

GRUPO DE ESTUDIOS ARABES (GEAR-DEFIHIS) – ILC
SEMINARIO

The changing prophet: some comparative
notes on the Qur'anic and post-Qur'anic
image of Muhammad

Uri RUBIN (Tel Aviv University)

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Sala 1D23 Caro Baroja
Centro de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales, CSIC
Albasanz, 26-28. 28037-MADRID

My talk will deal with some Qur'anic passages pertaining to Muhammad which will be analyzed within their internal Qur'anic context and then be compared with the post-Qur'anic *tafsir*. The comparison will demonstrate how the post-Qur'anic exegetes read into the Qur'an their own ideas which were inspired by what they already knew about the history of Islam as unfolded after Muhammad's death. As a result of their interpretation a new image of Muhammad has emerged, one which is not predicted in the Qur'an when read for its own sake. The verses chosen for the comparative analysis deal with the following themes: Muhammad's ancestry; Muhammad's deity; Muhammad's prophecy; Muhammad's finality.