

TABLE: TALKS WITH MUHAMMAD

Unless specifically stated otherwise, all answers are given by the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, the Messenger of Allah.

Question: Dear Holy Apostle, there are many people that I know who live day by day according to Horoscopes. It seems that the Astrologist have computed that certain months are governed by certain planets. Consequently it is said that if you were born at a certain time under a certain sign of a certain planet this signifies that you will be possessed of certain specific characteristics. These characteristics will to a large extent supposedly govern and determine your personality. When I read these horoscopes and the things they try to project it seems to me that they are broad enough and general enough to cover everybody and everything. Then, when one sees something that they like, since one always likes to hear something that one likes anyway, then you consider that certainly fits me and these things must therefore have some truth to them. Yet we know the moon itself has some type of definitive effect on the earth in terms of controlling water(although the Astrologist do not recognize the moon in their scheme of things) and the question that comes to my mind is, in terms of the fact that the Universe as such as it has been set up, it follows a law, it follows a pattern, can the changes and positions of the planets and their relationship to each other actually effect people from the point of view of behaviour and personality development?

ANSWER: For several years while doing research on Islam and this Christian religion in Washington D.C., I read many of the best books of Astrology. These Astrologers call themselves scientists on the stars and their reactions and their effect upon people on the earth. Horoscopes and things like that are one of the biggest tricks there ever was to throw me and you away from the truth because if you study it and you're not careful and you don't already know the truth you will be tempted to believe a little of it anyway.

2nd Questioner: The astrologers believe that if you were born on a particular day no matter where on earth, you have something similar in your personality to everyone else born on that same day.

ANSWER: Yes, you mean they put that lie out on everybody all over the planet.

Questioner I might say that I couldn't find any scientific basis for the establishment of what the Astrologist purport to be the truth. On the other hand that which you have taught us of ASTRONOMY holds true and makes sense and is certainly scientifically sound. When we consider what you have taught us about the deportation of the moon, how the moon relates to the earth, in terms of the dryness of that planet, in terms of the earth's effect upon it, it once having been a part of Earth, it all makes scientific sense. These far-fetched notions of the Astrologist, when you think about it don't have a modicum of fact to back them up; and yet I've heard muslims discuss notions of Astrology with some evidence of belief in it and are actually impressed by some of the books on Astrology.

ANSWER : The Holy Quran is against you believing Astrology. It teaches you against it and tells you where it came from, from the devil not from the Muslim.