Muhammad from God</i> ."
<i>World Civilizations: The Global Experience</i> (Pearson)		Glossary entry: "Jesus of Nazareth" reads in part, "prophet and teacher among the Jews; <i>believed</i> by Christians to be the Messiah . . ."	Glossary entry: "Muhammad Prophet of Islam . . .; <i>received revelations from Allah</i> in 610 C.E. and thereafter . . ."
<i>Modern World History: Patterns of Interaction</i> . (McDougal Littell)		" <i>According to the New Testament</i> , Jesus of Nazareth was born around 6 to 4 B.C." "According to Jesus' followers, he rose from the dead. . ."	"Muhammad's teachings, which <i>are the revealed word of God</i> . . ., are found in the holy book called the Qur'an."
<i>World Cultures and Geography - Eastern Hemisphere</i> (McDougal Littell)	Teacher's Planning Guide: "[Section] Overview: Key Ideas Birthplace of Three Religions . . . Judaism, Christianity, and Islam all share common traits."		
	"Judaism is a <i>story</i> of exile."	"Christians <i>believe</i> that Jesus was the promised Messiah."	"The Qur'an <i>is</i> the collection of God's revelations to Muhammad"
<i>Glencoe World History</i> (McGraw-Hill)	"Then, because of drought, the Israelites migrated to Egypt, where they were enslaved until Moses led them out of Egypt. . . Some interpretations of recent archaeological evidence <i>contradict</i> details of the biblical account."		

Excerpted from: Gary A. Tobin and Dennis R. Ybarra, *The Trouble with Textbooks: Distorting History and Religion* (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2008)