

**MODERN PERCEPTIONS OF GOG AND  
MAGOG IN CHRISTIANITY AND ISLAM**

**(An Analytical and Comparative study)**



**Thesis for M.Phil Comparative Religion**

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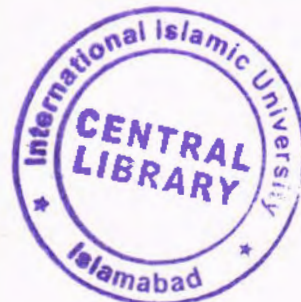
**For**

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**Faculty of Islamic Studies (Usuluddin)**

**International Islamic University, Islamabad**

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Tribulation (Christian doctrine)

Islamic eschatology

Alexander, the Great, in the Quran

End of the world (Islam)

" " " (Christianity)

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A Thesis submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the Master of Philosophy degree in Islamic Studies with specialization in Comparative Religion at the Faculty of Islamic Studies (*Usuluddin*), International Islamic University, Islamabad.

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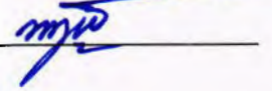
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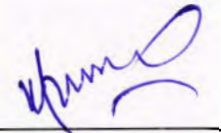
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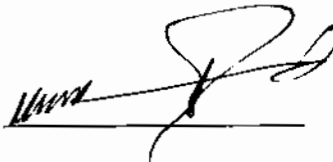
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## DECLARATION

I declare that the thesis hereby submitted for the Master of Philosophy Degree entitled: MODERN PERCEPTIONS OF GOG AND MAGOG IN CHRISTIANITY AND ISLAM (An Analytical and Comparative study), at International Islamic University, Islamabad is my own work and has not been previously submitted by me at another University for any degree. Where other sources of information have been used, they have been acknowledged. I grant copyright of the thesis in favor of International Islamic University, Islamabad.



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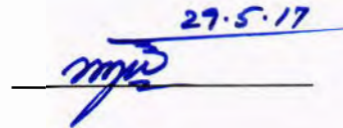
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# **DEDICATION**

**To**

**My beloved Parents**

**For all the prayers love and support**

**For which I don't have words to say them thanks**

**I pray for their long life!!**

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Foremost, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my supervisor Professor Dr. Muhammad Junaid Nadvi for his continuous support in my research, for his patience, motivation, enthusiasm, and immense knowledge. His guidance helped me in all the time of research and writing of this thesis. I could not have imagined having a better advisor and mentor for my M. Phil thesis.

Besides my advisor, I would like to thank Prof. Drakshan Azam for her advice and assistance in keeping my progress on schedule. My sincere thanks also goes to Prof. Muhammad Modassir Ali for enlightening me the first glance of research. I wish to express my heartfelt obligations to Dr. Haroon Ur Rashid Dean, and Prof Muhammad Akram Head of department of the Faculty, for continues encouragement.

I would like to thank my spouse Muhammad Salam Asghar Alvi, for his kindness and support he has shown during the past two years it has taken me to finalize this thesis.

Last but not the least; I would like to thank my family: my parents especially my father (late) for their endless love and support throughout my life. I miss my father, and pray that Allah bless him the most beautiful place in Heaven.

## TRANSLITERATION TABLE

ا	a	د	d	غ	gh	بھ	bh	Long Vowels	
ب	b	ذ	dh	ف	f	پھ	ph	آ	ā
پ	p	ر	r	ق	q	تھ	th	آ	ā
ت	t	ز	z	ک	k	ٹھ	ṭh	ی	ī
ث	ṭ	ز	z	ک	g	جھ	jh	و	ū
ٹ	ṭh	ژ	z	ل	l	چھ	ch	و (URDU)	ō
ج	j	س	s	م	m	دھ	dh	ے (URDU)	ē
چ	ch	ش	sh	ن	n	ڈھ	ḍh	Short Vowels	
ح	h	س	s	ں	ṅ	ڑھ	ṛh	َ	a
خ	kh	ط	ṭ	ه	h	کھ	kḥ	ِ	i
د	d	ظ	z	ی	y	گھ	gh	ُ	u

### Diphthongs

و	َ	(ARABIC) (PERSIAN/URDU) (TURKISH)	aw au ev
ی	َ	(ARABIC) (PERSIAN/URDU) (TURKISH)	ay ai ey

### Doubled

و	ُ	uww/uvv
ی	َ	iyy

Letter ؤ is transliterated as elevated comma ( ' ) and is not expressed when at the beginning.

Letter ع is transliterated as elevated inverted comma ( ' ).

ض as Arabic letter is transliterated as ḍ, and as Persian/Turkish/Urdu letter as z.

و as Arabic letter is transliterated as w, and as Persian/Turkish/Urdu letter is transliterated as v.

تھ is transliterated as ah in pause form and as at in construct form.

Article ا is transliterated as al- (ʾ- in construct form) whether followed by a moon or a sun letter.

و as a Persian/Urdu conjunction is transliterated as -o.

Short vowel ِ in Persian/Urdu possessive or adjectival form is transliterated as -i.



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## ABSTRACT

In this research I have collected the data and intended to do the comparison between Christian and Islamic understanding about Gog and Magog. The method applied to this research is descriptive, analytical and comparative.

In first chapter, the study starts with the introduction of Gog and Magog. In the next two chapters concept of Gog and Magog in both religions is discussed. Fourth chapter is about specified for conclusion.

Gog and Magog, is a savage and unnaturally foul nation, who are enclosed in the 'Caspian Mountains', where they had been walled up by Alexander the Great. At the end of time, they will break out and serve the Antichrist, causing great destruction and suffering in the world. The hostile identification of Jews with the apocalyptic destroyers of Ezekiel 38-39 and Revelation 20 expresses a new and virulent anti-Semitism that was integrated into the powerful apocalyptic traditions of Christianity.

There are existing studies on Gog and Magog in both religions but no one has planned to compare the concept of Gog and Magog between Christianity and Islam. My goal in this study is to comparative and an analytically investigate contemporary perceptions of Gog and Magog in both religion.

I also appraise the existing commentaries in the light of analytical study of Qur'ān, Hadīth and Bible related to the concept of Gog and Magog. There is a requirement to compose the existing comparisons significant. The best way to do this is to focus on the traditional believes related to the concept of Gog and Magog in both religions.

This will grant a bottomless and obvious insight of the problem to play with. In particular, I show that Gog and Magog are being discussed in both religions but I have found, there are some similarities and difference about their identification in these religions.

After all analytical and comparative study, I concluded a fact that Christianity and Islam have discussed the concept of Gog and Magog but Christianity relates them only to Islam. Nevertheless, Islam does not have biased behavior about Christianity in identifying Gog and Magog.

## CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

During my study of Comparative Religions, I come across many similarities and differences between various religions regarding their teaching. I found that Belief in Day of Judgment especially in Islam is one of the basics and pillar of belief. It is the day when one and all is to get reward and penalty for one's deeds and has to be there in heaven or hell according to one's deeds. Therefore, every Prophet warns his believers from the Day of Judgment but as for the information of the time of *Qiyāmah* (End of the humanity); it has not been given to any angel or Prophet. Nobody besides ALLAH knows when the final hour is.

Al-Qur'ān states, "O Prophet the infidels ask you about the time of *Qiyāmah*. So tell them that its knowledge is with ALLAH only." (al-Qur'ān 31:34)

However, definite events are going to take place prior to the approaching of the final hour. These events are the Signs of *Qiyāmah*. All the Prophets educated their people of the signs of the last hour. According to the Muslim belief, Muhammad ﷺ being the last in the chain of Prophets, informed about the end of the world and Qayamat and explained in significant aspect the signs of the last hour to the extent that from time to time he ﷺ would lecture his companions all day on this area under discussion.

Some major signs mentioned in the subsequent Hadīth narrated by Hudhaifa bin Asīd. The Prophet ﷺ said, "The last hour will not arrive till you have seen ten signs. He ﷺ then mentioned the Smoke, Dajjāl, Beast, Rising of the Sun from the place of its setting, the Descent of Isa, Ya'jūj Ma'jūj, Three Landslides, one in the East, one in the West and one in the Arabian Peninsula after that a Fire would spread from Yemen and drive the people to their place of gathering."<sup>1</sup>

These are some major events, which will occur before *Qiyāmah* and among these signs Ya'jūj and Ma'jūj is one which is also mentioned in Qur'ān:

---

<sup>1</sup> Naisaburi, A. H. *Al-Musnad Al-Sahih bi Naklil Adli* (2007 ed., Vol. IV). The book of tribulations and the portent of the hour (chapter: the signs which will appear before the hour). (N. al-khattab, Trans.), *Al-Musnad Al-Sahih bi Naklil Adli* (pp.297, hadith no. 7286).

"وَحَرَامٌ عَلَىٰ قَرْيَةٍ أَهْلَكْنَاهَا أَنَّهُمْ لَا يَرْجِعُونَ - حَتَّىٰ إِذَا فُتِحَتْ يَأْجُوجُ وَمَأْجُوجُ وَهُمْ مِنْ كُلِّ خَتَبٍ يَنْسِلُونَ -  
 وَاقْتَرَبَ الْوَعْدُ الْحَقُّ فَإِذَا هِيَ شَاخِصَةٌ أَبْصُرُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا يُوبِلُونَ قَدْ كُنَّا فِي غَفْلَةٍ مِنْ هَذَا بَلْ كُنَّا ظَالِمِينَ"  
 (al-Qur'ān 21:95-96)

Christianity is also a revealed religion, and it was just before Islam. As mentioned before, in very religion belief in the end of time is important so to warn its believer Christianity has also some signs related to end of time or world and these signs mentioned in the Bible.

Six such signs are given by Jesus (peace be upon him), two uniqueness are specified by Paul<sup>2</sup>, and eleven additional occurrence are known by the prophets such as Daniel<sup>3</sup> and Zephaniah<sup>4</sup> to happen prior or almost immediately after the ending of the era. From signs given to Jesus, six are important and these are listed below:

1. False prophets and Christ
2. Wars
3. Famines
4. Earthquakes
5. Rebuilding of the temple
6. The attack of Gog and Magog<sup>5</sup>

The above are the major signs that mentioned in the Bible. Almost all signs are also present in Islamic view but one sign is common in Islam and Christianity. That

---

<sup>2</sup> Paul the Apostle is known as Saul of Tarsus is one of the most influential early Christian missionaries and leaders of the first generation of Christians. Saul (later to be known as the apostle Paul) was zealous in all that he did. He was from the Jewish tribe of Benjamin.

<sup>3</sup> Daniel is from the Hebrew word meaning *God is my Judge*, is one of the Major Prophets of the Old Testament and of the New Testament. since much of the prophecy given to him corresponds to that given to the apostle John in the Book of Revelation, *and* for our time now - Jesus Christ Himself specifically referred to events recorded in The Book of Daniel (Matthew 24:15) that would occur just prior to The Return Of Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> Zephaniah, from the Hebrew name-meaning secret of the LORD, was a prophet of, and to, The Southern Kingdom of "Judah" in the years leading up to Judah's fall to Babylon. Zephaniah was a fourth-generation descendant of Hezekiah, a notable king of Judah. Although, he's not as well known as another prophets are of that same time.

<sup>5</sup> Rasr, J. (28, 7, 2002). Prophetic Signs that we are in the End Times. Canada: contender ministries, p.23

be the sign of Ya'jūj and Ma'jūj and in Bible it is discussed in Ezekiel<sup>6</sup> 38:2<sup>7</sup> and Book of revelation<sup>8</sup> (20:8)<sup>9</sup>, and Bible used the word Gog and Magog.

On the other side Gog and Magog, appear in Qur'ān 18:83-98, as Ya'jūj and Ma'jūj or ياجوج و ماجوج, in Arabic. The verses state that Dhūl-Qarnain travelled the world in three directions, until he found a tribe threatened by Gog and Magog, who were of an "evil and destructive nature" and "caused great corruption on earth." The people existing tribute in exchange for protection. Dhūl-Qarnain agreed to help them, but refused the tribute; he constructed a great wall that the hostile nations were unable to penetrate. They will trap there until the Day of Judgment, and their escape will be a sign of the end:

*"But when Gog and Magog are let loose and they rush headlong down every height (or advantage), then will the true promise draw near---"* (al-Qur'ān 21: 96-97)

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ revealed that the human society known as "Gog and Magog" is one of the portents of the Day of Judgment.

Zainab bint Jahsh says: "Once the Prophet ﷺ awoke from such a sleep that his face was red and these words were on his tongue, *"There is none worthy of worship but ALLAH. Destruction is upon the Arabs because of that evil which has come close to them. Today a hole as big as this has opened in the wall of Ya'jūj and Ma'jūj."* (The Prophet ﷺ indicated the size of the hole with his finger and thumb)"<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> Ezekiel, from the Hebrew name pronounced *yekh-eh-kale*, meaning *the LORD will strengthen*, was a prophet of the LORD who taken away into Babylonian exile along with the rest of the people of The Southern Kingdom, known as "Judah." Ezekiel was a righteous man; he was not included in the removal as a punishment, but rather in order to serve as a prophet of Judah's eventual return, for the sake of the line of the Messiah, of which Ezekiel was also given to prophetically describe in magnificent detail.

<sup>7</sup> *"Son of man, set your face toward Gog of the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him"*

<sup>8</sup> A man named John had a vision from heaven. The book of Revelation is John's record of that vision. He was a Christian leader of Jewish origin who was in exile on the Roman prison island of Patmos. The Book of Revelation, often simply known as Revelation or by a number of variants expanding upon its authorship or subject matter, is the final book of the New Testament and occupies a central part in Christian eschatology. Written in Koine Greek, its title is derived from the first word of the text, *apocalypses*, meaning "unveiling," or "revelation."

<sup>9</sup> *"And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom [is] as the sand of the sea."*

<sup>10</sup> Naisaburi, A.H. *Al-Musnadu Al-Sahihu bi Noklil Adli* (2007 ed., Vol. IV). The book of tribulations and the portent of the hour.(ch.the approach of the tribulations and the opening barrier of ya'juj ma'juj).(N. al-khattab, Trans.), Al-Musnadu Al-Sahihu bi Naklil Adli(pp.271, hadith no.7235).

In the lengthy Hadīth of Nawwās bin Sam‘ān, it has been mentioned, "*And ALLAH will send Ya‘jūj and Ma‘jūj and they will come from every lofty place.*"<sup>11</sup>

Hadīth also mentioned their corruption. "*... The peoples of Gog and Magog will flood down from high places, such as mountains and hills, and will infect people and eat everything and drink lakes dry, as a result of which there will be a great famine.*"<sup>12</sup>

A Hadīth narrated on the authority of Jabir that Gog and Magog would walk until they would reach the mountain of al-Khamar<sup>13</sup>, it is a mountain of Bait-ul-Maqdis<sup>14</sup>, and they would say, "*We have killed those who are upon the earth. Let us now kill those who are in the sky, they would throw their arrows towards the sky, and the arrows would return to them besmeared with blood*". In addition, in the narration of Ibn Hajar<sup>15</sup> the words are "*I have sent such persons (Gog and Magog) that none would dare fight against them*".<sup>16</sup>

This is the basic information about Gog and Magog in Christianity and Islam. In this regard, we can notice one aspect of similarity in both religions that the destruction will occur due to this nation of Gog and Magog.

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<sup>11</sup> Naisaburi, A.H. *Al-Musnadu Al-Sahihu bi Nakli Adli* (2007 ed., Vol. IV). The book of tribulations and the portent of the hour.(ch.Ad-Dajjal).(N. al-khattab, Trans.), Al-Musnadu Al-Sahihu bi Nakli Adli(pp.271, hadith no.7373)

<sup>12</sup> Ibid., p. 271

<sup>13</sup> In Arabic it translated as "جبل الخمر." Imam Nawawi in these words

والخمر الشجر الملقب الذي يستر من فيه ، وقد فسره في الحديث بأنه جبل بيت المقدس.

in 637 CE, Umayyad Caliphs commissioned the construction of the al-Aqṣā Mosque and Dome of the Rock on the site. The Dome was completed in 692 CE. The al-Aqṣā Mosque rests on the far southern side of the Mount, facing Mecca. The Dome of the Rock currently sits in the middle, occupying or close to the area where the Bible mandates the Holy Temple be rebuilt. In Judaism this mount also called temple mount.

<sup>14</sup> Baitul-Maqdis in Jerusalem was the first Qiblah for Muslims. At the heart of Jerusalem is the Noble Sanctuary or Al-Haram al-Sharif, enclosing over 35 acres of fountains, gardens, buildings and domes. At its southernmost end is al-Aqṣā Mosque and at its centre the celebrated Dome of the Rock. The entire area is regarded as Baitul-Maqdis or Al-Qudus and comprises nearly one sixth of the walled city of Jerusalem.

<sup>15</sup> Al-Haafidh Shihabuddin Abu'l-Fadl Ahmad ibn Ali ibn Muhammad, better known as Ibn Hajar due to the fame of his forefathers, al-Asqalani. Ibn Hajar authored more than fifty works on hadith, hadith terminology, biographical evaluation, history, Quranic exegesis, poetry and Shafi'i jurisprudence. *Fath al-Bari* – considered the most prominent and reliable commentary 'Sahih-ul-Bukhari',

<sup>16</sup> ابو زكريا يحيى بن شرف بن مري النووي. (1930). كتاب الفتن وأثرها الساعة: باب ذكر الدجال وصفته وما معني المنهاج شرح صحيح مسلم بن الحجاج (ط الاولى). ج18، ص 71). المصريه بالازهر.

## 1.1 Statement of the Research Problem

In the light of above introduction, we will address the following research problems:

1. Understanding of the concept of Gog and Magog.
2. What is the concept of Gog and Magog in Christianity and Islam?
3. Comparison of the perception of Gog and Magog in Christianity and Islam?
4. What is the stance of the contemporary Christian and Islamic scholars related to the Gog and Magog?

## 1.2 Literature Review

Scholars have explained this topic according to their understandings. Yet, there has been no comparative study done. However, in this section we shall discuss some important works related to our topic.

1. N. Hosin, I. (2009). *An Islamic Views of Gog and Magog in the Modern Age*.<sup>17</sup> The writer is one of the students of Dr. Muhammad Fadlur Rahmān Ansāri (1914–1974). Dr. Ansāri devoted the last ten years of his life (1964–1974) to the establishment of the *Al-ʿemiyah Institute of Islamic Studies* in Karachi. The writer of this book has already discussed Gog and Magog in another book *Jerusalem in the Qur'ān*. One chapter of this book is about to Gog and Magog but the writer felt he has failed to convey that Gog and Magog released into the world. So again, he wrote a book "*Islamic View of Gog and Magog in the Modern Age*." This book is in the light of surah Al-Kahf. Three chapters of this book are on The subject of signs of Qiyāmah and then the views of different Muslim sects about these signs and from fourth chapter he started to explain about Gog and Magog. Fourth chapter is explaining Gog and Magog in the light of Al-Qur'ān and then in last two chapters he discussed modern views about them. He also mentioned that Christianity also has the idea about them. Nevertheless, he did not talk about it in detail. Again, there is no comparison between Islamic views and Christian views about them.

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<sup>17</sup> Ansari memorial series, Sūrah al-Kahf Quartet, Vol. 3, imranhosine.org.

**2. Brown, T. (Jun., 1950). *A note on Gog and Magog*.<sup>18</sup>**

This is an article, which contains different views about Gog and Magog. Like who are they? Where from they came? In this articles Theo has mentioned different scholars view related to this topic. This article also help to find out the verse of Bible related to Gog and Magog. The most important point is that when the writer mentioned the Bible's books in which reader will find the story about Gog and Magog meanwhile he gave the historical background of these books. Theo also mentioned that not only we (who are living in 20<sup>th</sup> century) but also even Marco Polo (who died in 1324) wrote of Gog and Magog.

**3. Leverett, F. (1933, april). *THE Legend Of Gog And Magog*.<sup>19</sup>**

This article is a review of different articles. This article discussed Gog and Magog in historical perspective. Like what was their view about Gog and Magog in twelfth century in detail? He discussed what happened with ten lost tribe of Israel and how they drawn in to the legend in association with Gog and Magog.

**4. *Research on the Identity of Gog and Magog in Ezekiel 38-39*<sup>20</sup>**

This is also an article; in this article, the writer presents some modern interpretations of the Bible verses and explanations these verses. He talks about different theories related to Gog and Magog. As the writer says himself that from his main sources are encyclopedias, biblical dictionaries and some Christian websites. He also discussed the words in literal meanings. He gave his conclusion in the end.

### **1.3 Methodology of this Research**

The methodology used during the course of this study is historical and comparative. The primary sources in this research are based on the library; and the secondary sources are based on the internet sources.

I have emphasized on the collection of data from the original texts on the concept Gog and Magog in Christianity and Islam. I have tried to narrate and explain these texts in the light of the traditions of the concerned religions. My thesis is comprised of the

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<sup>18</sup> Taylor & Francis, Ltd. *Folklore Enterprises, Ltd.* Vol.61,No.2, pp.98-103.

<sup>19</sup> *Geographical Review. American Geographical Society Stable*, Vol. 23 (No.2), pp,350 – 351.

<sup>20</sup> [http://aibi.gospelcom.net/aibi/Gog\\_and\\_Magog.htm](http://aibi.gospelcom.net/aibi/Gog_and_Magog.htm) [Retrieved 12- 3-2009]



concept of Gog and Magog, its historical development and its contemporary understanding by traditionalist and contemporary scholars. It also contains a critical comparison between Christian and Islamic understanding about Gog and Magog. Since, the nineteenth century philosophers, anthropologists, political scientists, and sociologists have used cross-cultural comparisons to achieve various objectives. The comparative approach helps us understand, not only what it is, but also what it is not.

#### **1.4 Synopsis of the Thesis**

This research work contains four chapters. Chapter-1 gives an introduction of the topic, states the research problem, literature review, methodology adopted and a synopsis of the thesis. Chapter-2 gives the concept of Gog and Magog in the light of Christian teachings, literal and conventional meanings, the Bible and its commentaries on Gog and Magog, the traditional Catholic and Protestant views, contemporary Christian Perception of Gog and Magog. Chapter-3 gives the concept of Gog and Magog in the light of Qur'ān and Sunnah, literal and conventional meanings with the help of commentaries and narrations on Gog and Magog; and lastly the contemporary Islamic Perception of Gog and Magog. Chapter-4 similarities and differences about the concept of Gog and Magog in both religions and conclusion of their views.

## CHAPTER 2: THE CONCEPT OF GOG AND MAGOG IN CHRISTIANITY

In this section, we shall try to understand the concept of Gog and Magog in the light of Christian teachings. For this we will firstly, identify the definition of Gog and Magog through its literal and conventional meanings; through the Bible and its commentaries on Gog and Magog; the traditional Catholic and Protestant views; and lastly the contemporary Christian Perception of Gog and Magog.

### 2.1 Definition of Gog and Magog

Gog and Magog have been defined in different manners. For example, in Judeo-Christian tradition, "*the satanic powers who wage war against God and the righteous at the end of the world.*" In Bible (Old Testament), "*a hostile prince and the land from which he comes to attack Israel.*" In Bible (New Testament) "*two kings, who are to attack the Church in a climactic battle, but are then to be destroyed by God.*" In European Myth and Legend (Brit Folklore), "*two giants, the only survivors of a race of giants destroyed by Brutus, the legendary founder of Britain.*"<sup>21</sup>

#### a) Literal meaning of Gog and Magog

Gog and Magog is literally defined in the biblical verses as:

*"Son of man, set your face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him, And say, Thus said the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against you, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal--"*<sup>22</sup>

The name Gog, which occurs eleven times in Ezek 38–39. It is a name or title of the leader of the invasion. It is clear that Gog is an individual since God directly addresses him several times<sup>23</sup> and since he called a prince.<sup>24</sup>

The literal meaning according to Smith's Bible dictionary is: "Gog is a mountain as well as it is A Reubenite." (1Chronicles 5:4) son of Shemaiah.<sup>25</sup>

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<sup>21</sup> Railton, N. M. (2003). Gog and Magog: the History of a Symbol. *The Evangelical Quarterly*, p23.

<sup>22</sup> Ezek 38–39.

<sup>23</sup> Ezek.38:14; 39:1

<sup>24</sup> Ibid. 38:2; 39:1

<sup>25</sup> Smith, W. (1884). *Smith's Bible Dictionary*. London : Grand Rapids, MI: Christian Classics Ethereal Library. p258

Another meaning of Gog mentioned in Hitchcock's dictionary is "roof; covering"<sup>26</sup>

In Nave's topical bible, the word Gog has used for:

1. A Scythian prince
2. The name of the leader of the hostile party described in Ezek. 38, 39, as coming from the "north country" and assailing the people of Israel to their own destruction <sup>27</sup>

### Gog or Gyges

Many modern scholars have identified Gog with Gyges (Gugu) who was in seventh century B.C.<sup>28</sup> Lydian king mentioned in six inscriptions of the Assyrian monarch Ashurbanipal. Since the setting of Ezek 38–39 is eschatological, Gyges, who reigned a century before Ezekiel, cannot be the fulfillment of this prophecy. Moreover, Gyges never led an invasion into Israel. Nevertheless, it is possible that Ezekiel used Gyges as an archetype or symbol of the great eschatological invader.<sup>29</sup>

An accepted view about Gog is that it is Antichrist, an personality having paranormal skills prophesized by the bible to appear in the final hours. Nevertheless, Gog cannot be an Antichrist because if it is it should be a false prophet as it is in Islam like Al Mahdi and false prophet will be able to perfume supernatural but Gog cannot, as it is mention in bible Revelation 13:11.<sup>30</sup>

St. Augustine says in the original language, Gog means "*under the roof.*" Magog means "*out from under the roof.*" Gog refers to Satan, as he is captive, bound, and kept as it were: *under a roof.* Magog refers to Satan as unloosed. As Magog, he bursts forth from where he had bound, *under the roof.* The scriptural references to Gog and Magog symbolize the full fury of Satan unchained: the unleashing of the spirit of antichrist. He states that the scripture means when it says that "*his armies will*

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<sup>26</sup> Hitchcock, Roswell D. (1874). *Hitchcock's Bible Names Dictionary*. New York: A.J. Johnson. Pp 44

<sup>27</sup> Nave, Orville J. (1896). *Nave's Topical Bible*. Grand Rapids, MI: Christian Classics Ethereal Library.p347

<sup>28</sup> Boe, S. (2001). *Gog and magog: Ezekiel 38-39 As Pre-Text for Revelation 19, 17-21 and 20, 7-10*. Tubingen: Mohrsiebeck. P 91

<sup>29</sup> Hitchcock, D. M. (2008). *The Battle of Gog and Magog*. London:Pre-Trib Research Center, p3

<sup>30</sup> Smith, J. (2009). Israel. In J. Smith, *Islam the Cloak of Antichrist in bible prophecy*. USA:winepresspublishing, p244

be as many as the sands of the sea; is that at some point Satan's power will universally re-conquer the whole world. Gog firstly refers to the "malevolent spirit of atheism" that came from "Rosh," Gog and Magog, defiled the spiritual Israel, which allegorically represents all the people of God. Evil spread like a dark cloud over the whole earth. Gog and Magog, is the defiant, corrupt, and hateful spirit of the anti-Christ - manifested by evil.<sup>31</sup>

**Gog, (Goog, or Gogs) may be referred as "People"**

- Anikó Góg the Hungarian triathlete.
- Gog, ruler from the land of Magog the chief prince of Rosh, Meshech and Tubal from the book of Ezekiel
- Gog and Magog a pair of semi-mystical peoples in the *Bible*
- *GOG Svedberg*, a Danish team in the Danish Handball League
- Gorillas of Gospel a Christian rap/rock band in the Maryland
- Gynecologic Oncology Group or Gog, a non-profit organization researching gynecological cancers
- Gog or "goggled", a person from North Wales from the Welsh word for "north"<sup>32</sup>

From the above discussion, we may conclude that the meaning of Gog is extremely difficult to be associated with one meaning. Some have identified him with Gyges (seventh century B.C.), king of Lydia (extreme western Asia Minor). Some have suggested the place name Gagai; some have understood Gog to be a historical figure such as Alexander the Great. One possible explanation is that Gog is merely an official title or general designation for any enemy of God's people. This interpretation based on the Septuagint<sup>33</sup> rendering of several Kingly names in the Old Testament.<sup>34</sup>

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<sup>31</sup> Augustine, S. (1828). Gog and Magog. In S. Augustine, *The Works of Aurelius Augustine: A New Translation* (M. Dods, Trans., Vol. 2, p. 396). New York: T. Clark EDINBURGH.

<sup>32</sup> The Social Science Encyclopedia. (2005). *Gog*. New York: Routledge

<sup>33</sup> THE SEPTUAGINT, derived from the Latin word for "seventy," can be a confusing term, since ideally it refers to the third-century BCE Greek translation of the Hebrew Scriptures, executed in Alexandria, Egypt. The *Septuagint* had been an interpretational rabbinic translation of the Hebrew Five Books of Moses (Pentateuch) in pre-Christian times which is almost totally lost but survived in substantial fragments. Jews had rendered un-Sacred Scripture the Septuagint, because of its divergence from the original Jewish Bible (afterward called the Masoretic) and because of the fact that it had been adopted as Greek Sacred Scripture by the new Christian religion. The ancient *Septuagint known as LXX or Greek Old Testament*. Today it became part of the Bible of the Christian Church, and became deleted from Judaism.

Perhaps Gog is only a derivative of the related word Magog. None of the above suggestions has sufficient evidence for identification. Most probably, Gog is a person, but geographical identifications does not give any sound clarification.

## Magog

It is very difficult to understand meaning of Gog without Magog. Usually these two names appear together in bible, we can see this in revelation and Ezekiel as well.

In this section, we will try to understand the literal meaning of Magog in the light of biblical sources and will try to enquire about Magog.

Magog is a region of Gog. In (Genesis 10:2) Magog appears as the second son of Japheth; in (Ezekiel 38:2; 39:1, 6) it appears as a country or people of which Gog was the prince.

The notices of Magog would lead us to fix a northern locality: it is expressly stated by Ezekiel "he was to come up from the sides of the north," (Ezekiel 39:2) from a country neighboring to that of Togarmah or Armenia, chapter 58:6 and not far from "the isles" or maritime regions of Europe. Chapter (Ezekiel 39:6) the people of Magog further appear as having a force of cavalry, (Ezekiel 38:16) and as armed with the bow. Chapter (Ezekiel 39:3) from the above data may conclude that Magog represents the important race of the Scythians.

Magor-missabib: (terror on every side) is the name given by Jeremiah to Pashur the priest. When he smote him and put him in the stocks for prophesying against the idolatry of Jerusalem. (Jeremiah 20:3)<sup>35</sup>

In Hitchcock's Bible Names Dictionary Magog mean, covering; roof; dissolving<sup>36</sup>. In Easton's bible dictionary, Magog identified as:

- Region of Gog,
- Magog is the second of the "sons" of Japheth (Genesis 10:2; 1 Chronicles 1:5).
- In (Ezekiel 38:2; 39:6) it is the name of a nation, probably some Scythian or Tartar tribe descended from Japheth.
- They are described as skilled horsemen, and expert in the use of the bow.

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<sup>34</sup> The Old Testament is a Christian term for a collection of religious writings of ancient Israel that form the first section of Christian Bibles, in contrast to the Christian New Testament.

<sup>35</sup> Smith, W. (1884). *Smith's Bible Dictionary*. London : Grand Rapids, MI: Christian Classics Ethereal Library. Pp 258,444

<sup>36</sup> Hitchcock, R. D. (1874). *Hitchcock's Bible Names Dictionary*. New York: A.J. Johnson.p 75

According to the Latin father, Jerome this word denotes "Scythian nations, fierce and innumerable, who live beyond the Caucasus and the Lake Meiotic, and near the Caspian Sea, and spread out even onward to India." Perhaps the name "represents the Assyrian Mat Gugi, or 'country of Gugu,' the Gyges of the Greeks.<sup>37</sup>

In another linguistic dictionary of bible, Magog has defined as:

- Son of Japheth Gen<sup>38</sup> 10:2; 1Ch 1:5
- Prophecy concerning Ezek 38:2; 39:6
- Symbolical of the enemies of God Re 20:8<sup>39</sup>

There is common perspective about Magog in above mention meaning of Magog is they are the people whom will be lead by Gog and they are enemies of God.

#### b) Conventional meaning of Gog and Magog

The tradition of Gog and Magog (Hebrew: גִּיגִי וּמָגוּג; Arabic: مَاجُوجَ وَجَاجُوجَ) begins with mysterious Biblical references regarding apocalyptic prophecy in the Book of Ezekiel and the Book of Revelation. The ambiguity of this tradition cannot be overstated. They are variously presented as human beings, as supernatural beings (giants or demons), as nations, and as lands. Part of the confusion is the difference between Tanakh, Septuagint, and internal contradictions in the text. They mentioned in the Qur'ān as Ya'jūj and Ma'jūj occurred widely in mythology and folklore.

If I define them in merely means so these are Names, respectively, of a king and of his supposed kingdom, mentioned several times in Ezekiel 38 and 39, and once in the Apocalypse (20:7). In the first, passage of Ezekiel the command of Yahweh to the prophet: "*Son of man, set thy face against Gog the land of Magog...and prophesy of him...Behold, I come against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Mosoch and Tubal*" (38:2-3). A similar command is also found at the beginning of chapter 39. These two chapters contain repeated reference to Gog and Magog, but they furnish only

<sup>37</sup> M.G. Easton M.A., D. (1897). *Easton Illustrated Bible Dictionary* (3rd ed.). Thomas Nelson. P.435

<sup>38</sup> The Book of Genesis (from the Latin Vulgate, transliterated from Greek, meaning "origin"), is the first book of the Hebrew Bible (the Tanakh) and the Christian Old Testament.

<sup>39</sup> Nave, Orville J. (1896). *Nave's Topical Bible*. Grand Rapids, MI: Christian Classic Eheraal Library, P 553

vague and uncertain indications as to the identity of the ruler or the location of the country. In chapter 39 Gog is represented as being accompanied in his invasion of the land of Israel by the Persians, Ethiopians, and Libyans, Gomer, and...The house of Togarmah and in verse 15 we read: "*And thou shalt come out of thy place from the northern parts.*" From the number and variety of the people mentioned in this connection, some writers have inferred that the name Gog may be only a generic appellation, or figure, used in Ezekiel to designate the host of the enemies of Israel, and in the Apocalypse to denote the multitude of the foes of the Church. Others conjecture that it may be a local title expressing the royal dignity, such as the name *Pharaoh* in Egypt. However, it seems more probable that both names are historical. On the other hand, as Mosoch and Tubal were nations belonging to Asia Minor, it would seem from the text of Ezekiel that Magog must be in that part of the world.<sup>40</sup>

If we see in the reference of bible in the end of time, there will be attack against the nation Israel and the goal will be to annihilate God's chosen nation. Before this goal can be accomplished the invading army will be supernaturally destroyed in a remarkable way that will bring glory to Jehovah, and God and Magog will hold this attack. The details of this invasion are clearly revealed by the prophet Ezekiel in chapters 38-3.

*"Son of man set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince (literally "the prince of Rosh") of Meshech and Tubal."* Ezekiel 38:2: clearly identify to those who will attack on the people of Israel and Magog is one of them.

Magog mentioned in Gen. 10: 2; and in I Chron. 5: 3, 4, as the second son of Japheth, between Gomer and Madai. Gomer representing the Cimmerians and Madai the Medes, Magog must be a people located east of Cimmerians and west of Medes.

The Jewish historian and scholar Josephus<sup>41</sup> in his book *Antiquities of the Jews* identifies Magog with the "Scythians" a name that among classical writers stands for

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<sup>40</sup> Driscoll, James F. (1909). Gog and Magog. The Catholic Encyclopaedia. Vol. 6. New York: Robert Appleton Company.

<sup>41</sup> Titus Flavius Josephus also called Joseph Ben, was a Jew who grew up in Jerusalem at the beginning of the Common Era. He knew Jewish texts and the Greek language (although his Greek grammar was faulty). During the Great Revolt from 66-73 CE, Josephus served as a general of the Galilee.

a number of unknown ferocious tribes, but this name seems to have been used generically in antiquity for a number of peoples north of the Black Sea.<sup>42</sup>

According to the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* (1957) and *The International Standard Bible Encyclopaedia*, the Scythian people lived to the north of the Black Sea and north of the Caucasus Mountains. This area today is part of Russia. Gesenius, the Hebrew scholar, says that the descendants of Magog were "a great and powerful people, inhabiting the extreme recesses of the north"<sup>43</sup>.

The Jewish Talmud<sup>44</sup> and Midrashim<sup>45</sup> also deal with Magog's location, and use the names Gytia (גיטיא) and Germania (גרמניא), identified by some scholars as Kermania and Sattagydia, which are currently located in eastern Iran and Baluchistan which is also called Sakastan, meaning "home of the Scythians" (which were named by Josephus as Magogites).<sup>46</sup>

According to Jerome<sup>47</sup>, Magog was situated beyond the Caucasus, near the Caspian Sea. In Ezekiel 38:2 "Magog" occurs as the name of a country; in Ezek. 39: 6 as that of a northern people, the leader of whom is Gog<sup>48</sup>. "Gog" the "prince" has been explained by Rashi<sup>49</sup>, Radak<sup>50</sup> and others as being the king of the nation of Magog, descended from the son Magog of Japheth, the son of Noah. No particular nation is associated with them, nor is any particular territory beyond them being in the

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<sup>42</sup> Driscoll, James F. (1913). *The original catholic encyclopedia*. Encyclopedia Press. p 628

<sup>43</sup>Rountree, David.(2008). *EZEKIEL 38-39 , GOG & MAGOG: RUSSIA AND THE MIDDLE EAST*. USA: new covenant church, p3

<sup>44</sup> The Talmud is a central text of Rabbinic Judaism, considered second to the Torah. It is also traditionally referred to as Shas, a Hebrew abbreviation of shisha sedarim, the "six orders" of the Oral Law of Judaism. The Talmud has two components: the Mishnah, the first written compendium of Judaism's Oral Law, and the Gemara, an elucidation of the Mishnah and related Tannaitic writings that often ventures onto other subjects and expounds broadly on the Hebrew Bible.

<sup>45</sup> Midrash is a Hebrew term for the body of homiletic stories told by Jewish rabbinic sages to explain passages in the Bible. Midrash is a method of interpreting biblical stories that goes beyond simple distillation of religious, legal, or moral teachings.

<sup>46</sup> Ariel. (28-4-2010). *Gog and Magog in Hebrew Tradition*. Canada :Bibleisdiscovered,p4

<sup>47</sup> Jerome, st. (c. 347 – 30 September 420) was an Illyrian catholic priest and apologist. He was the son of Eusebius, of the city of stridon , which was on the border of Dalmatia and Pannonia . He is best known for his translation of the Bible into Latin (the Vulgate), and his list of writings is extensive. He is recognized by the Catholic Church as a saint and Doctor of the Church, and the Vulgate is still an important text in Catholicism. He is also recognized as a saint by the Eastern orthodox church, where he is known as *St. Jerome of Stridonium* or *Blessed Jerome*

<sup>48</sup>B.K. Ualla (2013).100 Impressive Ways of the Gods within the NGE. Xlibris Corporation, p87

<sup>49</sup> Shlomo Yitzhaki, in Latin Salomon Isaac ides; today generally known by the acronym Rashi was a medieval French rabbi

<sup>50</sup> David Kimhi (1160–1235), also known by the Hebrew acronym as the RaDaK was a medieval rabbi, biblical commentator, philosopher, and grammarian.



north of Israel<sup>51</sup>. Some Biblical scholars believe that Gyges, king of Lydia (687 BC–652 BC), is meant. In Assyrian letters, Gyges appears as *Gu-gu*, in which case Magog might be his territory in Anatolia<sup>52</sup>; for in Assyrian, *māt Gu-gu* would be the normal way of designating 'the land of Gugu'.<sup>53</sup>

## 2.2 The Bible and its commentaries on Gog and Magog

Literature has described about the Gog and Magog traditions and provided the imaginative descriptions of them. While going through the history of Gog and Magog traditions, we find many writers putting much emphasis on Revelation 20:8 while discussing Gog and Magog. To know the background, we have to study the history of research in the Gog-Magog tradition over the last centuries. Then we list the views regarding Gog's armies presented by different scholars. We find many writers endeavoring to illustrate the significance of the Ezekielian prophecies throughout Rev, where the eschatological battle happens<sup>54</sup>. We come to know about the difficulties and ways of ascertaining the traditions of Gog and Magog.

### The names of Gog and Magog in Old Testament outside of Ezekiel

The names of Gog and Magog are found in Christian, Jewish, and Samaritan books. Biblical scholars are familiar with the Gog from Magog oracles in Ezekiel 38-39 and their reappearance in Rev 20, 8. We find the mention of Magog in Chro<sup>55</sup> 1, 5 and Gen<sup>56</sup> 10, 2 where he is described as the second son of Noah's son, Japheth.

- Gog replaces Agag in Samaritan and Septuagint versions (LXX) as a mighty king in future.<sup>57</sup>
- In Chr, Gog also called Goug is a descendant of Reuben<sup>58</sup>.

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<sup>51</sup>Harav Mosheh Lichtenstein (n.d.). *The War of Gog and Magog: The Haftara of Shabbat Chol Ha-mo'ed Sukkot*. United state Of America: Xulon press, p7

<sup>52</sup> Jon mark Ruthven, (2003). *The prophecy that is shaping history: new research on the Ezekiel's vision on end*. United state Of America: Xulon press, p47

<sup>53</sup> Dr Ian Elmer. (26-8-2010). *the legend of Gog and Magog (revelation 20:7,8)*. Australia: catholic biblical Association, p4

<sup>54</sup> Rev.19:11, 21:8

<sup>55</sup> The two Books of Chronicles are the final books of the modern Jewish bible; in Christian bibles they follow the two Books of Kings and precede Ezra and Nehemiah, thus concluding the history-oriented books of the Old Testament.

<sup>56</sup> The Book of Genesis (from the Latin Vulgate, in turn borrowed or transliterated from Greek meaning "origin" is the first book of the Hebrew Bible (the Tanakh) and the Christian Old Testament.

<sup>57</sup> Robert Jamieson, A.R. Fausset & David Brown. (1871). *Bible Commentary Critical and Explanatory*. USA: Christian classics Ethereal library.

<sup>58</sup> Chr5:4

- Septuagint version of Amos describes Gog as the mighty king of the locusts who will invade Israelites.<sup>59</sup>
- In the book of Jubilees<sup>60</sup>, Gog is mentioned once while Magog is mentioned twice as a place that refers to the time after deluge and its location is far to the north.
- In 1QM XI, 16<sup>61</sup> Gog seems to be the worst opponent of Israel in eschatological war as well as God's enemy.
- In the third book of Sibylline Oracles (3,319,512), Gog and Magog are mentioned twice and their location is mentioned as Ethiopia.
- In 4Q161 in a peshet to Isa 11,5, Magog is mentioned as a subject under the kinship of Messiah.
- In the Genesis Apocryphal (Gen XII,12 and XVII,10,16) Magog is described three times who was alive after the deluge.
- We also find frequent mention of Gog and Magog in the Targumim.<sup>62</sup>

#### **Gog defined as personalities**

According to Jamieson, Fausset and Brown's commentary, This title (Gog) was probably a common one of the kings of the country, as "Pharaoh" in Egypt. Chakan was the name given by the Northern Asiatic to their king, and is still a title of the Turkish sultan: "Gog" may be a contraction of this. In Ezekiel's time a horde of northern Asiatic, termed by the Greeks as "Scythians". Ezekiel might adopt these names from the historical fact familiar to men at the time, as ideal titles for the great last anti-Christian confederacy.<sup>63</sup>

According to Gill, Calmet thinks that Cambyses and his army are meant by Gog and Magog.

Gog interpreted as be a common name of the kings of the lesser Asia and Syria, or the Seleucid, who distressed the Jews in the times of the Maccabeus; the chief of whom was Antiochus Epiphanies, who is supposed, to be more especially designed, and was

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<sup>59</sup> Amos 7:1

<sup>60</sup> Jubilees 7:19,8:25,9:7-8

<sup>61</sup> The was scroll (1QM) has been one of the basic sources of the knowledge of the eschatology of the Qumran community since of IQM in 1954/55. It is generally recognized as a genuine sectarian writing.

<sup>62</sup> Sverre Boe , (2001). Gog and Magog: Ezekiel 38-39 As Pre-Text for Revelation 19, 17-21 and 20, 7-10. Tübingen: Mohr siebeck. Pp 45–58

<sup>63</sup> Robert Jamieson, A.R. Fausset & David Brown. (1871). Bible Commentary Critical and Explanatory. USA: Christian classics Eihereal library.

a type of antichrist. In addition, the city of Hierapolis in Syria was called by the Syrians Magog; and they believe that the name of Gog is the same with Gyges a king of Lydia, whose country was called from him Gygea, or Gog's land, who was grandfather to Croesus; and which country came into the hands of Cyrus, and from the Persians into the hands of the Greeks, and so to the Seleucid; for which reason they may bear this name in this prophecy.

These are the views for those who suppose this prophecy was fulfilled after the Jew's return from the Babylon's captivity, and before the coming of Christ; but it is certain that the prophecy refers to what should be in "latter years," and in the "latter days as it comes in Ezekiel 38:8. Jews make Gog to be the general of the Ishmaelite or Turks, as Armillus of the Christians, and who shall reign in the kingdom of Magog or Scythia. Gog is the name of a man, 1 Chronicles 5:4, as it is here, and not of a country.<sup>64</sup>

With the passing of time Gog and magog has been define as some nations like: Goths as Gog and magog. Ambrose was the first to integrate the Goths in a Christian view of the world. In a treatise, *de fide*, written at the request of Emperor Gratian, he took up the issue of the Goths because the Emperor was going to fight them on the Balkans in the Gothic War (376–382)<sup>65</sup>. In a comment on Ezekiel 39:10–11 he famously wrote: *Gog iste Gothus est* — "That Gog is the Goth" (who ravaged the Roman empire in the fifth and sixth ages)<sup>66</sup>.

In the mid 390s, Jerome did not agree with this assessment. In his comment on Genesis 10:2, he argued that events had proven Ambrose wrong, and he instead identified the Goths with the Getae of Thrace<sup>67</sup>. Augustine did not agree with Ambrose either. In his *The City of God*, he explained that Gog and Magog, in the

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<sup>64</sup> John Gill, (1746-63). *Exposition of the Old and New Testament*. London: The Philadelphia Baptist Association, p708

<sup>65</sup> Arne Soby Christensen, (Ed.). (2002). *Cassiodorus Jordanes and the History of the Gothic: Studies in a Migration Myth*. (H. Flegal, Trans.) Denmark: Museumtusculanum press, p47

<sup>66</sup> John Gill, (1746-63). *Exposition of the Old and New Testament*. London: The Philadelphia Baptist Association, p701

<sup>67</sup> The Getae was the name given by the Greeks to several Thracian tribes (The Thracians were a group of Indo-European tribes inhabiting a large area in Central and Southeastern Europe) inhabiting the regions to either side of the Lower Danube, in what is today northern Bulgaria and Romania. This was a hinterland of Greek colonies on the Black Sea coast, bringing the Getae into contact with the Ancient Greeks from an early date.

Book of Revelation are not a particular people in a particular place, but that they exist all over the world<sup>68</sup>.

In the *Getica*, written by Jordanes in 551 as an abbreviation of a lost work by Theodoric's chancellor Cassiodorus, Josephus quoted for connecting Magog to the Scythians and so to the Goths.<sup>69</sup>

Isidore of Seville confirmed that people in his day supposed that the Goths were descended from Japheth's son Magog "because of the similarity of the last syllable," and also mentions the view that they were anciently known as Getae.<sup>70</sup> Many of the mountains peaks in the Caucasian mountains and land areas there retain the place name "Gog" in medieval European and Armenian maps. The 11th-century historian Adam of Bremen considered Ezekiel's prophecy to have been fulfilled in the Swedes, a group related to the Goths<sup>71</sup>. Johannes Magnus (1488–1544) stated that Magog's sons were Sven and Gethar, who became the ancestors of the Swedes and the Goths. Queen Christina of Sweden (1626 – 1689) reckoned herself as number 249 in a list of kings going back to Magog.<sup>72</sup>

### **Gog and magog as Khazars**

Sometimes Christian writers associated the Khazars with Gog and Magog. In his 9th century work , the Benedictine monk Christian of Stavelot refers to the Khazars as Hunnic descendants of Gog and Magog, and says they are "Circumcised and observing all (the laws of) Judaism";the Khazars were a Central Asian people with a long association with Judaism. A Georgian tradition<sup>73</sup>, echoed in a chronicle, also identifies the Khazars with Gog and Magog, stating they are "wild men with hideous faces and the manners of wild beasts, eaters of blood." However, according to the

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<sup>68</sup> Ibid.

<sup>69</sup> Ibid.

<sup>70</sup> Richard Fletcher, (1997). *The barbarian conversion: from paganism to Christianity*. New York: University of California Press, p257

<sup>71</sup> Nora Berend.(Ed.). *Christianization and the Rise of Christian Monarchy: Scandinavia, Central Europe and Rus' C.900-1200*. Cambridge.

<sup>72</sup> Ezekiel\_ *The Prophecy Against Gog*. (21-2-2010). Scripture: Chapters 38-39. New York: University of California Press,Ezekiel-Lesson-12

<sup>73</sup> Georgian Wicca is a tradition, or denomination, in the neo-pagan religion of Wicca. In its organisation, it is very similar to British Traditional Wicca groups such as Gardnerian Wicca; however, it does not trace its initiatory line to one of the old English covens. The name "Georgian" refers to its founder, George Patterson, who founded the tradition in 1970 in the United States.

famous Khazar Correspondence, King Joseph of Khazar claims to be the descendant of Togarmah, whom directly not related to Magog.<sup>74</sup>

### **Gog and Magog as Israelites or Jews**

The 14th-century *Travels of Sir John Mandeville*, a book of fanciful travels, makes a peripheral association between the Jews and Gog and Magog, saying the nation trapped behind the Gates of Alexander comprised the Ten Lost Tribes of Israel. Additionally, a German tradition claimed a group called the Red Jews would invade Europe at the end of the world. The "Red Jews" became associated with different peoples, but especially the Eastern European Jews and the Ottoman Turks.<sup>75</sup>

### **Gog and Magog as Russia**

According to one modern theory of dispensationalist Biblical hermeneutics, Gog and Magog represent Russia. The Scofield's reference Bible notes to Ezekiel claim that "Meshech" is a Hebrew form of Moscow, and that "Tubal" represents the Siberian capital Tobolsk<sup>76</sup>. During the Cold War, this identification led Hal Lindsey to claim that the Soviet Union would play a major role in the end times. Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, some commentators have attempted to cast some other country in the role of Gog<sup>77</sup>. Apocalyptic author Louis Bauman claimed that the word "Caucasian" came from the Arabic term "gog-i-hisn" for the mountains there which means "fortress of Gog"<sup>78</sup>. However, this identification is unanimously rejected by even the most conservative of credentialed biblical scholars working in accredited institutions of higher learning. Many teach that Gog represents the country of Russia. There are three reasons for this:

1. MESHECH was another son of Japheth (Genesis 10:2). The descendants of this man lived for centuries in Asia Minor (probably in Cappadocia), and later were pushed northward by their enemies into the mountainous area southeast of the Black Sea. Today this area borders on Russia.

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<sup>74</sup> Subsidiary: Sourcebooks. (1996). *King John of England: Royal Licenses to Export and Import, 1205-1206*. fordham University.

<sup>75</sup> Andrew Colin Gow & Heiko A. Oberman, (1995). *The Red Jews: Anti-Semitism in an Apocalyptic Age 1200-1600*. New York: koln: Brill. P.78.

<sup>76</sup> C. I. Scofield. (ed 1917). *Scofield Reference Notes*. Oxford University Press, p 205

<sup>77</sup> Hal Lindsey. (25-5-2012). *The Hal Lindsey Report*. USA

<sup>78</sup> John Gill, (1746-63). *Exposition of the Old and New Testament*. London: The Philadelphia Baptist Association, p 709

2. Magog: is described as being in 'the far north'.<sup>79</sup>
3. Rosh is the ancient Hebrew name for the Russ ("blonds") who settled in the plains of Eastern Europe in the ninth century A.D. They gave their name to the Russian nation. The people of Rosh are among the *White Russians* of Byelorussia today. Living next to the people of Rosh are Meshech and Tubal...Josephus calls them the *Moschevi* and *Thobelites*...Together, the Caucasian branches of Meshech and Tubal form the two distinct branches of the Great Russians of today.<sup>80</sup>

### **Gog and Magog as Celts**

Some legends of Hungarians and certain Celtic peoples say they are descendants of Magog. Poseidonius, for example, mentions that the Cimmericians, considered the original ancestors in Celtic traditions, were derived from gug and guas<sup>81</sup>.

Gog and Magog since the time of Josephus have been interpreted to mean the Scythian tribe living in the Caucasus and the districts between the Caspian Sea and the sea of Asof, and Meshech has been supposed to point to Moscow, Tubal to Tobolsk, on the Tobol, the capital of western Siberia.<sup>82</sup>

Scythians are descended from Ashkenazi (or Ashkuz), son of Gomer, son of Japheth as listed in Genesis. Ashkenazi is Magog's nephew. The term Scythe or Skyth derived from Ashkenazi, appearing in Assyrian records as "Ishkuzai," reported as a people pouring in from the north sometime around the beginning of the 7th century BC.<sup>83</sup>

One of the earliest references to Magog is thought to come from Assyrian inscriptions in the 9th century BC referencing the "Mat Gugi," meaning "country of the Gugu." at their earliest stages, tribes of Magogians and Scythians assimilated into one people.

Albius Tibullus, Latin poet in the 1st century BC, mentions that a people living on the River Tanais (present-day River Don) were called "Magini,"

<sup>79</sup> Rountree ,David. ( 3-11-2012). EZEKIEL 38-39, Gog & Magog: Russia And The Middle East. USA: new covenant church, p68

<sup>80</sup>Dr. Thiel, B. (3-6-2010). flotilla does not start gog and magog fulfillment. London: COG writer, p21

<sup>81</sup> Ame Soby Christensen, (Ed.). (2002). Cassiodorus Jordanes and the History of the Gothic: Studies in a Migration Myth. (H. Flegal, Trans.) Danmark: Museum tusculanum press. P47

<sup>82</sup> Charles H. Hamilton Wright. (1886). Biblical essays; Exgetical studies. New York: Clark. P104

<sup>83</sup> thewinds. (14-12-2010). Gog, Magog And The Kingdom Of The Khazars Part II. Cambridge university press, P. 12

"Magogitis" or "Magotis," which in Greek became "Maiotis," whom scholars say were from the colonies of Magog, sometimes referred to as Magogites.<sup>84</sup>

Hesiod, father of Greek didactic poetry and literature, identifying Magog with the Scythians and with southern Russia. Hesiod likely derived this identity from Colchians or Colchi people where, in their ancient Chaldaic language, described the region of southern Russia as "Gog-chasan" or "Gog-hasan" (Arabic "Gog-i-his") meaning "fortress of Gog" or "Gog's fort"<sup>85</sup>.

The name "Scythian" has been used to refer to various peoples seen as similar to the Scythians, or who lived anywhere in a vast area covering present-day Ukraine, Russia and Central Asia, known until medieval times as Scythia. These peoples would later form tribes and ethnic groups as familiar names in history: Huns, Turks, Tartars, Mongols and others.

There are many evidences that link Turks, Huns and Mongols from their earliest formations as tribes of Magogians and Scythians:

1. Their Ural-Altaic languages.
2. Their use of Runic inscriptions.
3. Their coming from the north and
4. their extensive use of horses and archery<sup>86</sup>

The descendents of Gog and Magog are today the peoples of those regions and Ezekiel describes them in similar terms: as we can see in chapter 38:4. Identification of Gog with historical figure has been attempted often but with very little success. Neither Gog nor the land of magog appears fit to any known historical figure or political power at the time. Gog there for should be understood in symbolic term as the very epitome of the evil in the history. Darkness and light in the tense struggle on the stage of history<sup>87</sup>.

JOHN SKINNER defined Gog as the impersonation of the Dreaded power of the northern barbarians, already recognized as a serious danger to the peace of the world. His designation as prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal points to the region east of the

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<sup>84</sup>Tim Osterholm, (updated in 2012). Gog & Magog: Their names in history, their places in prophecy. United state of America: Sound Christian library. P.90

<sup>85</sup> John Gill, (1746-63). Exposition of the Old and New Testament. London: The Philadelphia Baptist Association, p701

<sup>86</sup> projects. (5-12-2010). MONGOLS. England: Foundation for Medieval Genealogy

<sup>87</sup> Balmer H. Kelly. (1966). The Layman's bible commentary (Vol. 13). United State of America: Richmond: John Knox Press. p76

Black Sea as the seat of his power. He also added that He is the captain of a vast multitude of horsemen, gorgeously arrayed, and armed with shield, helmet, and sword. However, Gog himself belongs to the "uttermost north" he gathers under his banner all the most distant nations both of the north and the south. Not only northern peoples like the Cimmerians and Armenians, but also Persians and Africans, all of them with shield and helmet, swell the ranks of his motley army. The name of Gog is thus on the way to become a symbol of the implacable enmity of this world to the kingdom of God ; as in the book of the Revelation it appears as the designation of the ungodly world-power which perishes.<sup>88</sup>

In biblical verse Gog is prince of Rosh ,Meshech and Tubal. The identification of Rosh (chief, head) is problematic. A country called RASHU is mentioned in one Assyrian text that also mentions Mushki and Tubal. This identification is likely. On the other hand, some scholars believe that Rosh is a general designation for all northern territories. The Scythian Tauri in the Crimea were so called. The Araxes also was called "Rhos".<sup>89</sup>

A more positive identification can be made for Meshech and Tubal, two other lands ruled by Gog. In Assyrian literature, these peoples were known as Mushki and Tabal. They inhabited the region of central and eastern Anatolia near the headwaters of the Tigris. The Mushki entered the Near East in the twelfth century B.C. During the time of Sargon II the Mushki were ruled by the famous King Mitaó Midas of classical and mythical fame.<sup>90</sup> The modern Russians may have hence assumed their name, as Moscow and Tobolsk from Meshech and Tubal, though their proper ancient name was Slavi, or Wends.<sup>91</sup>

According to the expositor's bible, Meshech and Tubal are the Moschi and Tibareni of the Greek geographers, lying southeast of the Black Sea. A country or tribe Rosh has not been found. Gomer (according to others, however, Cappadocia), Togarmah, Cush and Put are also in his army.<sup>92</sup>

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<sup>88</sup> JOHN SKINNER, M. (1887-8). The book of Ezekiel. in m. l. w. Robertson Nicolle, the expositor s bible (p. 369). London: Hodder and Stoughton.

<sup>89</sup> In Septuagint version the word Rosh is replace with "Rhos"

<sup>90</sup> James E. Smith. (1976). An Exegetical Commentary on EZEKIEL. London: College Press

<sup>91</sup> Robert Jamieson, A.R. Fausset & David Brown. (1871). Bible Commentary Critical and Explanatory. USA: Christian Classics Ethereal Library.

<sup>92</sup> JOHN SKINNER, M. (1887-8). The book of Ezekiel. in m. l. w. Robertson Nicolle, the expositor s bible (p. 372). London: hodder and Stoughton.



Dr. Nicholas Railton, has mentioned that Gog and Magog are the enemies of the people who will appear near the end of time <sup>93</sup>In the literature, the people related to Magog are generally described as skilled persons in terms of war (Ezekiel 38:15 and 39:3-9. We find a reference to Gog and Magog in Ezekiel 38-39 as well as in Revelation 20:7-8 where these two examples reflect the same names but a close study of Scripture manifestly reflects that they do not show the same events and persons. In the prophecy of Ezekiel, Gog will enjoy the status of a leader of a big army, which attacks the country of Israel. Gog is mentioned as an inhabitant of the land of Magog and as the prince of Rosh, Meshech and Tubal (Ezekiel 38:2-3). As per Ezekiel, the battle of Gog and Magog happens during the tribulation period, specifically in the three and a half years.<sup>94</sup>

According to evidences of the phenomena, the attack will take place when Israel enjoys peace (Ezekiel 38:8-11). As per the description of Ezekiel, Israel is a nation that enjoys security and has strong defense. Evidences are also scattered in literature that Israel does not enjoy peace at this time; hence, this matter is inconceivable that this nation will establish its defenses. As long as Israel's covenant with Antichrist/Beast is acted upon, at the start of Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> Week also called the 7 year tribulation (Daniel 9:27a), Israel will enjoy peace. It is likely that the war will take place soon before the mid of the seven year period. As per Ezekiel, Gog will get shameful defeat by God Himself on the top of the mountains of Israel. The killing and destruction will be so terrible that it will take almost seven months for the burial of all dead bodies (Ezekiel 39:11-12).<sup>95</sup>

Then we find the mention about Gog and Magog in Revelation 20:7-8 again. Here the names of Gog and Magog in Revelation 20:8-9, reflect that these nations show the identical rebellion and antagonism against God like those mentioned in Ezekiel 38-39. The Revelation book describes Ezekiel's prediction about the inhabitants of Magog that they will attack on the Israelites. (Revelation 20:8-9). The consequence of this war is that all and sundry will be destroyed and Satan will seek his last place in the lake of the burning fire (Revelation 20:10). It is notable that Gog and Magog of Ezekiel 38-39 are extremely different as compared to the Gog and

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<sup>93</sup> Railton, Nicholas M. "Gog and Magog: the History of a Symbol." *Evangelical Quarterly* 75, no. 1 (2003): 23-44.

<sup>94</sup> E.W. Bullinger, (1909). *Commentary on Revelation*. Grand Rapids, MI: Christian Classics Ethereal Library. p 310

<sup>95</sup> Smith, J. E. (1976). *An Exegetical Commentary on EZEKIEL*. London: College Press. p 237

Magog mentioned in Revelation 20:7-8. There are some clear reasons as to why they refer to different battles and people.

In the war of Ezekiel 38-39, the forces come basically from the north and consist of a few nations of the world (Ezekiel 38:6; 15 and 39:2). The war in Revelation 20:7-9 will have almost all nations; hence, forces will come from almost all directions, not only from the north regions. In the context of Ezekiel 38-39, there is no description of Satan. In Revelation 20:7, the context manifests the battle to be happened at the end of millennium with satanic forces. Ezekiel 39:11-12 describes that the dead bodies would be buried for almost seven months. If the war in Ezekiel 38-39 is the war as mentioned in Revelation 20:8-9, then there is no need to bury the dead bodies.<sup>96</sup> Because soon after following Revelation 20:8-9, there is Great White Throne judgment (20:11-15) and then the heaven and earth are annihilated and replaced by new earth and heaven (Revelation 21:1). Apparently, burial of dead bodies will be required in case the war occurs in early part of tribulation as the country of Israel will be under occupation for the another one thousand years as mentioned as millennial kingdom (Revelation 20:4-6). In Revelation 20, Israelites have been extremely faithful to God for 1000 years (the millennial kingdom). As per Revelation 20:7-10, the rebellious are annihilated without any further chance for repentance. The war in Ezekiel 38-39 has been mentioned by God to restore Israel to Him (Ezekiel).

### **2.3 Traditional Catholic and Protestant views**

Evidences are scattered in the theological Christian literature, which reflect that unlike the modern perception of Gog and Magog, the traditional perception about Gog and Magog is rather different despite the fact that even the basis of the modern perception is the treasure of traditions extracted from the scriptures. Before their separate identities, both Catholic and Protestants followed the same scriptures. During 1500s, the Protestants adopted a new identity by organizing the Old Testament on the footsteps following of the Jewish official canons rather than the Jewish scripture, Septuagint and they formed a new Bible called, Apocrypha." They divided the Bible

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<sup>96</sup> Douglas Burner, (2006), *The Silence Is Broken! God Hooks Ezekiel's Gog & Magog*. United state of America. p285

into Old Testament and Apocrypha and followed both. Protestant followed the Apocrypha until the mid of 1800s. Then Apocrypha was dropped.

The Orthodox Churches and the Roman Catholic Churches would not follow the revisions of the Protestants in the Old Testament or Bible and they carried on their practice of Old Testament based on the Septuagint. Resultantly, there versions of the Bible Old Testament were numerous as compared with the Protestant versions. Catholic Old Testament comprise of Judith, Sirach, Tobit, Maccabeus, Baruch and The Wisdom of Solomon. There were also stories of Bel and Susanna and the Dragon as these are found in Daniel. Moreover, there were books of Esther. In addition to all these, there were Maccabeus, Psalm 151, Prayer of Manasseh, and 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> Esdras for the Orthodox Churches.<sup>97</sup>

Like many other differences of opinions, they also have differences on the description and identification of Gog and Magog.

#### **Traditional Catholic view**

Melbourne's Royal Arcade having Gaunt's Clock and the two giant figures that having been striking the time since 1842. The inscription that accompanies the Melbourne landmark tells us that the figures represent "Gog and Magog," two characters from British mythology that according to legend "were captured in battle by the Trojans and made to serve as porters at the gateway of an ancient palace."<sup>98</sup>

It is certainly true that Gog and Magog did earn a jersey in British mythology. However, long before they were dragooned into that role, they played a minor part in the Book of Revelation (20:7-8); and, even before that, they were known to the prophet Ezekiel (30:1-4) which is probably where the author of Revelation first come a crossed them. Nevertheless, the roots of this legend probably go back even further, testimony of many of our Biblical texts.

The name Gog first appears as a descendant of Joel, of the tribe of Reuben (1Chr. 5:4). The leader of the rebellions, which came against Israel more than one thousand years prior to this event, was also named Gog:

The prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal ("the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal"), who, Ezekiel said, would invade the restored land of Israel from the far

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<sup>97</sup> The Catholic Bible. (2007). *Catholic & Protestant Bibles*. TAN Books & Publishers, Inc

<sup>98</sup> *Dr Ian Elmer (26-8-2010). the legend of Gog and Magog (revelation20:7-8)*. Australia: catholic biblical Association, p4

distant northern land by the appointment of God in the last times, with a powerful army of numerous nations ( Ezek. 38:1-9) and with the intention of plundering Israel, now dwelling in security (Ezek. 38:1-10-16).

In Ezekiel, just as later in Revelation, Gog (and Magog) represent hostile forces that come against Israel "clothed in full armor, a great company, all of them with shield and buckler, wielding swords" (Ezek 38:4). In Revelation (20:8) their number "is as numerous as the sands of the sea". Ezekiel (38:15) tells us that this great horde will come from "the remotest parts of the North"; while Revelation (20:8) suggests that, they will come from the "four corners of the world."

The identification of this evil entity has long been a point of controversy among commentators. Ezekiel's "Gog" represented a sinister power that came against ancient Israel, but was defeated. However, the origins of that legend may lie in a much earlier, more primitive legend.

Gog literally means "great" or "lifted up." It is spelled *gimel - vav - gimel*. The *gimel* is the third letter of the Hebrew alphabet. The letter *gimel* literally means a camel, but it also carries the symbolic meaning of being lifted up. This is because the camel normally kneels for a rider to mount, and then the camel rises to lift the rider. It can also carry the symbolic meaning of pride-being "lifted up" in one's own eyes. When a camel walks, it holds its head high with its nose in the air. A camel appears to walk with pride.

Hence, the name, Gog, spelled with two *gimels*, literally means "doubly lifted up in pride." The middle letter is the *vav*, which literally means a nail or peg. It also serves as the word "and," because it is a conjunction. A conjunction joins (or nails) two things together. So literally, Gog could be literally rendered "pride and (more) pride."<sup>99</sup>

Biblical scholar Ian Elmer said in his commentary that it appears from this brief survey of the texts is that the legend of Gog and Magog may have its origin in an ancient an etiological tale connected to the Abarim Mountains to the east and

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<sup>99</sup> Stephen E Jones. Chapter 15: Gog's Invasion. In Stephen E Jones, *The Struggle for the Birthright*. USA: Gods kingdom ministries, p110

southeast of the Dead Sea.<sup>100</sup> As a formidable range of mountains in the Judean wilderness, Abarim was a place of desolation. Looming large across the desert, the range probably looked like the ranks of an invading army and, therefore, a fitting monument to mythic foreign invaders of the ancient past who lay buried beneath its rocks and peaks. Later Jewish legends would describe Gog and Magog as giants, not unlike the mountains of Abarim.<sup>101</sup>

According to Catholic priest and biblical scholar Rev. George Leo Haydock This name(Gog), which signifies *hidden*, or *covered*, is taken in this place either for the persecutors of the Church of God in general, or some arch persecutor in particular, such as Antichrist. He also added Worthington view that they (persecutors) are supposed to be the princes of some northern and barbarous country. St. Augustine also observes that as the Church is spreader everywhere, so also are persecutors. Worthington added that although they are everywhere but Christ will overcome them all. In addition, what is said of the punishment of Gog is verified by the unhappy end of persecutors. According to Calmet<sup>102</sup>, this prediction is very complicated. It seems plainly to pass on to Cambyses, who attack Judea about seventy years after the temple had been destroyed, and rotten by the hand of God, at Ecbatana<sup>103</sup>, upon Mount Carmel<sup>104</sup>. He further says in his comments saying it is very common with the prophets to give untrue names; as the emperor of Tyre is called a *cherub*, and Jerusalem *Ooliba*. According to Haydock *Magog*.(place) is a Scythia or Tartary, whence the Turks and other enemies of the Church of Christ originally sprung. The proper Scythia withstood all the attempts of his descendant, and overcome Dariu.<sup>105</sup>

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<sup>100</sup> The highest peak in the range is Mt Nebo, noteworthy in biblical terms as the mountain from which Moses viewed the Promised Land before his death (Deut 3:27; 32:49; 34:1, 5). *Jeremiah* (20:20) includes Abarim in his list of places from which the people cry in vain to God for rescue from their impending destruction prior to the Babylonian Exile.

<sup>101</sup> Dr Ian Elmer (26-8-2010). *the legend of Gog and Magog (revelation 20:7-8)*. Australia: catholic biblical Association, p4

<sup>102</sup> Antoine Augustin Calmet, O.S.B. (26 Feb. 1672 – 25 Oct. 1757), a French Benedictine monk.

<sup>103</sup> Ecbatana old Persian: Hanzmatana modern Hamadan, (place of gathering ) is supposed to be the capital of Astyages which was taken by Persian emperor Cyrus in the 6<sup>th</sup> year of Nabonidus (549 BC).

<sup>104</sup> Mount Carmel or Mount Saint Elias is mountain range in northern of the Israel's trenching from the Mediterranean Sea from the southeast. the Syrian Ecbatana where Cambyses died. Pliny informs us it was on Mount Carmel. Mr. William said which is as hard to believe, as when he tells us that the demus thria was near Marathon. (The Quarterly Journal of Education, Volume 2)

<sup>105</sup> Rev. Fr. George Leo Haydock. (1859). *Haydock's Catholic Family Bible and Commentary*. New York: Edward Dunigan and Brother, p231

St. Augustine defined the meaning of these names to be, Gog, a roof, Magog, from a roof, a house, as it were, and he who comes out of the house<sup>106</sup>. The meaning top or covering of a house, totally recognize him (Gog); who set himself among God and man, as the roof is among paradise and world; and who stay out the light of heavenly things, the heat of worship, and shower of religious sanction, from the church; and contrast with this the covering over all nations, Isaiah 25:7 and the cover up cherub, Ezekiel 28:14.<sup>107</sup>

According to Matthew Henry Gog seems the king of the Magog empire so that Gog and Magog are similar to Pharaoh and the Egyptians. Several people believe they locate them far away off, in Scythia, Tartary, and Russia. Others believe they locate them closer the land of Israel, in Syria, as well as Asia the Less.<sup>108</sup>

One more opposing theory says that Gog come up to to be a code name for the Seleucid leader who finally turns into the overlords of Judah after the passing away of Alexander the Great. One such emperor, Antiochus Epiphanies, endeavor to impress Greek spiritual practice on Judeans and thus flicker the Maccabeus rebellion. The area of the Seleucids was centered in Northern Syria, and incorporated "Meshech and Tubal in Asia Minor" (Ezek 38:2). The orientation in Revelation would then represent the vestigial remnants of a later legend that has been conflated with earlier tale about the mythic Gog and the ground of Magog.<sup>109</sup>

Tony Garland bring together different effort to recognize Gog, which have contain suggestion of associations with

1. Gyges, ruler of Lydia (*Gugu* of Ashurbanipal's records);
2. *Gaga*, a name in the Amarna correspondence for the nations of the N<sup>110</sup>;
3. *Gaga*, a god from Ras Shamra writings;

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<sup>106</sup> Augustine. (15-8-1953). *City of God (Book 20, ch11)*. Canada: University of Virginia Library, p230

<sup>107</sup> John Gill, (1746-63). *Exposition of the Old and New Testament*. London: The Philadelphia Baptist Association, p701

<sup>108</sup> Matthew Henry (1708-10). *Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible*. USA: Christian classics Ethereal library , p 401

<sup>109</sup> Ian Elmer (26-8-2010). *the legend of Gog and Magog (revelation20:7-8)*. Australia: catholic biblical Association, p7

<sup>110</sup> The Next Eleven (known also by the numeronym N-11) are the eleven countries Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Turkey, South Korea, and Vietnam— identified by Goldman Sachs investment bank and economist Jim O'Neill in a research paper as having a high potential of becoming, along with the BRICs/BRICS, the world's largest economies in the 21st century.

4. a historical figure, especially Alexander;
5. Mythological sources, with Gog being a representation of the evil forces of darkness, which range themselves against Yahweh and his people. None of these identifications has been demonstrated with certainty.<sup>111</sup>
6. In Assyrian letters, Gyges appears as Gu-gu, in which case Magog might be his territory in Anatolia;
7. In Assyrian, māt Gu-gu would be the normal way of designating "the land of Gugu."<sup>112</sup>

The name Magog introduced to us as a son of Japheth and grandson of Noah (Gen. 10:2). In the previous attack against Israel, Gog said to be "of the land of Magog" (Ezek. 38:2).

The descendants of Magog (Ezek. 38:2), possibly a people who lived in northern Asia and Europe. The Jewish historian Josephus identified these people as the Scythians, known for their destructive warfare. Magog may be a comprehensive term meaning "northern barbarians." The people of Magog are described as skilled horsemen (Ezek. 38:15) and experts in the use of the bow and arrow (Ezek. 39:3, 9).<sup>113</sup>

Amongst the Church Fathers, Ambrose thought that Gog might be a reference to, and a prophesy about, the Goths who were threatening the Empire in his day, Written during the Gothic Wars (376-382 CE).<sup>114</sup>

#### **Traditional protestant view**

According to the Protestants, the Scriptures interpret themselves. They say that without the complete and comprehensive knowledge of the different historical events through the holy books, the main purpose of God could not be determined. In view of that, Harrison endeavoured to stick fast to doctrinal revelation of covenant line. As per modern concept, the Bible shows a detail of a sequence of the ideographic events,

<sup>111</sup> Tony Garland (2004). *A Testimony of Jesus Christ: A Commentary on the Book of Revelation*. USA: Thomas Nelson, Inc. p.137

<sup>112</sup> Ian Elmer (26-8-2010). *the legend of Gog and Magog (revelation20:7-8)*. Australia: catholic biblical Association, p4

<sup>113</sup> Tony Garland (2004). *A Testimony of Jesus Christ: A Commentary on the Book of Revelation*. USA: Thomas Nelson, Inc. p.137

<sup>114</sup> Ian Elmer (26-8-2010). *the legend of Gog and Magog (revelation20:7-8)*. Australia: catholic biblical Association, p4

which overlooks the reality that Protestants had a staunch belief that those details demonstrated an earlier revelation.<sup>115</sup>

G. J. R. Parray (1987) has also explored that 'to Harrison (1535–1593) importance of the substance of the Scriptures laid in the true knowledge of historical practices of the Church.' Harrison staunchly trusted in Scriptures forever. The Hebrews had a various psychological understanding of time as compared to western man. Like Harrison, Luther found the divine promise began to work itself out... just as we experience it today', so that a right historical explanation became a 'source of comfort for us to learn from experience that we are being dealt with by our adversaries.'<sup>116</sup>

Bale had seen that 'differences over the meaning of the Scriptures themselves had always been central to the conflict between the two Churches'. Supporters of Antichrist had invaded the Elect explanation of the Scriptures as the prophetic history with the contemporary immediate relevance because the Bible instructed that Gog and Magog' the two horns or beastly kingdoms of the great antichrist, or whole body of the devil', would emerge 'by the earthly studies and devilish devices of wicked men'.<sup>117</sup>

G.J. R. has further explored that the Protestants preferred to "lay a stress on the potential for the conflict between man's wisdom and the working out of the God's will, a concealed contradiction that did not sanction the acts of the worldly powers, but assessed them as per the constant criteria of God's plan for His dear Church."<sup>118</sup>

From this perspective, the mighty powers had been only instruments in the completion of the divine plans, so that no earthly and political wisdom might be drawn from self-justifying historical sequence but merely theological facts, which the Protestants took, revealed in chronological and historical patterns. Political and earthly wisdom never deflected the essential unfolding of the events in prophetic continuum. Another order of scholarship should be drawn from the history, as the downfall of the princes reflected their glaring failure to instruct their acts by the

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<sup>115</sup> G.J.R.Parray. (1987). *A protestant vision: William Harrison and the reformation of Elizabethan England*. New York: Cambridge University Press. P.15

<sup>116</sup> Ibid. p15

<sup>117</sup> Ibid. p53

<sup>118</sup> Ibid. p54



theological truths which was confirmed by the history and so it is relevant to the present.<sup>119</sup>

On Christian television, the Rev. Jack van Impel of Detroit, one of the USA's end-times experts, say Scriptural prediction clearly critical to an Iraqi conquer but as well to an ultimate world conflict in the 1990s among Russia with the West. More will be supposed about white, middle-class American reply to Gog and Magog afterward.<sup>120</sup>

A commentary on Revelation inscribe by the "Franciscan monk from Eisenach, Johann Hilten (c.1425-1500)," who made the classification at the ending of the 15th century, represent Martin Luther's ideas on the Turks and Gog. In 1518, Luther felt sturdily that Christians be supposed to not actually battle the Turks; their position was to evangelize them, to implore for their change and to believe Turkish bother as a sentence planned by God for the indulgence of Christendom.<sup>121</sup>

Luther's new eschatological perceptive of the political circumstances and of the Turks in exacting lead him to readopt the 'crusade mentality'. The genuine causes of this modify were no uncertainty the Turkish conquest over the Hungarian King Ludwig II at Mohacs in 1526 and the blockade of Vienna by the Turks in 1529. These two actions heightened prospect of the ending of the world. In call for a holy battle in opposition to the Muslim Turks below Sultan Suleiman II (1520-1566), Luther emphasized that Christian armed forces would 'not be warfare with "flesh and blood" but against the Devil's hosts' and their "blasphemous Mohammed". However, Christ would come to tear down this Turkish Gog and Magog. With a slight help from his associates of course, for Luther did not ignore to soberly exhort Christians to do their politico-religious responsibility by enlist in the operation; the Church was grateful, furthermore, to pray for the armed conquest of the Christian armies. In his 1529 *Military Sermon against the Turks* Luther trained that all those who pass away hostility the Turks would 'fill heaven as martyrs'.

Luther was cautious to distinguish among the Turkish Gog as well as Popish Magog: near to him, both are opponent of the gospel, the previous external and

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<sup>119</sup> G.J.R.Parry. (1987). *A protestant vision: William Harrison and the reformation of Elizabethan England*. New York: Cambridge University Press. P15

<sup>120</sup> Nicholas M. Railton, (2003). *Gog and Magog: the History of a Symbol*. Germany: University of Ulster, p40

<sup>121</sup> Sverre B8e (2001). *Gog and Magog: Ezekiel 38-39 As Pre-Text for Revelation 19, 17-21 and 20, 7-10*. tubingen: Mohr siebeck, p. 49

obvious, and the latter interior and covert. Of the two Luther, felt Popery is the new risk for while the Turkish Gog packed heaven by saints, the Popish Magog packed hell by Christians.<sup>122</sup>

Bale in his work, among 1540 and 1545, on his explanation on Revelation came with conclusion that Gog and Magog correspond to the followers of Mohammed in group with the papacy. He also acknowledged Luther's view of the open and secret opponent of Christ in his figure of both Churches, as did John Foxe in his perform and tombstone (1566). Foxe, too, relate Gog and Magog to the Saracens and the Turks. In his *A Plaine Discovery of the Whole Revelation of St. John* (1595), John Napier identified the release of the Pontificate of Boniface VIII (1294-1303), the 'covered' enemy of God, and the rise of the Ottoman Turks, the 'discovered' enemy.

English Reformers had similar polemical and psychological needs to incorporate contemporary socio-political events into a transcendent scheme of meaning, which of course simultaneously gave to their own lives and work religious significance and validation. This need to feel important led many Christian commentators; Thomas Brightman was the first to read English events, which they felt deserved special prominence, into the interpretations of the Apocalypse. Bible commentaries became the place where one emphasized one's own identity in opposition to the 'Enemy'. King James VI, in a sermon on Revelation 20 published in 1616, saw the Turkish treaty with Philip of Spain as preparing the way for Gog's invasion of Christendom. Politics, not biblical exposition, Many late twentieth century premillennialists<sup>123</sup> like "John F. Walwoord, Herbert Vander Lugt, Jack van Impe, Thomas S. McCall, Zola Levitt, Tom Westwood, Hilton Sutton, Salem Kirban, Tim LaHaye and Hal Lindsey", have used up a enormous deal of time to highlight that the millennial foes in Ezekiel 'could only pass on to what we be acquainted with today as Russia'.

1988 Presidential applicant acknowledged Gog on his television series the 700 Club, in January and again in June 1982, three days after the Israeli attack of Lebanon, so as to the Soviet Union, in association with Armenia, South Yemen, Libya and Ethiopia, would raid on Israel before the autumn of 1982. "I mean, from now on,

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<sup>122</sup> Ian Almond (2012). *Chapter One. Luther's Islam*. British Council.org, p.22

<sup>123</sup> Premillennialism in Christian eschatology has believed that Jesus Christ will literally and actually be on the globe for his millennial reign at his second coming. The doctrine is named premillennialism because it has that Jesus' physical return to earth will occur prior to the inauguration of the millennium.

it's going to be bloodshed, war, revolution, and trouble". James Mills, a Reaganite in the Californian State Senate, went on evidence as saying that "most of Reagan's policy decisions" were prejudiced by his insight of Russia being Gog, the center of wickedness in the contemporary world. Mills tells the San Diego Magazine in "August 1985" that Reagan was true to presume he had a agreement to spend trillions of dollars arrange for a nuclear battle with Gog and Magog; Armageddon, after all, cannot take place in a earth that had been disarm. The New York Times spoken consternation that the American leader was seriously "reckoning with Armageddon". Following the end of the Soviet Union, fundamentalist Christians of the Old Right like Billy James Hargis and charismatic Christians of the New Right like George Otis Jr. found good cause to change Gog into Kazakhstan and the predominantly Muslim states which have since become free.

There are different examples related to Gog and Magog but it is said that the different facts are manipulated by sectarians. The changes made are imaginary that hid the different facts and therefore could not be accepted. Some of the changes are made for the benefits that are their favourite. Religious hatred has made the people to discover their identity and move towards their destiny.<sup>124</sup>

Identification of Gog with historical figure has been attempted often but with very little success. Neither Gog nor the land of magog appears fit to any known historical figure or political power at the time. Gog there for should be understood in symbolic term as the very epitome of the evil in the history. Darkness and light in the tense struggle on the stage of history<sup>125</sup>. There is one other approach to such imagery which should be noted. In the patristic literature there is no specific mention of the attack made by Gog and Magog. Irenaeus, who is usually taken to represent traditional Christian eschatology, deals fully with Antichrist and the interpretation of his number, but is silent on Gog.

#### **2.4 Contemporary Christian Perception of Gog and Magog**

The Bible describes Gog and Magog as "barbaric tribes which threaten a settled nation, the Jews. The story has been elucidated in the traditions of different cultures. The figures continuously reinterpreted as the figures of the enemies. For

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<sup>124</sup>Nicholas M. Railton (2003). *Gog and Magog: the History of a Symbol*. Germany: University of Ulster, p40

<sup>125</sup> Balmer H. Kelly. (1966). *The Layman's bible commentary* (Vol. 13). United State of America: Richmond: John Knox Press.

the Persians of Ferdowsi's time, they are Turks while for contemporary Israelis, they are Arabs, and so on."<sup>126</sup>

The Bible prophesies of great conflicts in store for Israel in the Last Days. One of those conflicts are led by a "Gog," the commander of an alliance of nations from the "remote north" as well as from nations of the Middle East, Asia Minor, and Africa. In the end, Gog and his armies are defeated, but only after Jerusalem are "trampled" for 42 months.<sup>127</sup>

The question is that who is this leader of the land magog, which called Gog? Who will be his alliance? What is time for their attack on Israel? What will happen after the attack? In this part, I will try to get answers for such questions.

### **Who is Gog?**

In Ezekiel Gog refers as a leader not a nation. Many references in Ezekiel use a personal pronoun or similar word or phrase when referring to "Gog." Therefore, it means Gog is specific individual. The features of antichrist, has been described by many Christians scholars one of them is that antichrist will not die. The Antichrist (as "false prophet") will be able to perform the supernatural. Gog will not. <sup>128</sup> The Antichrist will force the world to worship the "1st beast," the false god of a false religion. Gog leads no one to worship a deity, false or otherwise.<sup>129</sup>

Gog's focus is not religious in nature, but material gain, i.e., to secure "spoil." Gog dies and is buried. The Antichrist is not.<sup>130</sup> Therefore, Gog is not an antichrist for the reason that he not pass to meet the Biblical meaning of Antichrist on several reports. Now it is obvious that Gog is a human being <sup>131</sup>(but in modern world that can be referred as Gog is will be conclude later).

### **The Participants of Gog Magog war:**

So now, need to know his alliance who will take part against Israel. See these verses in bible: "*And the word of the Lord came to me saying, Son of man, set*

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<sup>126</sup> Seyyed-Ghoreb, A. (Ed.). (2007). Review: *Gog and Magog: The Clans of Chaos in World Literature*. Canada: Rozenberg Publishers.

<sup>127</sup> Ibid.

<sup>128</sup> Revelation "Then I saw another beast, coming out of the earth. . . . And he performed great and miraculous signs, even causing fire to come down from heaven to earth in full view of men." 13:11

<sup>129</sup> John 16:14

<sup>130</sup> Revelation 12:17

<sup>131</sup> Jack Smith, (2011). Chapter 12 Israel. In J. Smith, *Islam - The Cloak of Antichrist in Bible Prophecy*. USA: winepresspublishing, pp. 1-3

*your face toward Gog of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him . . . ; Persia, Ethiopia and Put with them, all of them with shield and helmet; Gomer with all its troops; Beth-togarmah from the remote parts of the north with all its troops— many people with you. . . . Sheba and Dedan and the merchants of Tarshish with all its villages will say to you, Have you come to capture spoil? Have you assembled your company to seize plunder, to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to capture great spoil?"<sup>132</sup>*

The nations who will be his alliance can be divided in to four groups:

1. Those nations from the "land of Magog" (38:2-3; 39:1), led by Gog, its "prince" (38:3, 39:1): Rosh, Meshech and tubal.
2. Other nations specifically named in Gog's Alliance:
  - Persia (38:5); modern day Iran
  - Ethiopia (38:5)
  - Put (38:5);
  - Gomer (38:6);
  - Beth-Togarmah (38:6);
3. "Many peoples with you" (38:6).
4. Possible additional allies in Gog's Alliance:
  - Sheba (38:13);
  - Dedan (38:13);
  - Merchants of Tarshish with its "young lions" (or villages) (38:13).

These are the nations who will participate in Gog Magog war, at the moment it is essential to see these nations in modern world where they exist or who are these nations, and see the importance of these alliances.

#### **1. The Land of Magog - Rosh, Meshech and Tubal**

##### **• Land of Magog:**

Gog (the prince-the individual) will come from the land of Magog (history itself repeatedly verifies that the "land of Magog" is the land we know today as southern Russia; the area north of the Caucasus Mountains. Herodotus, writing in the 5th

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<sup>132</sup> Ezekiel 38:1-13

century before Christ, also identified the descendants of “Magog” with the Scythians and southern Russia.<sup>133</sup>

- **Rosh, Meshech and Tubal.**

Biblical scholars have different two different methods to translate this Hebrew word. First - as an attribute that explain the sort of prince so as to Gog is: that is, a “leader” prince. Second - as a proper noun, that is, the symbol of a specific individual, place, or object. If the word Rosh explains as proper noun then Rosh force be the name of precise nation whom prince is Gog. It is hard to wind up these nations as the name of these people has altered as well as the power also modify in olden times. Contemporary scholars recognize this name due to the survival to the cold world battle in 20<sup>th</sup> century. As bible, relate that Gog is the contractor of armed Hardware to Other associate of His union. The content tells the subsequent concerning Gog and the land he leads “. . . *Gog of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal . . . Be prepared, and prepare yourself, you and all your companies that are assembled about you, and be a guard for them.*”<sup>134</sup>

The content inform Gog to get ready himself for the upcoming battle; but become aware of, Gog must not only get ready himself, but also everyone those “assembled about you.” This is an important “identifier” for Gog. Russia is a known contractor of military apparatus to the opponent of Israel. It is, in reality, the earth is leading dealer of military apparatus to the developing nations of the world. As such, Russia is a superpower that has supplied Israel’s opponent with military equipment.

Consider the declaration taken from the 2008 version of the National Security Strategy of the United States, which specify a Russian recoil from “openness and democracy. While considering the declaration from 2008 related to the National Security Strategy of the US, specifying the recoil of Russia from democracy. The disadvantages to Russia could be important for the security of the US. Though still, the power of Russia, could not be overlooked, Russia could again become a super power and rule the world in the same way like the past. This could cause the

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<sup>133</sup> Pastor F.M. Riley, (11-11-2008). *Where Is Gog, the Land of Magog?*, cambridge university press, p.23

<sup>134</sup> Ezekiel 38:2

anxiety for the US and its allies. Russia has attained stability and it will continue to progress<sup>135</sup>.

Douglas Berner in his volume, *The Silence is Broken*, describes Russia's armament activities as: "This nation has provided military and diplomatic backing and support for the Arab-Islamic nations in their wars against Israel. It has provided support to the Palestinians and their campaign to divide the nation of Israel through waves of deceit and terrorism. It has provided the support of nuclear technology to Iran. There is only one nation that has assumed this tremendous leadership role – that has been so instrumental in the preparation of the nations of the Middle East, Africa and Central Asia to wage war against Israel. That nation is Russia."<sup>136</sup>

### **Gog have emerge to be Nuclear arms.**

The book explains the after influence of the clash. Is similar what is occur in the consequence of nuclear battle.

1. It acquires 7 months to put in the ground the remains of Gog's soldiers' and "rinse out the land" (39:12).

2. It acquires 7 years to be on fire the military hardware (39:9).

3. There is one locality where the departed will be covered, "Hamon-gog." (39:11) the dead body are not hidden where they drop but in this particular site (39:15);

4. The basin where the remains and tools covered will obstruct off all passers by (39:11)

5. any person who witness a dead man's bone is not to put in the ground it but to set up a indicator so that the "buriers" can put in the ground it in its chosen interment land (the valley of Hamon-gog) (39:15).

6. It obtain an "official person" to put in the ground the bones and cadaver; the buriers referred to as "set apart men" (39:14);

7. The "set apart men" will "constantly pass through the land" put in the ground those "left on the surface of the ground," and also those "passing through" (39:14).

8. The cause why everything must be covered is to "cleanse the land" (39:12, 16).

The details of the encounter scene have the uniqueness of a contemporary day nuclear bomb that has infected the earth and the whole thing in it. The understanding of bible is supposed to not be according to 6<sup>th</sup> century it be supposed

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<sup>136</sup> Ibid, p14; Also see, Pastor F.M. Riley, "Where Is Gog, the Land of Magog?"

to be in the light of 20<sup>th</sup> century so Gog will hit Israel with "bows and arrows should not read literally. As bible, describe that Gog is from the "remote parts of the north." The contemporary nation to the tremendous north of Israel is Russia. In detail, Moscow, Russia, is on unfamiliar directly north of Jerusalem.

Here are also some dependable past indication upon contemporary predictor end Rosh as Russia. There are two pre-20th century resources often cited by interpreters. The primary is 19th century, "Hebrew scholar; H. W. F. Gesenius" gives the following meaning of "Rosh": "a northern nation, mentioned with Tubal and Meshech; undoubtedly the Russians, who are mentioned by Byzantine writers of the tenth century, under the name of "Ros," place of abode to the north of Taurus."<sup>137</sup>

likewise, in a 19th century Lyman Coleman understand Rosh as north of contemporary day Armenia, i.e., Russia; Togarmah as Armenia, and Gomer as modern day Turkey (Cappadocia, located in the heart of modern Turkey):

Askenez, according to establishment of topography and antiquaries (Gesenius, Ewald, Hitzig), reside in the western part of Asia Minor; Togarmah is Armenia, and Gomer reside in the state of Cappadocia among them; . . . Gog and Magog, the ground of Gog, in conventionality with traditional and Armenian writers, is located north of Armenia, in the zone of Togarmah, Meshech, and Tubal; whose location is clearly distinct. They are also set beyond north, to stand for the Scythian peoples."<sup>138</sup>

The text gives us "hints" to identify Rosh:

- 1) Rosh (through Gog, his prince) is the supplier of military hardware to the Alliance while also a nation at enmity with Israel.
- 2) Rosh is a superpower that possesses nuclear weapons.
- 3) Rosh is located in the "remote parts of the north." Modern day Russia meets all of these characteristics. We conclude, "Rosh" is Russia. Dispensationalists often identify Rosh with the twentieth century countries of Russia (Meshech=Moscow, Tubal=Tobolsk)<sup>139</sup>. John Nelson Darby wrote that Gog, referred to in the book of

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<sup>137</sup>Jack Smith, (2011). Chapter 12 Israel. In J. Smith, *Islam - The Cloak of Antichrist in Bible Prophecy*. USA:winepresspublishing, pp. 1-3

<sup>138</sup> Ibid. p.13

<sup>139</sup> The Commission on Theology and Church Relations. (september, 1989). *The End Times: A Study on Eschatology and Millennialism*. The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, p.55



Ezekiel, was the contemporary state of Russia, which was “extending her power over the nations who will be found under Gog.”<sup>140</sup>

- **Meshech and Tubal.**

Meshech and Tubal described along with Rosh as from the “land of Magog.”<sup>141</sup> 19th century scholar, Gesenius identified them in such words:

“Moschi, a barbarous people inhabiting the Moshian Mountains, between Iberia, Armenia, and Colchis, Psa. 120:5, almost always joined with the neighboring Tibareni, Gen. 10:2, Ezek 27:13, 32:26, 38:2, 39:1; just as in Herodotus “.

Gesenius states regarding Tubal: “Tubal . . . a nation of Asia Minor, dwelling by the Euxine Sea, to the west of Moschi.” Easton’s Bible Dictionary goes so far as to name Meshech and Tubal as the ancestors of the modern day nations comprising Moscow and Tobolsk, Russia: “They were in all probability the Moschi, a people inhabiting the Moschian Mountains, between the Black and the Caspian Seas. In Ps 120:5, the name occurs as simply a synonym for foreigners or barbarians...the Moschi were subdued; but it seems probable that a large number of them crossed the Caucasus range and spread over the northern steppes, mingling with the Scythians. There they became known as Muscovs, and gave that name to the Russian nation and its ancient capital by which they are still generally known throughout the East”<sup>142</sup>

Fausset’s Bible Dictionary agrees with Easton’s and states, “The Moschi, a warlike race in the mountainous region between Armenia, Iberia, and Colchis. Associated with Tubal, the Tibareni of Pontus. . . Moscow and Tobolsk may derive their names from Mesech and Tubal.. Mesech was once one of the most powerful nations of western Asia. The Assyrians were frequently warring with them, from 1100 to 700 B.C.; then living East of Taurus range and in Cappadocia. The inscriptions call them Muskai, the Tibareni Tuplai (Tubal).”<sup>143</sup>

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<sup>140</sup> Jason Dittmer, (2007). “Of Gog and Magog: The Geopolitical Visions of Jack Chick and Premillennial Dispensationalism ACME: An International E-Journal for Critical Geographies , 6 (2), 290. Also see, Gary DeMar, (2008). Why the End of the World is Not in Your Future” Georgia: the American vision,inc. p40

<sup>141</sup> Eze:38:2, 39:1

<sup>142</sup>Easton, Matthew, George. (1897). *Easton's Bible Dictionary (Mesech)*.USA: Christian Classics Eheral Library,p401

<sup>143</sup>Fausset, Andrew R. (1949). *'Mesech'. Fausset Bible Dictionary*. United State Of America: Zondervan Publishing House, p241

Geographically Meshech and Tubal interpreted as cities, of the modern day; post-Soviet Union, Russian Federation, north of the Caspian Sea.

## 2. Gomer:

According to Josephus, "Gomer" was the area the Greeks called "Galatia," an area once located in modern day Turkey (actually, Anatolia).<sup>144</sup>

Modern view is that: "Gomer gave rise to the Siamese, Burmese, Indonesians, Vietnamese, Laotians, and Cambodians.....While it is impossible to prove, it is most likely and should be included in our list of probabilities" <sup>145</sup>

### Persia

The words "Persia," "Persian," or "Persians" are found 35 times in the Old Testament. The ancient land of Persia became the modern nation of Iran in March 1935, and then the name was changed to the Islamic Republic of Iran in 1979. Iran's present population is 68 million.<sup>146</sup>

#### • Beth-Togarmah:

Gesenius states the following regarding Beth-Togarmah ("beth" = "house," literally, the "house of Togarmah"): ". . . of a northern nation and country sprung from Gomer (the Cimmerians), abounding in horses and mules. We should, apparently, understand "Armenia," as very abundant in horses . . . Such is either tradition or the opinion of the Armenians themselves, who regard Torgom the son of Gomer. As the founder of their nation, and they call themselves the "house of Torgom."

So modern day interpretation of Gomer and Beth-Togarmah are Turkey and Armenia, respectively.<sup>147</sup>

## 3. "Many Peoples" with You.

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<sup>144</sup> Jack Smith, (2011). Chapter 12 Israel. In J. Smith, *Islam - The Cloak of Antichrist in Bible Prophecy*. USA:winepresspublishing, p. 243

<sup>145</sup> Peter Salemi, *China (Gog & Magog) in Prophecy*. United State Of America: British-Israel Church of God, p.27.

<sup>146</sup> Mark Hitchcock, (26-12-2008). *The battle of gog and magog*. London:Pre-Trib Research Center, p12

<sup>147</sup> Jack Smith, (2011). Chapter 12 Israel. In J. Smith, *Islam - The Cloak of Antichrist in Bible Prophecy*. USA:winepresspublishing, p 247

The third division of Gog's allies is found in Ezekiel 38:6, ". . . many people with you." There are four references in Ezekiel to this group.<sup>148</sup>

It is important to note that this third division in Gog's Alliance, i.e., "many peoples," is not identified by citizenship or national identity. That is, the "many people" that join Gog's Alliance are not described as "Persians," "Ethiopians," etc., but simply as "many peoples." They are Muslims from around the world, particularly, those Muslims living in countries neighboring Israel. As we will see next, they are now under the dominion of Iran. The "many people" of Ezekiel 38 refers to the Muslim populations of these subdued countries who will join Gog's Alliance against Israel – Al-Qaida is one of the best examples of this category.

HAMAS (Islamic Resistance Movement), Hezbollah (Party of God), Palestinian Islamic Jihad, and Al-Qaida, are among this group. The charter of most of these organizations includes specific language identifying their purpose: to destroy Israel; and, to reclaim the land of the Middle East that Islam acquired in its jihads of the 7th - 10th centuries (which Islam considers to be permanently theirs; Dar al-Islam). Thus, Gog's "many peoples" also includes the organizations that make up the terrorist "watch lists" of the World's free nations.<sup>149</sup>

#### **Nations not listed in Ezekiel**

There are some Islamic nations that should be involved in Attack on Israel but they are not listed in Ezekiel's list. All of these nations are neighboring lands to Israel and all of these nations have historically been at hostility with Israel. Yet, they are absent from Gog's list! Here is the group:

1. Iraq
2. Syria
3. Jordan
4. Lebanon
5. Saudi Arabia
6. Egypt

The reason why the 6 neighboring nations are absent is because they have been subsequently restrained by one of the nations included in Gog's Alliance. At the time of the Alliance's attack on Israel, they are all under the domain of this powerful

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<sup>148</sup> Ezekiel 38:6,9,15,22

<sup>149</sup> Jack Smith, (2011). Chapter 12 Israel. In J. Smith, *Islam - The Cloak of Antichrist in Bible Prophecy*. USA: winepresspublishing, p 250

nation, so that when this nation joins the Alliance, those nations previously subdued join as well; but not as independent nations but as “many people” now under the dominion of the victor nation.<sup>150</sup>

After knowing the alliance of Gog and magog especially last 6 nations, it is essential to conclude why Jews (Israel) thought these Islamic nations will be with those who will attack on Israel. Follow will be answer for this question.

Of course, Ezekiel does not mention Islam or terrorism as a driving force behind this invasion since Islam did not exist until the seventh century A.D. However, the geographical areas he identified as participant in this invasion are all identifiable Islamic nations today with the exception of Russia (Central Asia, Libya, Sudan, Iran, and Turkey). The resulting economic chaos is one of the weapons that will use in this war. Perhaps, it is the only weapon used, at least until the midpoint of the 7 years. Yet, in the end, according to, *“he will come to his end, and no one will help him.”*<sup>151</sup>

However, Daniel 11:36 discussed one king whose prosperity will continue through the 7 years. According to The text the “king” owns something that world is desperately in need of. Here are other characteristics of this king, contained in the prophecy. After analyzing, Islam fulfils all of them. These characteristics are below:

1. He will exalt and magnify Himself above every god
2. He will speak monstrous things against the God of gods
3. He will show no regard for the gods of his fathers
4. He will show no regard for the desire of women
5. He will show no regard for any god
6. He will honor a god of fortresses
7. He will honor a god his fathers did not know
8. He will take action against the strongest of fortresses with the help of a foreign god
9. He will give honor to those who acknowledge him & cause rule over the many
10. He will parcel out land for a price.<sup>152</sup>

According to Bible, the king will be different from other kings (human beings) and its kingdom will be different. Islam is “different” from the three preceding kingdoms of Daniel 7 – all of these were national, political kingdoms (Babylon, Media-Persia, and Greece). Islam is not a political kingdom. It is a spiritual kingdom.

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<sup>150</sup> Ibid, p21

<sup>151</sup> Daniel 11:44

<sup>152</sup> Daniel2, 7. Revelation20: 13, 17.

Islam is “different.” Likewise, Iran is also “different” from the other nations surrounding Israel, both those named in Ezekiel 38/39 and included in the Alliance, and those omitted from the Alliance. There are six Middle East neighbors of Israel left out of Ezekiel 38/39. These six nations are all Arab nations. Iran is not Arab. Iran is Persian.

Consider this statement as reported by The Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI); Inquiry and Analysis - No. 426, March 12, 2008. The statement is made by Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmad Abu Gheit in response to Iran’s desire to renew relations with Egypt (Egypt is an Arab nation). It seems that the Egyptian Minister prefers that “Arab problems . . . should be dealt with by Arabs,” not by Persians: *“Iran is an influential power in the Gulf. For the last two or three years . . . it has been trying to involve itself in Arab problems so as to gain influence that will serve it in its struggle with the West. Thus, Egypt believes that Iran has a problem with the Arab world, and that its interference in [Arab] problems is detrimental to Arab interests...”* *“Let me stress that there is no conflict between Egypt and Iran”*.

So from bible it is clear that the kingdom is Iran (the nation who will control others will be Shia Islam and Iran is the only one who has 90% Shia population).<sup>153</sup> Lastly, it can be concluded that Daniel 11:36 describes the king and his kingdom with characteristics depicted in Islam.

The following list itemizes the specific prophecy of Daniel 11:36f. It will also help us to make a conclusion that Iran will be the king, who will congregate all other alliance under his kingdom.

1. A “king” will arise. He will do as he pleases.
2. The “king of the south” and the “king of the north” will “collide” with him.
3. He will enter Israel (the “Beautiful Land”).
4. He will make his headquarters “between the seas and the beautiful Holy Mountain.”
5. Many countries will fall to him, including, apparently, the King of the south and the king of the north.
6. He will come to his end and no one will help him.<sup>154</sup>

As the interpretation of the above specifics, it is clear that Iran is the aggressing nation (through its leader,). Iran (Persia) is a key player on the world scene today as

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<sup>153</sup> Jack Smith, (2011). Chapter 12 Israel. In J. Smith, *Islam - The Cloak of Antichrist in Bible Prophecy*. USA: winepresspublishing, p 251

<sup>154</sup> Daniel 11:36,40, 41, 45.

required by Ezek 38:5. Clearly, Iran is worst enemy today for the world. As home to radical jihadists and a supporter of terror, groups around the world Iran cannot allow possessing nuclear weapons. This is unthinkable. Therefore, we can expect a great deal of focus on Iran in the near future. In addition, all of this is greatly exacerbated and complicated by the fact that Iran has about 10% of the world's proven oil reserves. Needless to say, tensions in the region are mounting. Iran is awash in oil money and is earnestly seeking nuclear weapons<sup>155</sup>.

U.S. President George W. Bush said he would not rule out military action against Iran if that country were not more forthcoming about its suspected nuclear weapon program.<sup>156</sup>

Here is Hersh interview given to CNN in which he said, "The Bush administration has been carrying out secret reconnaissance missions to learn about nuclear, chemical and missile sites in Iran in preparation for possible air strikes there, the secret missions in Iran."<sup>157</sup>

According to Hersh Bartlett said the United States is working with its European allies to help persuade Iran not to pursue nuclear weapons. On the other hand, pentagon wants to use their inside, people and Hersh identified those inside people as the 'neoconservative' civilian leadership in the Pentagon. Donald Rumsfeld also demand the war on terrorism would be led by the Pentagon, and the power of the CIA could be reduce. He said, 'Since the summer of 2002, he's been advocating, 'let me run this war, not the CIA. We can do it better. We will send our boys in. We do not have to tell their local military commanders. We do not have to tell the ambassadors. We do not have to tell the CIA station chiefs in various countries. Let's go in and work with the bad guys and see what we can find out.'<sup>158</sup>

Before going further now, it is significant to see who are The "King of the North" and the "King of the South."<sup>159</sup> Most Bible scholars have interpreted the king of the south as Egypt and the king of the north as Iraq (or Syria).<sup>160</sup>

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<sup>155</sup> Mark Hitchcock, (2008). *The battle of gog and magog*. London:Pre-Trib Research Center, p.28

<sup>156</sup> Doug Krieger, *ANTICHRIST And the GOG-MAGOG WAR*. Canada: Pergamos Ministries, pp. 221-223

<sup>157</sup> Ibid. P.221

<sup>158</sup> Doug Krieger, *ANTICHRIST & the GOG-MAGOG WAR*. Canada: Pergamos Ministries, pp.221-223

<sup>159</sup> Daniel 11:40

<sup>160</sup> Jack Smith, (2011). Chapter 12 Israel. In J. Smith, *Islam - The Cloak of Antichrist in Bible Prophecy*. USA:winepresspublishing, p 251

Now after concluding Iran as king, separately I will discuss current situation and future of the 6 Islamic nations (alliance of Gog). Who are around the Israel?

### 1. Egypt

The prophecy is that this “king” (Iran) will “gain control” of the “precious things” of Egypt. Egypt, the “king of the south, will be defeated. Egypt is one of two Muslim nations in the world that has normalized relations with Israel (the other is Jordan). This immediately distinguishes Egypt from the other Muslim nations neighboring Israel and places it at the top of Iran’s list since they have shown some “favor” to Israel. Further, Egypt is aligned with Israel’s ally the United States, the “Great Satan.” A term of derision first used by the Ayatollah in the aftermath of the Iranian Revolution of 1979.<sup>63</sup> Here is a recent statement summarizing relations between Egypt and the United States – the importance of which is that it places Egypt alongside the United States and its allies rather than on the side of Iran (and Russia):

*“U.S. policy toward Egypt is aimed at maintaining regional stability, improving bilateral relations, continuing military cooperation, and sustaining the March 1979 Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. Successive Administrations have long viewed Egypt’s leaders as a moderating influence in the Middle East, though in recent years, there have been increasing U.S. calls for Egypt to democratize. . . The United States has provided Egypt with an annual average of over \$2 billion in economic and military foreign assistance since 1979. The Administration is requesting \$200 million in ESF for Egypt, a notable decrease from previous fiscal years.”<sup>161</sup>*

Iran will subdue three Arab nations and Egypt will be one of them. Daniel 11:42 specifically names it and modern alliances support this conclusion.

### 2. Iraq

Iraq will be one of the Three Nations Subdued by Iran. As scholars have concluded, the “king of the north” is represented by Iraq. Here are other factors to support this view. Iraq has a Shia majority (60%), located predominantly in southern Iraq on the border with Iran. Iraq and Iran have historically been rivals from ancient times. Media-Persia in 539 BC under the leadership of Cyrus the Great, defeat Iraq, the modern day equivalent of Babylon in the Old Testament. Encarta Encyclopedia gives

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<sup>161</sup> Ibid, p.31

the following background of the more recent Iran/Iraq divide: *"The border between Iraq and Iran has been contested diplomatically and sometimes militarily for several centuries. After the Ottoman Empire conquered present-day Iraq in 1534, making it the easternmost part of its empire, Iran, its eastern neighbor, became a frequent rival. More recently, when Iraq was made a separate state in the aftermath of World War I (1914-1918), Iraq and Iran disagreed sharply over the precise border between them, especially in the area of the Shatt al Arab, a river channel providing Iraq's only outlet to the sea, via the Persian Gulf."*<sup>162</sup>

"The Iran-Iraq had longest war of the 20th century, with likely more than one million casualties. Iraq is presently "aligned" and supported by the United States. United States and coalition troops are still on Iraqi soil the Intelligence community has well documented it that Iran has actively participated in the arming and supplying of the insurgency in Iraq in an effort to destabilize the U.S. backed government in Iraq. Where Iran has supported Iraq, it has not been the post-Sadaam Shi'a majority government led by Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, but the Shia Islamist leaders. Consider the following description of Iran's influence in Iraq in the modern day: *"The significance of the issue of Iranian influence in Iraq derives not only from the U.S. interest in stabilizing Iraq but also from tensions between the United States and Iran over Iran's nuclear and regional ambitions. Iran sees control of Iraq by friendly Shiite parties as providing Iran with "strategic depth," ensuring that Iraq remains pliable and attentive to Iran's interests. At the same time, Iran's aid to Iraqi Shiite parties and their militias is contributing to sectarian violence that, in addition to causing about 3,000 Iraqi civilian casualties per month, is threatening the U.S. stabilization effort as well as U.S. and partner forces in Iraq.*<sup>163</sup>

### 3. Jordan

Jordan will be attacked by Iran as per Bible. *"He will also enter the Beautiful Land, and many countries will fall; but these will be rescued out of his hand: Edom, Moab and the foremost of the sons of Ammon."*<sup>164</sup>

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<sup>162</sup> Ibid. p.33

<sup>163</sup> CRS report for congress. (2009). *CRS report for congress ,Iraq: Regional Perspectives and U. S. Policy.* congressional research service.

<sup>164</sup> Daniel 11:41



According to Easton's Bible Dictionary, Smith's Bible Dictionary, and International Standard Bible Encyclopedia, these three ancient nations were all located east of the Dead Sea in the modern day nation of Jordan.<sup>165</sup> Stephen R. Miller states in his commentary on Daniel: "Edom, Moab, and the leaders of Ammon" refers to ancient countries southeast of Palestine that today are part of modern Jordan."<sup>166</sup> Therefore, Jordan will be "rescued" from the hands of Iran.

### **The Third Nation to be subdued by Iran.**

Daniel 11:36f names two nations to be defeated by Iran. In addition, it will be Pre-Tribulation conquest. King will subdue three nations.<sup>167</sup> It does not tell us who will be the third one. Modern scholars interpreted Rev 17 that Saudi Arabia also will be defeated by Iran (but it is not one of them those are the subject of Daniel).<sup>168</sup> Therefore, Saudi Arabia will be 4th nation subdued by Iran. Saudi Arabia has fear that Iran gives indirect support to those suni Saudi who attack the legitimacy of the Saudi royal family and its interpretation of Islamic law and religious practice.<sup>169</sup>

These were the shia nations which will be subdued by Iran. There are some suni nations like Syria and Lebanon. Both these countries are enemies of Israel. It is important to denote that these are aligns, one with the other, in many of their dealings with the world. Many scholars think these two nations are the third nation that will be subdued by Iran.<sup>170</sup> For that reason, it is important to look at the U.S.A attitude towards these two nations due to their great heatedness for Israel.

- **Syria**

The United States has declared Syria as a "sponsor of international terrorism." they (and, of course, the Israelis) have been decrying Syria's funding, training, "warehousing," and coddling of the Iraqi insurgents, Iraqi Baathist leadership. So America will not tolerate and Israel will play major role to eliminate the elaborate

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<sup>165</sup> <http://www.biblestudytools.com>

<sup>166</sup> John Cereghin, (2011). *The Pilgrim Way Commentary on Daniel*. Grace Baptist Church of Smyrna, Delaware. P.185

<sup>167</sup> Daniel 7:24f

<sup>168</sup> Anthony H. Cordesman, (1986). *Western Strategic Interests in Saudi Arabia*. Australia: Croom Helm. P.99.

<sup>169</sup> Anthony H. Cordesman, (2003). *Saudi Arabia Enters the Twenty-First Century*. U.S.A : Praeger. P.51

<sup>170</sup> Jack Smith, (2011). Chapter 12 Israel. In J. Smith, *Islam - The Cloak of Antichrist in Bible Prophecy*. USA: winepresspublishing, p 257

network of terror organizations through Lebanon and Syria. The prohibition of direct aid by the United States to Syria and the restriction of bilateral trade relations between Syria and the United States is one of the steps to follow the plan to eradicate Syria. As the result of the Syrian collapse, Palestine authority will be consigned. U.S.A act against Syria and Iran, will be in a better position to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and will be able to rely less on Saudi oil . . . .”<sup>171</sup> This will immediately exacerbate Islamic passions throughout the Middle East. A “Northern Alliance,” headed by Iran (including Turkey), and a “Southern Alliance,” headed by Egypt (and known will “come up against” US forces in Iraq, as well as the IDF (Israel Defense Forces) primarily in Israel. American military Attack on Syria will be for oil not for the land peace.

Here is a description of the relations of Iran and Syria taken from a recent CRS Report to Congress. Notice particularly the recent agreement between Syria, Iran, and Turkey (another member of Gog’s Alliance) to allow Iran to export natural gas to Syria via Turkey; and, the \$1 billion in military aid by Iran to Syria to purchase Russian anti-ship missiles. Moreover, this entire situation is against Israel. So united state of America has leveled new charge against Syria and believes that Syria has chemical weapon. The Bush administration has long viewed Syria as a threat to American interests in the region and to staunch U.S. ally Israel.

These are the reasons for the military attack of U.A on Syria and now a day Syria is passing from the pre attack phase.<sup>172</sup>

- **Lebanon**

Lebanon is also great enemy of Israel. In recent years, Lebanon has depended upon Syria for military and intelligence support. This has created dependence by Lebanon upon Syria. Analyst, Alfred B. Prados, states the following in his report to Congress dated, November 23, 2007: “*Syria has long regarded Lebanon as part of its sphere of influence. . . . Another remaining question concerns the ability of the Lebanese security forces to assume responsibility for maintaining order in areas vacated by Syrian forces. . . . In the connection a Lebanese study group has prepared a report indicating despite Syria’s formal withdrawal from Lebanon in 2005, Syria continues*

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<sup>171</sup> Ibid, P19

<sup>172</sup> Jeremy Sharp, (1-5-2008). *Syria: Background and U.S. Relations*. CRS Report to Congress: #RL33487, p CRS-14.

*to occupy as much as 180 square miles of Lebanese territory (approximately 4.5% of the country). The drafters of the report believe Syria maintains camps and smuggling routes through which they infiltrate foreign fighters and weapons into Lebanon."*

*"A cornerstone of Syrian foreign policy is domination of the internal affairs of Lebanon. Many hard-line Syrian nationalists consider Lebanon to be an appendage of the Syrian state and, to this day, there is no official Syrian diplomatic representation in Beirut. From a geostrategic standpoint, Lebanon is considered Syria's "soft underbelly" and a potential invasion route for Israel. The Lebanese economy also is deeply penetrated by pro-Syrian business interests."*<sup>173</sup>

Based on the current relationship of Lebanon and Syria, it is likely that these two countries will align similarly in any effort that endangers either country, whether Iranian or otherwise. Further, Lebanon is host to Hezbollah. CRS Report to Congress #RL32048 details the Iran/Hezbollah relationship as follows: *"Iran has maintained a close relationship with Hezbollah since Hezbollah's inception in 1982. Hezbollah was formed by Lebanese Shiite clerics sympathetic to Iran's Islamic revolution and responsible for several acts of anti-U.S. and anti-Israel terrorism in the 1980s and 1990s. . Iran has long been a major supplier and benefactor of Hezbollah. Iranian-supplied rockets were fired by Hezbollah on Israel's northern towns during the fighting. As part of a package of aid to Hezbollah said to exceed \$100 million per year, reported Iranian shipments to Hezbollah over the past five years have included the "Fajr" (dawn) and Khaybar series of rockets that were fired at the Israeli city of Haifa (30 miles from the border), and over 10,000 Katyusha rockets that were fired at cities within 20 miles of the Lebanese border."*<sup>174</sup>

From above mention reports, it is easy to conclude that Syria and Lebanon are the third dominion prophesied by Daniel 7:24 that will occur during the Pre-Tribulation conquest of Iran.

- **Turkey**

According to Ezekiel, turkey is very important country. Some alliances that mentioned in Gog magog war are referred to modern day turkey as follow:

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<sup>173</sup> Raphael F. Perl, (2007). *International Terrorism: Threat, Policy, and Response*. CRS report for congress: congressional research service. P.15

<sup>174</sup> Casey L. Addis, (2011). *Hezbollah: background and issues for congress*. congressional research service. P19

- Tabul some believe they have settled in Asia Minor (modern day turkey).
- Put - interpreted as modern day Libya (Africa), some have interpreted as Somali and Yemen, and some have interpreted as Asia Minor (Turkey).
- Gomer - interpreted as modern day Turkey.
- Beth-Togarmah - interpreted as modern day Armenia and parts of eastern Turkey and northwestern Iran.<sup>175</sup>

Turkey is a secular state but now it has going towards islamization, when the Justice and Development Party (AKP), which has Islamist roots, came to power in 2002. Prime Minister Erdogan visited Israel and Israeli President Shimon Peres addressed the Turkish parliament. Turkey has played important role in Syria and Lebanon. During 2007-2008, turkey hosted five rounds of indirect talks between Syria and Israel but suspended this effort after the attack on Gaza and harshly condemns this act. In 2006, turkey sent his troops to Lebanon following the war between Israel and Hezbollah, and since then critic Israel for its military attack on Lebanon.

In October 2009, Turkey cancelled Israel's participation in a multilateral military exercise; the reason behind it is that this Israel would use it to prepare for an attack on Iran. Erdogan (P.M turkey) condom Israel's inhuman act and ill treatment of Palestinians in Gaza. He also warns Israel not to try to change the character of a Jerusalem.<sup>176</sup>

The current crisis is undoubtedly a turning point in Turkish-Israeli relations. President Abdullah Gul declared, "*Turkish-Israeli relations can never be as before from now on.*" Yet, this change is not dramatic; it has been coming for some time. Turkey is passing through a gradual process of islamization. It can be notice when turkey start budding relationship with sudan and welcomed sudanes president to turkey, after the his attack in Davos on Israel for killing innocent civilians, Erdogan invited the sudanes vice president. Erdogan also invited King Abdullah to make his first visit to turkey by Saudi king in 40 years. Turkey has stood apart from United states, and even china and Russia, in refusing to condemn Iran's nuclear enrichment program.<sup>177</sup>

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<sup>175</sup> David A. Hamblin, (2010). *Unveiling the Mysteries of the Last Days: Systematic Prophecy from Genesis To revelation*. U.S.A: Tate Publishing.p 191

<sup>176</sup> Carol Migdalovitz, (2010). *Israel's Blockade of Gaza and the 'Mavi Marmara' Incident*. congressional research sevice. P14

<sup>177</sup> Zeyno Baran, (2010). ch.5: The AKP's Foreign Policy. In Z. Baran, *Torn Country: Turkey Between Secularism and Isamism*. California: Hoover institution press, P. 107

Now the plot thickens are disturbed by the successful election of Kurd, regarding the SUCCESSFUL ELECTIONS of the Kurds and the USA's thwarting situation with that awful prospect: KURDISTAN. Turkey's 20 million Kurds are exceedingly restless and will look to Iraq's "progress" with great glee and hope for a future Kurdistan and the final dismemberment of the Ottoman Empire!

Turkey anxiety over the burgeoning independence and strengthening of the auto state of Kurdistan in northern Iraq has just about put the Turks over the top, especially since the Kurds want Kirkuk's "disposition" to be included into Kurdistan's "jurisdiction" in Northern Iraq. Furthermore, the Turks fully understand reason why the USA has pre-positioned her forces throughout the Balkans . . . including upwards of 5 military bases in Bulgaria, scores in Romania, Georgia, Macedonia and the Serbian province of Kosovo, as well as Bosnia: It's that Caspian oil pipeline which will not pass thought Turkey. The oil reserves of the five STANS in Central Asia hold such unbelievable amounts of natural gas and oil that it must, in the immediate, consider itself as rich, therefore, the USA has intended to protect it from both the Chinese and Russia, but now turkey is a big problem. The USA will simply" direct divert its "pipeline aspirations friendly Azerbaijan and on through Georgia.

Here the Daniel prophecy is going to full fill. U.S has its troop all over the world especially in those countries that have oil and turkey and Egypt (king of south, king of north) are taking their positions so Gog is going to rise. It was Turkey Ottoman Empire which had 500 years control over Iraq but now U.S.A came to up and give full support to Kurdistan is big threat to turkey there for Turkey had invited Syria and iran for combine war again Kurd.<sup>178</sup>

In the light of above mentioned detail it was concluded that Iran is a king who will gathered other nations against Israel. So it is very important to see her present and future to determine it's important for Israel.

### **The Timing of Gog and Magog invasion**

After taking about the alliance, there present and feature, this is time to observe the scenario and the period in which the war of Gog and Magog will be held. There appears to be a general accord concerning the basic composition of the invading army

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<sup>178</sup> Doug Krieger, *ANTICHRIST And the GOG-MAGOG WAR*. Canada: Pergamos Ministries, Pp.221-222

and the course of events in the battle of Gog and Magog. By far, the most controversial issue in Ezek 38–39 is the setting or timing of the invasion. So many different views have been offered that it is difficult to sift, discard, and retain. There are seven main views of the timing of the invasion. Each of these views will be briefly presented and critiqued.

### 1. Preterits View

Preterits argued that the events in Ezek 38–39 have already occurred. Gary DeMar argues persistently for a “literal” interpretation of Ezek 38–39, and repeatedly criticizes Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins for interpreting these chapters symbolically, thereby, spiritualizing the text. DeMar insists that Ezek 38–39 was “literally” fulfilled by the events described in Esth 9 occurring in about 473 B.C. in the days of Queen Esther of Persia.

DeMar, however, fails to account for several clear differences between Ezek 38–39 and Esth 9. A simple reading of the two passages reveals that they cannot possibly be describing the same event. If this even has been fulfilled, so why it was not celebrated in Esther time? In Ezek 38:8, he says specifically that this invasion will occur in the “latter years.” This is the only occurrence of this exact phrase in the Old Testament. there is one simple reason why this even did not fulfilled yet is that nothing even remotely similar to the even s in Ezekiel has over in past. <sup>179</sup> Futurists hold other seven views of the timing for this invasion.

### 2. Pre-Tribulation<sup>180</sup> View

The first of these views is the pre-tribulation view. This view is held by Tim LaHaye, Arnold Fruchtenbaum, Tommy Ice, and Randall Price. It is the view expressed in the Left Behind series where the Gog and Magog invasion occurs before the rapture<sup>181</sup>. Those who hold this view believe that the invasion will occur before the tribulation begins, and possibly even before the rapture. The pre-tribulation view has two main

<sup>179</sup> Mark Hitchcock, (2008). *The battle of gog and magog*. London:Pre-Trib Research Center, p.28

<sup>180</sup> This refers to the intensified persecution against God's people preceding Christ's Second Advent. Dispensationalists understand it as a seven-year persecution against the Jewish nation, while amillennialists see it as a persecution of unknown duration against the church.

<sup>181</sup> This refers to the events described in I Thess. 4:14-17 when believers will be “raptured” or “caught up” (Latin: *rapiemur*) in the clouds to meet Christ in the air. The “pre-tribulation rapture” view holds that the rapture will occur before a seven-year tribulation; the “mid-tribulation rapture” view places the rapture in the middle of a seven-year tribulation; the “post-tribulation” view holds that the rapture will occur after the tribulation.

strengths. First, it fits well with the seven years for burning the weapons and seven months to bury the dead in Ezek 39:9-12. Under this view, the seven years in Ezek 39:9 corresponds with the seventieth week of Dan 9:27. Second, this view provides a reasonable explanation for how the Jewish people will be able to construct a temple on the temple mount in Jerusalem. If the armies of many of the major Islamic nations are decimated in Israel before the tribulation begins, the rebuilding of the temple in Jerusalem could be accomplished with much less Muslim resistance.

This view has two main weaknesses. First, according to Ezek 38:8 and 16 the invasion will occur in the "latter years" or "last days." As noted, these expressions appear to refer to the final time of Israel's distress and restoration, or the end-times. These chronological indicators point to a period after the beginning of the tribulation rather than a time within the church age.

Second, the invasion will occur at a time when Israel is "at rest," "living securely," and dwelling in "enwalled villages." It is true that the inhabitants of modern Israel live in enwalled villages and have some degree of security due to their military might. However, they are not "at rest" as required by Ezekiel 38.

### **3. First Half of the Tribulation View**

Another common view is that the invasion will occur during the first half of the tribulation. Most that hold this view place it closer to the midpoint of the tribulation. John Walvoord, J. Dwight Pentecost, Charles Ryrie, and Herman Hoyt held this view.

There are two main strengths of this view. First, it provides an excellent explanation for Israel's peace and security described in Ezek 38:8 and 11. The coming ruler make a seven-year covenant with Israel, under that covenant, Israel will be able to relax, for their Gentile enemies will have become their friends. During that first three and one-half years, we have the one time when re-gathered Israel is at rest and secure. Apparently, Russia will invade the land of Israel during that period, possibly toward its close, and then the Scripture will fulfill.

Second, this view provides a reasonable scenario for the Antichrist's ascent to world domination at the mid-point of the tribulation. If the armies of Russia and her Islamic allies are wiped out in Israel some time before the mid-point of the tribulation, this would create a massive power vacuum and a dramatic shift in the balance of

power that would allow the Antichrist to ascend to world domination as predicted in Rev 13.

The primary weakness of this view is that it does not deal very well with the seven months of burying the dead and the seven years of burning the weapons. However, if the invasion occurs at least one year before the mid-point of the tribulation, then it is possible for the dead bodies to be buried before the Antichrist invades Israel and begins his reign of terror. The burning of the weapons could continue into the beginning of the millennial kingdom.<sup>182</sup>

#### 4. End of the Tribulation View

Several well-known commentators and prophecy teachers view the battle of Gog and Magog in conjunction with the campaign of Armageddon at the end of the tribulation. There are two main strengths of this view. First, the invitation in Ezek 39:4 and 39:17-20 for the birds and beasts to feed on the carnage after the battle of Gog and Magog seems to parallel the description of the great supper after Armageddon in Rev 19:17-18. Second, this view dovetails nicely with the statements about Israel's salvation after the invasion since according to Zech Israel will turn to the Lord en masse at the end of the tribulation.<sup>183</sup>

There are four main obstacles to this view.

- 1) Ezek 38 names specific allies, whereas Armageddon involves all the nations of the earth.
- 2) in Ezek 39 the destruction is on the mountains of Israel while at Armageddon it stretches from Megiddo in the north to Petra in the south.
- 3) in Ezekiel the armies are destroyed by convulsions of nature, but at Armageddon they are destroyed by the personal appearance of Christ.
- 4) most importantly, at the end of the tribulation Israel will not be "at rest" or "living securely." Many will have fled into the wilderness and the rest of the Jewish people will have endured three and a half years of persecution by the Antichrist. The end of the tribulation will be one time when Israel will not be "at rest" or "living securely."

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<sup>182</sup> Ibid. Pp.11-19

<sup>183</sup> Zech 12:10



## 5. Beginning of the Millennium<sup>184</sup> View

Another view, that is not very commonly today, is that the invasion will be part of the judgment of the nations after the Second Coming of Christ. Arno Gaebelein, the main proponent of this view, used two main arguments to support his position.

- I. he argued that the restoration and rest language in Ezek 38:8 points to a time “when the Lord has brought back His people and resumed His relationship with the remnant of Israel.
- II. Gaebelein believed that the judgment of the living nations in Matt 25:31-46 will cover a considerable period and that the Gog and Magog invasion will be the climax of that judgment.

Gaebelein described his view of the early part of the millennial kingdom. “There is first the Davidic aspect. He will begin to reign first as David did; His people are with Him and blessed, but all their enemies are not yet subdued or overcome. ..They (Gog and magog) are the last enemies to disappear.

There are several problems with this view, but the main obstacle is that it is *after* this invasion that Israel returns to the Lord according to Ezekiel.<sup>185</sup> Adopting this view would place the repentance of Israel at the end of the 75-day transition period between Christ’s Second Advent and the official beginning of the millennium.<sup>186</sup>

## 6. Two Phase Fulfillment View

Harold Hoehner contends that Ezek 38–39 will be fulfilled in two phases. He believes that Ezek 38 will be fulfilled early in the tribulation and that Ezek 39 will be fulfilled at the end of the tribulation. The strength of this view is that it harmonizes the text well with other related texts such as Rev 19. However, the main weakness of this view is that Ezek 38 and 39 appear to be describing the same invasion and its aftermath not two distinct phases separated by several years. the notion of double fulfillment or double meaning in prophecy is completely rejected.. Neither the text nor the context of Ezek 38–39 provides any indication that it will be fulfilled on two occasions.

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<sup>184</sup> Derived from the Latin words mille, “a thousand,” and annuls, “a year” (Revelation 20), millennialism teaches that there will be a 1000-year, visible kingdom of God on earth. It is also called chiliasm from the Greek word chilia, “a thousand.”

<sup>185</sup> Ezek 38:23; 39:6-7, 25-29

<sup>186</sup> Mark Hitchcock, (26-12-2008). *The battle of gog and magog*. London:Pre-Trib Research Center, pp 11-19

## 7. Post-Millennial View

The final view of the timing of Ezek 38–39 is at the end of the millennium. The strength of this view is that a battle of Gog and Magog mentioned in Rev 20:7-10 after the millennial kingdom in conjunction with the release of Satan from the abyss. Although the mention of Gog and Magog in both texts makes this view initially attractive, there are four reasons for rejecting it.

- 1) Gog and Magog in Ezek 38–39 is *before* the millennium which is described in Ezek 40–48; whereas, in Rev 20:7-10 the battle of Gog and Magog is *after* the millennium described in Rev 20:1-6.
- 2) In Ezek 39 the bodies of Gog and his troops are buried for seven months and the weapons are burned for seven years after the battle, yet in Rev 20–21 the Great White Throne, new heaven and new earth, and eternal state immediately follow the battle of Gog and Magog.
- 3) The post-millennial view would require the burying and burning to continue into the eternal state. Therefore, the mention of Gog and Magog in Rev 20:7 is not the fulfillment of Ezek 38–39. These two events are separated by over one thousand years.
- 4) The words Gog and Magog in Rev 20:8 are probably used as someone today would apply the word “Waterloo” as a shorthand way to signal a crushing military defeat. During the millennium, the defeat of Gog and Magog in Ezek 38–39 will apparently become legendary among the nations.<sup>187</sup>

While no view of the timing of Ezek 38–39 is without difficulty, the best view is that the invasion will occur during the first half of the tribulation when Israel has her guard down due to her covenant with Antichrist (Dan 9:27). Ezekiel said these nations (Gog and his alliance) will think evil and in the result, the rapture of the church will take place. Damascus has always been a city and it was never been completely destroyed. In coming days Hamas<sup>188</sup> and Hezbollah will attack on the Israel for final decision as they have done in past. The destroying of the Damascus will bring on the war of Ezekiel because Islamic nation will try to give answer back to Israel. In the result of the destruction of Damascus, nations of the world will start hate to Israel. Once the Damascus will be destroyed, the nations of the world will call for

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<sup>187</sup> Ibid. pp. 11-19

<sup>188</sup> Damascus is head quarter for Hamas and they have planed attack with Hezbollah from there.

calm from the united nation and around the world. Ezekiel told them (Israel) to get ready with those who are with them because the nations will attack on Israel in later years who were in world war two. In addition, these nations will come from the mountains of Israel, the Ibrahim Mountains in Jordan east of the Dead Sea and a Jericho upon a people who have dwelling safely. They will also come through the Bashan area which is Golan Heights are the rapture before this war will change the climate of the whole world. In the result of the rapture, there will be confusion in the world for a brief time especially in the United State, in the result of this confusion million people who support Israel will leave her. Result there will be time when the United States will not be able to continue her support for Israel, which will be due to her one problem. Another clue come from the scripture for this war is that Israel has enjoyed great peace with Egypt, Jordan and United States, and they are back to their land.<sup>189</sup> When these nations will attack on Israel god will help his chosen people by sending pestilence, rain, hailstones, fire and brimstone<sup>190</sup> against enemies of Israel.<sup>191</sup> These are things are happened in these days (time of tribulation).<sup>192</sup> The purpose of this war is the spiritual rebirth of the Israel but it will not happen until after the complete destruction of Gog and Magog. This war will be sudden but some modern scholars as Heiser said it will be in stages and it will be world war three.<sup>193</sup>

### **The Aftermath of Gog and Magog**

Four key events occur in the aftermath of this invasion.

1. The Birds and the Beasts (Ezek. 39:4-5; 17-20; cf. Rev. 19:17-18) the carnage that results from this slaughter will provide a great feast for the birds of the air and the beasts of the field. God refers to the carnage as “My sacrifice” and “My table” to which He invites the birds and the beasts as His guests.
2. The Burying of the Dead for 7 Months (Ezek. 39:11-12, 14-16) Clean-up squads will be assembled to go through the land. They will set up markers wherever they see a human bone. When the gravediggers come behind them, they will see the markers and take the remains to the Valley of Gog’s Hordes

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<sup>189</sup> As Ezekiel said dry bones to come back alive, to stand up upon their feet, and become an exceeding great army. Ezekiel 37

<sup>190</sup> Brimstone and fire could come from dormant volcanoes that are in Bashan.

<sup>191</sup> Ezekiel 38:22

<sup>192</sup> Edward L. Brownlee, (2011). *Simply Revelation*. USA: Tate Publishing. Pp. 70-77

<sup>193</sup> Michael S. Heise, (12-9-2010). NTEB: the battle of Gog and Magog, How Ezekiel 38 predicts the coming of world war World War III. California: Hoover institution press.

for burial. The cleansing will be so extensive that a town will be established in the valley at the gravesites to aid those who are cleansing the land. The name of the town will be *Hamonah* or *Hamon-gog* (horde)<sup>194</sup>.

3. The Burning of the Weapons for 7 Years (Ezek. 39:9-10)
4. The Blessing of Salvation (39:22). Moreover, this will be in the form of restoration of Israel.<sup>195</sup>

God will use the awesome display of His power against Russia and her allies to bring many to salvation of both Jews and Gentiles. Many of those who turn to the true God because of this demonstration of His power will undoubtedly be among the vast group of the redeemed.<sup>196</sup>

Events in our world today strikingly foreshadow the prophecy of the battle of Gog and Magog in Ezek 38–39. All of the necessary antecedents for the fulfillment of this prophecy are in place or are moving in that direction. The Jewish people have been re-gathered to their land in unbelief, the Middle East peace process is front and center in international diplomacy, and the invaders in Ezek 38 are identifiable nations who have both the desire and the potential to fulfill the Gog prophecy. The remarkable correspondence between world events and what Ezekiel predicted is another indication that the coming of the Lord could be very soon.

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<sup>194</sup> There are three major bodies of water that could be qualify as being the sea from which the valley of Hamon-gog will be located to the east. The Mediterranean Sea which is located on the west border of Israel; the Sea of Galilee which lies to the west of the Golan Heights; and the Dead sea which lies along the western border of the Kingdom of Jordan.

<sup>195</sup> Douglas Berner, (2006). *The Silence Is Broken! God Hooks Ezekiel's Gog & Magog*. United State Of America: lulu publications. pP, 222-234.

<sup>196</sup> Rev 7:9-14

## CHAPTER 3: THE CONCEPT OF GOG AND MAGOG IN ISLAM

In this section, we shall try to understand the concept of Gog and Magog in the light of Qur'ān and Sunnah. For this, we will first identify the definition of Gog and Magog through its literal and conventional meanings with the help of commentaries and narrations on Gog and Magog; and lastly the contemporary Islamic Perception of Gog and Magog.

### 3.1 Definition of Gog and Magog from Islamic Perspective

One of the purposes behind the revelation (Al-Qur'ān) was to worship only for ALLAH,

وَلَقَدْ بَعَثْنَا فِي كُلِّ أُمَّةٍ رَسُولًا أَنْ اعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ وَاجْتَنِبُوا الطَّاغُوتَ<sup>197</sup>

All revealed books tell about the last hour. As Al-Qur'ān says:

وَسِيقَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا إِلَىٰ جَهَنَّمَ زُمَرًا ۚ حَتَّىٰ إِذَا جَاءُوهَا فَفُتِحَتْ أَبْوَابُهَا وَقَالَ لَهُمْ خَزَنَتُهَا أَلَمْ يَأْتِكُمْ رُسُلٌ مِّنكُمْ يَتْلُونَ عَلَيْكُمْ آيَاتِ رَبِّكُمْ وَيُنذِرُونَكُمْ لِقَاءَ يَوْمِكُمْ هَٰذَا قَالُوا بَلَىٰ وَلَكِنْ حَفَّتْ كَلِمَةُ الْعَذَابِ عَلَىٰ الْكَافِرِينَ<sup>198</sup>

To believe on the day of judgment is one of the pillar of Iman. Moreover, it has its great impact on human's life here and here after. As ALLAH says;

فَأَمَّا مَنْ طَغَىٰ \* وَآثَرَ الْحَيَاةَ الدُّنْيَا \* فَإِنَّ الْجَحِيمَ هِيَ الْمَأْوَىٰ \* وَأَمَّا مَنْ خَافَ مَقَامَ رَبِّهِ وَنَهَى النَّفْسَ عَنِ الْهَوَىٰ \* فَإِنَّ الْجَنَّةَ هِيَ الْمَأْوَىٰ<sup>199</sup>\*

The exact knowledge of last hour is only known by ALLAH.

يَسْأَلُونَكَ عَنِ السَّاعَةِ أَيَّانَ مُرْسَلُهَا قُلْ إِنَّمَا عِلْمُهَا عِنْدَ رَبِّي<sup>200</sup>

But ALLAH told some signs of its appearance and also in Hadīth we find some signs, but didn't find an accurate time of its happening.

فَهَلْ يَنْظُرُونَ إِلَّا السَّاعَةَ أَنْ تَأْتِيَهُمْ بَغْتَةً فَقَدْ جَاءَ أَشْرَاطُهَا فَأَنَّىٰ لَهُمْ إِذَا جَاءَهُمْ بُكْرُهُمْ<sup>201</sup>

To believe on the day of judgment come in the branch of believe on invisible and its believers are called Mumin as Al-Qur'ān says:

الَّذِينَ يُؤْمِنُونَ بِالْغَيْبِ وَيُقِيمُونَ الصَّلَاةَ وَمِمَّا رَزَقْنَاهُمْ يُنْفِقُونَ \* وَالَّذِينَ يُؤْمِنُونَ بِمَا أُنزِلَ إِلَيْكَ وَمَا أُنزِلَ مِن قَبْلِكَ وَبِالْآخِرَةِ هُمْ يُوقِنُونَ \* أُولَٰئِكَ عَلَىٰ هُدًى مِّن رَّبِّهِمْ وَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْمُصْلِحُونَ<sup>202</sup>\*

<sup>197</sup> al-Qur'ān 16:36

<sup>198</sup> al-Qur'ān 39:71

<sup>199</sup> al-Qur'ān 79:38-41

<sup>200</sup> al-Qur'ān 7:187

<sup>201</sup> al-Qur'ān 47:18

<sup>202</sup> al-Qur'ān 2:1-5

Scholars divided signs of last hour in three categories:

As Ibn-Hajr said:

التقسيم الحافظ ابن حجر حيث قال " ما أخبر النبي سيقع قبل أن تقوم الساعة على أقسام:  
أولها: ما وقع على وفق ما قال.  
الثاني: ما وقعت مباديه ولم يستحكم.  
والثالث: ما لم يقع منه شيء ولكنه سيقع."<sup>203</sup>

1. These signs appeared and came to an end, they were exactly according to the saying of The Holy Prophet Muhammad Peace be upon him. i.e. the selection of Muhammad Peace be upon him as prophet and then his passing away, Conquering Bait-ul-Maqdis.

2. Such signs which appears with time by time and do not remains as time passed. Such as earthquakes, Lack of knowledge, be guilty of the breach of trust.

3. Signs which will have physical existence, and they will become visible near the last hour. As Dajjāl, Coming of messiah (Hzrat 'Īsā (PBUH)), Ya'jūj Ma'jūj , Sun will rise from the west

Some scholar divided signs of last hour in two types:

1. Signs, which will appear on sky (اشراط السماوية): As moon became in two pieces, sun will rise from west.

2. Signs, which will appear on earth (اشراط ارضية) i.e. Dajjāl, coming of Beast

التقسيم الحافظ ابن كثير - رحمه الله تعالى - حيث قال " فأما خروج الدابة على شكل غريب غير مألوف، ومخاطبتها الناس، ووسمها إياهم بالإيمان أو الكفر، فأمر خارج عن مجاري العادات وذلك أول الآيات الأرضية " كما أن طلوع الشمس من مغربها على خلاف عاداتها المألوفة أول الآيات السماوية.<sup>204</sup>

As Hafiz Ibn Kasir said: coming of Beast in strange form is unfamiliar, its audience will be human beings, and it will label of them faith or disbelief. This is strange and it will be first sing among those signs, which will appear on earth same as sun will rise from west is odd and opening sign from those signs that will appear on sky.

Some scholars as al-Bayhaqi<sup>205</sup> divided these signs as:

<sup>203</sup> الحافظ ابن حجر. (2005). فتح الباري (المجلد 13). ط. طيبة: القاهرة: مكتبة الغربا الاترية ص88

<sup>204</sup> الحافظ ابن كثير. النهاية في القرن والملامح (المجلد ج 1). القاهرة: دار الحديث. ص 180

<sup>205</sup> Abu Bakr Ahmad ibn Husayn Ibn 'Ali Ibn Moussa al-Khosrojerdi al-Bayhaqi, البيهقي also known as Imam Al-Bayhaqi was born 994 CE/384AH in the small town of Khusraugird near Sabzevar, then

1. Minor signs: they appear with the passage of time
2. Major signs: they will appear near the Day of Judgment.

In addition, this categorization is common in several scholars.

التقسيم الحافظ البيهقي - رحمه الله - حيث قال " و هذها لأشراط صغار وكبار، فأما صغارها فقد وجد أكثرها، وأما كبارها فقد بنت آثارها <sup>206</sup>

Coming of Ya'jūj Ma'jūj is one of the major sign of the Qiyāmah as it come in Hadīth. Hudhaifa b. Usaid Ghifari reported: *ALLAH's Messenger (may peace be upon him) came to us all of a sudden as we were (busy in a discussion). He said: What do you discuss about? They (the Companions) said. We are discussing about the Last Hour. Thereupon he said: It will not come until you see ten signs before and (in this connection) zhe made a mention of the smoke, Dajjāl, the beast, the rising of the sun from the west, the descent of Jesus son of Mary (ALLAH be pleased with him), the Gog and Magog, and land-sliding in three places, one in the east, one in the west and one in Arabia at the end of which fire would burn forth from the Yemen, and would drive people to the place of their assembly*<sup>207</sup>

#### a) Literal meaning of Gog and Magog

The word Gog and magog occur twice time in Qur'an.

Once in Sūrah Kahf. as ALLAH said:

قَالُوا يَا ذَا الْقُرْنَيْنِ إِنَّ يَأْجُوجَ وَمَأْجُوجَ مُفْسِدُونَ فِي الْأَرْضِ فَهَلْ نَجْعَلُ لَكَ خَرْجًا طَيَّ أَنْ تَجْعَلَ بَيْنَنَا وَبَيْنَهُمْ سَدًّا.

They said, "O Dhul-Qarnayn, indeed Gog and Magog are [great] corrupters in the land. So may we assign for you an expenditure that you might make between us and them a barrier?"<sup>208</sup>

Second time in al-Qur'an 21:96

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known as Bayhaq, in Khurasan. During his lifetime, he became a famous Sunni hadith expert, following the Shafi'i school in fiqh.

<sup>206</sup> أحمد بن الحسين بن علي بن موسى الخنزوري الخراساني، أبو بكر البيهقي. (19867). *البعث والنشور للبيهقي*. بيروت: مركز الخدمات والأبحاث الثقافية. ص 127

<sup>207</sup> أبو الحسين مسلم بن الحجاج القشيري النيسابوري. (1930). *كتاب الفتن وأشراط الساعة: بلب ذكر الدجال وصفته وما معه في المنهاج شرح صحيح مسلم بن الحجاج (ط. الأولى)*. ج 18، المصريه بالازهر.

<sup>208</sup> al-Qur'an 18:94

□ إِذَا فُتِحَتْ يَأْجُوجُ وَمَاجُوجُ وَهُمْ مِنْ كُلِّ حَدَبٍ يَنْسِلُونَ

Until when [the dam of] Gog and Magog has been opened and they, from every elevation, descend<sup>209</sup>

Later on, I will discuss interpretation of above mention verse, here I will try to explain the meaning of two word Gog and Magog as they are came in the verses of holy Quran called Ya'jūj Ma'jūj . Muslim scholars have two different views about these words:

1. Gog and magog from NON ARABIC (عجمي) 'ajmy source
2. Gog and Magog from Arabic source

Both opinions are mentioned in detail as follow:

**1. Gog and Magog from (عجمي) 'ijmy source :**

Ancient scholars have denoted in their *Tafsīr* that these words are from 'ijmy (non-Arab) sources but they did not point out the language from which these words actually belongs to. As it is mentioned in *Tafsīr Al-ḷshaf* with these words:

اسمان أعجميان بديل منع الصرف<sup>210</sup>

Then he proved it grammatically.

Imam fākr al-Din Al-razi also make use of these words in *tafsīr Al-kabeer*:

أنهما اسمان أعجميان موضوعان بديل منع الصرف<sup>211</sup>

Almost all-reliable *Tafasīr* discuss Gog and magog in aforementioned perspective. Ancient scholars had not study much about this topic there might be a number of reasons following it.

1. At that era of time, Muslims were not much interacted with other nations.
2. Other nations were not so much well to do in education.
3. These *Tafasīr* were written for the basics of Muslims so might be the point was not explained totally.

However, current Muslim scholars tried to discover their origin. Some important opinions are listed below:

<sup>209</sup> al-Qur'ān 21:96

<sup>210</sup> العلامة جز الله أبو القاسم محمود بن عمر الزمخشري. (1407 هـ). *تفسير الكشاف* (المجلد 2). بيروت: دار الكتب العربي. ص746.

<sup>211</sup> الإمام فخر الدين الرازي. (1938). *التفسير الكبير* (ط1، الأولى، المجلد 21). الهيئة المصرية، ص 170



### Mahmood Jamal

In China there is city of magnolia, the word magnolia has been derived from the word Moog, when this word came to Greece it became meeg or megag. Which changed in Hebrew language in to magog, <sup>212</sup> Quran also use this and it was well know in Arab too. As one versifier رؤية بن العجاج said:

لَوْ أَنَّ يَاجُوجَ وَمَاجُوجَ مَعَا وَعَادَ عَانُوا وَاسْتَجَاشُوا تَبَعًا <sup>213</sup>

In the past of china there was a tribe called yuch-chi. The name of this tribe passed through different countries and at the last it become in Hebrew as Gog. In Arabic alphabet, ي has been positioned before the word Gog, but Muslim scholars have not made available any reason for this addition.<sup>214</sup>

### Hamid bin Hamza

In Chinese language the word “Ya” is used to name continent Asia and jooj means the people who live there. Therefore, Ya’jüj means those people who live in Asia. “Ma” means horse and Gog refers to town. Which can be further seen in the table below where pronunciation and meanings of respective words are given in different languages as Chinese, Arabic, Latin and English.

See the table below:

The writing and pronunciation of the sentence “Ya’jüj and Ma’jüj” in Chinese (Using the Latin Characters)<sup>215</sup>

Chinese word	Arabic translation	English translation	Pronunciation in Chinese & Arabic	
Ya	آسيا	Asia	Ya	يا
(Zhuo) jou	قارة, او ديار او موطن	Continent	Jou	جو
Ren pronounced	شعب او سكان	People	Jen	جن
Ya Jou ren	سكان قارة اسيا	Asian People	Ya Jou Jen	ياجو جن

<sup>212</sup> Mahmud Jamal, (2010, nov). urdu digest. *Yajoj maoj or sad zul qarnain* .

<sup>213</sup> الإمام فخر الدين الرازي. (1938). التفسير الكبير (ط. الاولى، المجلد 21). البهية المصرية، ص 170

<sup>214</sup> Mahmud Jamal, (2010, nov). urdu digest. *Yajoj maoj or sad zul qarnain* .

<sup>215</sup> Hamid bin Hamza, (2008). *Unlocking the secrets of dhulqarnain ana yagooj majoj*. Riyadh: King Fahad National Library cataloging-in- publication . p.328

				جن
Ma	حصان او خيل	Horse	Ma	ما
Jou	قارة, او ديار او موطن	Home. Continent	Jou	جو
Ren	سكان, شعب, ناس	People	Jen	جن
Ma Jou Ren	سكان قارة او ديار الخيل	Horse people Home (Continent)	Mā Jou Jen	ماجور جن

Table: demonstrating the translation of the sentence from Chinese to Arabic and English languages.

#### Remarks:

- 1- The word Ya is pronounced Ya.
- 2- The word Ma pronunciation.
- 3- The word Ren is pronounced in Chinese as Jen. This would be a very important issue to the Arab lexicologists to find out, how the Angel Gabriel pronounced this part of the Qur'ānic verse when he recited the verse Ya'jūj or Yajoujen? Ma'jūj or Majoujen?
- 4- The similarity between the pronunciation and writing of the word ma (the horse) in both Chinese and Thai languages, while other words in Ya'jūj and Ma'jūj sentence are purely Chinese.

Some significant issues have been noted in both scholars point of view.

In the reference for the literal meaning of Gog and Magog some significant point are present in the discussion of muhmood Jamaal and Dr. Hamid bin Hamza which can be summarized as follow:

1. Both considered these names from (non-Arab) *ijmy* source. Moreover, they belong to china.
2. Both of them did not describe the meaning of these words.
3. Mahmood Jamal showed his unawareness about the addition of "ي" (y) , because in English and in Hebrew this word (Ya'jūj) is known as Gog and he did not find this word in its real source. In contrast Hamid bin Hamza has presented very logical justification for this addition.

#### 2. Ya'jūj Ma'jūj are from Arabic source

Ancient scholars also derived these words from Arabic source. There are different points of view about it. These words have been consequent from different basic words as detail is below:

1. امام كسائي said the word Ya'jūj is derived from تاج النار its mean is fire flares. Due to their rapidness they named as Ya'jūj. While Ma'jūj is Derivative from موج which means wave of sea. They will stretch as the wave of sea spread. There for they are named as Ma'jūj.

2. Some scholars believe that they are derived from تاج الملح rise of salt. Due to their Eruption, they are called Ya'jūj.

3. Imam khaliel supposed أج means a kind of grain like Lentils. While مج means fraud and deceive, it can be possible that these both words are derived from these terms.<sup>216</sup>

Al-Zamakhshari described in these words:

There are two views about Gog and magog

1. These words are non-Arabic with respect to grammatical sense.
2. These words are derived from different basic words.

These words are pronounced in different mode assents as follow:

1. ، وقراً عاصم ياجوج وملجوج بالهمز.
2. وقراً البقون يلجوج وملجوج.
3. وقرىء في رواية آجوج وملجوج<sup>217</sup>

### Tammam Adi

Tammam Adi, the Quran semanticist, has pointed out that they are two word-forms from the Arabic root "hamza jeem jeem" that grammatically denote the active tense (Ya'jūj) and passive tense (Ma'jūj). This could indicate their characterization as a double-faced people with conduct that 'ebbs and flows'. They 'attack' and 'occupy' (Ya'jūj) and then feign withdrawal' (Ma'jūj). They commit 'aggression' (Ya'jūj) and then pose as 'peacemakers' or as 'victims of aggression' (Ma'jūj). They 'violate'

<sup>216</sup>الإمام فخر الدين الرازي. (1938). التفسير الكبير (ط1 الاولي، المجلد 21). البهية المصرية، ص170  
<sup>217</sup> العلامة جلال الله أبو القاسم محمود بن عمر الزمخشري. (1407 هـ). تفسير الكشاف (المجلد 2). بيروت: دار الكتب العربية، ص 746

(Ya'jūj) and then 'pacify' (Ma'jūj). They pose as 'religious people' (Ya'jūj) when in fact they are devoid of faith and essentially 'godless' (Ma'jūj).<sup>218</sup>

Through the judgment of the above two mention opinions, this view is stronger that these two are not Arabic but belongs to non-Arabic languages. Mostly scholars referred these both words towards the land of china. There are many clues that these words are not from Arabic.

Al-Zamakhshari has mentioned one of them in these words:

انهما اسمان أعجميان موضوعان بدليل منع الصرف

1. This incident<sup>219</sup> happened in Non-Arab land, so these names should be non-Arabic.

2. Those who believed that these words are Arabic from source they have conflict opinions about these words. It is very odd to have conflict opinions about such a renowned matter.

#### b) Conventional meaning of Gog and Magog

When last hour will come? Those who believe frequently ask this question on the Day of Judgment, even those who do not believe on it they have more curious about this day. As Qur'an said:

وَيَقُولُونَ مَتَىٰ هَٰذَا الْوَعْدُ إِن كُنتُمْ صَادِقِينَ<sup>220</sup>

They say, "When will the threat of Resurrection be carried out? Tell us if you are truthful."

However, no one knows about the exact time of its happening. Nevertheless, a Holy prophet has told some signs about its appearance. As ALLAH said:

لِنَّ اللَّهَ عِنْدَهُ عِلْمُ السَّاعَةِ<sup>221</sup> وَيُنزِلُ الْعَيْثُ<sup>222</sup> وَيَعْلَمُ مَا فِي الْأَرْحَامِ، وَمَا تَدْرِي نَفْسٌ مَّذَا تَكْسِبُ غَدًا، وَمَا تَدْرِي نَفْسٌ بِأَيِّ أَرْضٍ تَمُوتُ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ<sup>221</sup>

"Indeed, ALLAH [alone] has knowledge of the Hour and sends down the rain and knows what is in the wombs. And no soul perceives what it will earn tomorrow, and

<sup>218</sup> N. Hosin, I. (2009). An Islamic Views of Gog and Magog in the Modern Age. Ansari memorial series, Sūrah al-Kahf Quartet, Vol. 3, imranhosine.org. p148

<sup>219</sup> Al-Qur'an 18:94 or 21:96

<sup>220</sup> Al-Qur'an 36:48

<sup>221</sup> Al-Qur'an 31:34

no soul perceives in what land it will die. Indeed, ALLAH is Knowing and Acquainted.”

Believers have been advised to be frightened and terrify from the Day of Judgment. Hadīth discussed Ya'jūj Ma'jūj in the chapter of “The signs of *Qiyāmah*”, and relate them with the events which will occur before the day of judgment. Muslim scholars have uncertainty and ambiguity about the identity of yajooj Majuj. Many ancient and modern scholars have debated on the point that they belong to which nation; the details will be explained later. In this section, their profile and the signs, which differentiate them from human beings, will be discussed. There are different views, but one thing which is very common in these views is that they are different from human beings in all respects from their birth until death. Almost All Islamic scholars are agreed on this view. However, the question arises that due to the difference they did not fall in the category of human beings?

Below are some different views in detail with their critic:

#### 1. Are they humans or something else?

al-Qur'ān 18:26 informs us that a community of human beings complained to Dhūl Qarnain about Gog and Magog and their acts of *Fasād* in their territory. They requested him to build a barrier containing Gog and Magog and thus protecting them from *Fasād*. He responded by building a material barrier with blocks of iron and in doing so, successfully contained them behind that barrier. The Islamic moral code distinguishes between sins which result in punishment in the hereafter and those (recognized as crimes) which are punishable in this world. The Islamic penal code recognizes *Fasād* (i.e. conduct that is destructive in nature such as organized murder, interest-banking (because it destroys the fair market), organized robbery, starvation, mass poisoning with drugs and vaccines, forced worship of idols (destruction of souls) as the greatest of all such crimes (crimes which can destroy society itself) and has prescribed deterrent punishment for *Fasād* which includes banishment, cutting off hands and legs on opposite sides, and crucifixion: The punishment of those who wage war against ALLAH and His Messenger, and strive with might and main to commit *Fasād* through the land is: execution crucifixion cutting off hands and feet from opposite sides or exile from the

land: that is their disgrace in this world and a heavy punishment is theirs in the Hereafter.

The implication of the use of the word Fasād<sup>222</sup> to describe the behavior of Gog and Magog indicates that they are beings who are responsible for their deeds which thus qualify as 'conduct'. But such would be possible only if Gog and Magog possessed a 'self-directed will' with capacity for 'choice' and could thus be held accountable for their sinful conduct. Angels do not possess a self-directed will and cannot commit sin, thus they cannot commit acts of Fasād. Nor can invisible angels be contained behind a material barrier. Although Jinn possess a self-directed will and are hence responsible for their conduct, they are invisible to human beings who therefore cannot identify them as perpetrators of acts of Fasād. In addition, invisible Jinn exist in a dimension of space and time other than our own and hence, like angels, cannot be contained behind a material barrier. The only other created beings who possess a self-directed will, can commit sin, and hence can commit acts of Fasād are human beings. In addition, unlike angels and Jinn, human beings can be contained behind a material barrier.<sup>223</sup>

The inescapable conclusion is that Gog and Magog are human beings. When we turn to the Hadīth we find information which supports the conclusion that Gog and Magog are human beings:

Abu Saeed al- Khudri narrates that the Prophet said: "On Judgment Day ALLAH will ask Adam to pick out from his entire progeny those who would enter the hellfire. Adam will ask: 'O Lord-God, who are they?' ALLAH will say: 'Nine hundred and ninety nine of a thousand are for the hellfire while one is for heaven.' On hearing this, the companions were overtaken by fear and they asked, 'O Messenger of ALLAH who will that one for heaven be?' The Prophet said: 'Do not grieve, the nine hundred and ninety nine will be Ya'jūj and Ma'jūj while you will be the one for heaven.'" (i.e. Your numbers in relation to them will be one in a thousand).<sup>224</sup>

"Verily Gog and Magog are of the progeny of Adam". (Kanz al-Ummal, Hadīth No 2158) The above Hadīths confirm Gog and Magog to be human beings, who

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<sup>222</sup> Al-Qur'ān 5:33)

<sup>223</sup> N. Hosin, I. (2009). An Islamic Views of Gog and Magog in the Modern Age. Ansari memorial series, Sūrah al-Kahf Quartet, Vol. 3, imranhosine.org. P 146

<sup>224</sup> أبو عبد الله محمد بن إسماعيل البخاري. كِتَابُ تَفْسِيرِ الْقُرْآنِ - سُورَةُ الْحَجِّ - بَابُ وَتَرَى النَّاسَ سُكَارَى. تَأْلِيفُ صَاحِبِ الْبُخَارِيِّ.

موقع الاسلام، ح 4

ايضا في صحيح مسلم - كِتَابُ الْإِيمَانِ - بَابُ قَوْلِهِ يَقُولُ اللَّهُ لِأَنَّهُمْ أُخْرِجُوا نَارًا مِنْ كُلِّ آفٍ تَمْنَعُ مَائِدًا وَتَسْنَعُ وَيَتَمَنَعِينَ <sup>222</sup>.

belong to the progeny of Ādam ('alaihi al-Salam). There is also a Hadīth al-Qudsi recorded in which ALLAH Himself describes Gog and Magog as His 'Ibād (i.e. servants or slaves): 'I have created servants of mine (i.e. Gog and Magog) so powerful that none but I can wage war on them.'<sup>225</sup> Servants of ALLAH, who have the capacity to wage war and to defeat armies, are usually human beings.

Our conclusion, based on substantial evidence derived from both the Qur'ān and Hadīth, is that Gog and Magog are human beings. Now it is clear that they are human beings so next Question is about their birth.

## 2. Birth:

The strange point about their (Ya'jūj Ma'jūj) birth is that which is denote from Ka'b al-Aḥbār, *Ādam, peace be upon him saw a wet dream, water uniform with soil so in the result they were born. They are connected to us on the father not the mother's side. Nevertheless, this is not right; because the prophets do not Ihtelmon.*

"وقال كعب الأحبار: احتلم أم عليه السلام فاختلط ماؤه بالتراب فأسيف فخلقوا من ذلك الماء، فهم متصلون بنا من جهة الأب لا من جهة الأم. وهذا فيه نظر؛ لأن الأنبياء صلوات الله عليهم وسلامه لا يحتلمون، وإنما هم من ولد يافث، وكذلك قال مقاتل وغيره.<sup>226</sup>

Ibn kaseer wrote it could not possible because prophets do not ihtelmon.<sup>227</sup> Human mind are not except such process for creation.

If they are from the *Ādam, peace be upon him* as so where they were when Noah storm came? As ALLAH said:<sup>228</sup> وجعلنا ذريته هم الباقين<sup>228</sup>

From many Hadīths it is clear they are from Noah.

روى أبو هريرة عن النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم قال: ولد لنوح سام وحام ويافث فولد سام العرب وفارس والروم والخير فيهم وولد يافث يأجوج ومأجوج والترك والصفالبة ولا خير فيهم وولد حام (القبط والبربر والسودان).<sup>229</sup>

<sup>225</sup> أبو الحسين مسلم بن الحجاج القشيري النيسابوري ( 1930). كتاب الفتن وأثرها الساعة: باب نكر الدجال وصفته وما معه في المنهاج شرح صحيح مسلم بن الحجاج (ط. الأولى). ج 18, المصرية بالأزهر.

<sup>226</sup> عبد الرحمن بن محمد القماش. (الإصدار الأول مايو 2009). *الحاوي في تفسير القرآن الكريم* المكتبة مشكاة الإسلامي

<sup>227</sup> إسماعيل بن عمر بن كثير القرشي المشقي أبو الغداء عماد الدين. (2000) *تفسير ابن كثير*. القاهرة: مؤسسة قرطبة. 2000, ص

<sup>228</sup> Al-Qur'ān 37:77

<sup>229</sup> محمد بن عيسى بن سورة الترمذي, كتاب تفسير القرآن: باب ومن سورة الصفات. وفي سنن القرظي دار الكتب العلمية

Noah عليه السلام has three sons:

1. Ham, ancestor of the Arabia, Persia, and Roam.
2. Shem, ancestor of the Qatbi, barbarians and habsha.
3. Japheth, forefather the Ya'jūj Ma'jūj and Turk.

#### 4. Their age:

They will live long as it is clear from Hadīth:

وروى أبو سعيد الخدري عن النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم أنه قال: «لا يموت رجل منهم حتى يولد لأصلبه ألف رجل» يعني يا جوج وملجوج<sup>230</sup>

#### 5. Description of their features:

Imam Tabari made their detailed sketch; it helps to understand about their body shape, habits, and their traits of character. He mentioned all these details in the form of dialog of those whom were irritated by Ya'jūj Ma'jūj with the Dhūl-Qarnain.

They said:

1. O, Dhūl-Qarnain between these two mountains there is a creation of ALLAH. Their numbers are like humans.
2. Their height is half than human beings. It is also said, they are of two types, some are taller than humans are and some are smaller.
3. They feed on grass like animals.
4. They hunt animals like beasts.
5. They eat snacks, scorpions, and all kind of insects.
6. Their generation grow more rapidly other than any creation in the universe.
7. As we have nails, likewise they have paws.
8. They have long hairs on their body, which protect in warm and cold weather.
9. They have two long ears one of them they use as pillow and the other one as blanket.
10. They bark like dogs and shout like animals.
11. Their corruption is that they eat human beings.<sup>231</sup>

<sup>230</sup> الحفظ ابن حجر. (2005). كِتَابُ الْيَتْمَانِ - يَاجُوجُ وَمَاجُوجُ فِي فَتْحِ الْبَلَدِ تَرْجُحُ صَحِيحِ الْبُخَارِيِّ (المجلد 13), ط . طيبة: القاهرة: مكتبة الغربا الاثرية , ص 114.

<sup>231</sup> الإمام أبي جعفر محمد بن جرير الطبري, (2001). جامع البيان عن تأويل آي القرآن - تفسير الطبري (المجلد الخامس عشر). مركز البحوث و الدراسات العربية و الاسلامية بدار هجر, ص 397.



## 6. Death:

Their death will be in strange way as it comes in Hadīth:

In long Hadīth narrated by Nawwas ibn Sam'an (RA) "... the prophet of ALLAH, 'Isa, and his companions will turn to ALLAH (and pray for the removal of their distress which will be answered) and ALLAH will send a worm in their necks like an-naghf, which will eat its way out of their necks, so that they will all fall dead, and no sound will be heard from them. Then, the prophet of ALLAH, 'Isa, and his companions will come down from the Mount of 'fur and see not a hand-span worth of land remaining unfilled with corpses and (because of their decomposition) the place will be reeking with a strong stench. (Seeing this state of affairs) the prophet of ALLAH, 'Isa, and his companions will turn to ALLAH (praying for the removal of this distress as well which ALLAH will answer). He will send birds with necks like the neck of a camel. They will haul these corpses and throw them at the place where ALLAH wills (according to some narratives, they will put them away into the sea)."<sup>232</sup>

This is obvious that they did not belong to jinn or angels. Because these both creations cannot be captured with in boundary walls. According to the description of Imam Tabari about their profile, it is clear that they are partially human beings and in some measures, they can be classified as animals. However, generally Islamic scholars considered them as human beings. Therefore, it can be said that they are human beings but far from civilization and lack of human habits and features.

### 3.2 Qur'ān and Hadīth on Gog and Magog

The word ya'jūj Ma'jūj came in Qur'ān twice. Once in Sūrah Al-Kahf during the narration of the incident about Dhūl-Qarnain. This Sūrah revealed in Makah and its name has taken from its ninth verse, in which the word cave or Kahf has mentioned.

When holy prophet (peace be upon him) declared him as prophet, one Jew's delegation came from Yathrib and asked three question to judge either He (peace be upon him) is prophet. These questions are as follow:

1. What happened to the young men who disappeared in ancient days, for they have a marvelous story?<sup>233</sup>

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<sup>232</sup> أبو الحسين مسلم بن الحجاج القشيري النيسابوري، (1930). كتب القتن وأشراف الساعة: بلب نكر الدجال وصفته وما معاني منهاج شرح صحيح مسلم بن الحجاج (ط. الأولى ج 18)، المصريه بالأزهر

<sup>233</sup> Al-Qur'ān 18:9

2. They asked about the mighty traveler who reached the confines of both East and West,<sup>234</sup>

3. What is the spirit (Rūh)?<sup>235</sup>

Instead of asking directly about Dajjāl the Rabbis asked about some young men of old who fled into a cave and had a miraculous experience. Then instead of asking directly about Ya'jūj Ma'jūj, they asked about a great traveler who travelled to the two ends of the earth. The third question, which concerned the Rūh (spirit), was strategically different from the other two. It was a direct question, and hence its strategic role appears to have been one of creating confusion. When the Sūrah responded to the second question concerning the great traveler, it did so in a manner that immediately and directly addressed the question by naming the great traveler as Dhūl Qarnain. Not only did the Sūrah describe his journeys to the East and West but also, astonishingly, it went on to directly address the real question which lurked behind the posed question, namely Ya'jūj (Gog) and Ma'jūj (Magog). It did so by describing a third journey – concerning which the Rabbis had remained suspiciously silent. It is quite clear that the real target of the question was Gog and Magog who are one of the major signs of the Last Day (al-Qiyāmah). This was surely a subject about which only a Prophet would have knowledge. The question was one that approached its target indirectly. In this respect, it differed from the question concerning the Rūh.<sup>236</sup> This Sūrah revealed to give answer for these questions as Qur'ān itself preserved the link between the Sūrah and the mission to Yathrib when it recalled these questions posed by the Rabbis: <sup>237</sup>وَيَسْأَلُونَكَ عَنِ الَّذِينَ

### **The Qur'ān introduces the subject of Ya'jūj Ma'jūj**

Sūrah al-Kahf of the Qur'ān has introduced the subject of Gog and Magog as ALLAH says: <sup>237</sup>وَيَسْأَلُونَكَ عَنِ الَّذِينَ

O Muhammad!) : They ask you about Dhūl-Qarnain. Say: 'I will give you an account of him.' <sup>237</sup>إِنَّا مَكَّنَّا لَهُ فِي الْأَرْضِ وَآتَيْنَاهُ مِنْ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ سَبَبًا

We granted him power in the land and endowed him with all kinds of resources.

<sup>234</sup> Al-Qur'ān 18:83

<sup>235</sup> Al-Qur'ān 17: 85

<sup>236</sup> N. Hosin, I. (2009). An Islamic Views of Gog and Magog in the Modern Age. Ansari memorial series, Sūrah al-Kahf Quartet, Vol. 3, imranhosine.org

<sup>237</sup> Qur'ān, 18:83

فَاتَّبَعَ سَبَبًا

He set out (westwards) on an expedition,  
حتى إِذَا بَلَغَ مَغْرِبَ الشَّمْسِ وَجَدَهَا تَغْرُبُ فِي عَيْنٍ حَمِئَةٍ وَوَجَدَ عِنْدَهَا قَوْمًا قُلْنَا يَا الْقَارِنَيْنِ إِمَّا أَنْ تُعَذِّبَ وَإِمَّا أَنْ تَتَّخِذَ فِيهِمْ حُسْنًا

Until when he reached the very limits of where the sun sets, he saw it setting in dark turbid waters; and nearby he met a people. We said: 'O Dhūl-Qarnain, you have the power to punish or to treat them with kindnesses

قَالَ أَمَّا مَنْ ظَلَمَ فَسَوْفَ نُعَذِّبُهُ ثُمَّ يُرَدُّ إِلَىٰ رَبِّهِ فَيُعَذِّبُهُ عَذَابًا نُكْرًا

He said: 'We will chastise him who does wrong. Where after he will be returned to his Lord and He will chastise him grievously.

وَأَمَّا مَنْ آمَنَ وَعَمِلَ صَالِحًا فَلَهُ جَزَاءٌ الْحَسَنَىٰ ۖ وَسَتُؤْتَىٰ لَهُ مِنْ أَمْرِنَا يُسْرًا

But as for him who believes and acts righteously, his will be a goodly reward and we shall enjoin upon him only mild commands.'

ثُمَّ اتَّبَعَ سَبَبًا ۚ حَتَّىٰ إِذَا بَلَغَ مَطْلِعَ الشَّمْسِ وَجَدَهَا تَطَّلِعُ عَلَىٰ قَوْمٍ لَمْ تَجْعَلْ لَهُمْ مِنْ دُونِهَا سِتْرًا

Then he set out on another expedition, until he reached the limit, where the sun rises and he found it rising on a people whom We had provided no shelter from it

كَذَلِكَ ۖ وَقَدْ أَخْطَأْنَا بِمَا لَدَيْهِ حُبْرًا

Thus was the state of those people, and We encompassed in knowledge all concerning Dhūl-Qarnain. ثُمَّ اتَّبَعَ سَبَبًا

Then he set out on another expedition,

حتى إِذَا بَلَغَ بَيْنَ السَّوْدَيْنِ وَجَدَ مِنْ دُونِهِمَا قَوْمًا لَا يَكَادُونَ يَفْقَهُونَ قَوْلًا

Until when he reached a place between the two mountains, he found beside the mountains a people who scarcely understood anything

قَالُوا يَا الْقَارِنَيْنِ إِنْ يَأْجُوجُ وَمَأْجُوجُ مُفْسِدُونَ فِي الْأَرْضِ فَهَلْ نَجْعَلُ لَكَ خَرْجًا عَلَىٰ أَنْ تَجْعَلَ بَيْنَنَا وَبَيْنَهُمْ سَدًّا

They said: 'O Dhūl-Qarnain, Gog and Magog are spreading corruption in this land. So shall we pay your taxes on the understanding that you will set up a barrier between us and them?' قَالَ مَا مَكَّلَنِي فِيهِ رَبِّي خَيْرٌ فَأَعِينُونِي بِقُوَّةٍ أَجْعَلْ بَيْنَكُمْ وَبَيْنَهُمْ رَمْمًا

He answered: 'Wherever my Lord has granted me is good enough. But help me with your labor and I will erect a rampart between you and them.

أَتُونِي زَبَرَ الْحَدِيدِ، حَتَّى إِذَا سَاوَى بَيْنَ الصَّنَعَتَيْنِ قَالَ انْفُخُوا ، حَتَّى إِذَا جَعَلَهُ نَارًا ۗ قَالَ أَتُونِي أُفْرِغْ عَلَيْهِ قِطْرًا

Bring me ingots of iron.' Then after he had filled up the space between the two mountainsides, he said: '[Light a fire] and ply bellows.' When he had made it

فَمَا اسْتَطَاعُوا أَنْ يَظْهَرُوهُ وَمَا اسْتَطَاعُوا لَهُ نَقْبًا

Such was not the rampart that Gog & Magog could not scale, nor could they pierce it.

قَالَ هَذَا رَحْمَةٌ مِنْ رَبِّي ۗ فَإِذَا جَاءَ وَعَذْرَ رَبِّي جَعَلَهُ نَكَاةً ۙ وَكَانَ وَعْدَ رَبِّي حَقًّا

Dhūl -Qarnain said: 'This is a mercy from my Lord; but when the time of my Lord's promise shall come, He will level the rampart with the ground. My Lord's promise always comes true.'

وَنَرَكُنَا بَعْضُهُمْ يُؤْمِدُ بَعْضًا فِي بُغْضٍ يُؤْمِدُ فِي بُغْضٍ ۚ وَنُفِخَ فِي الصُّورِ فَجَمَعْنَاهُمْ جَمْعًا ۝ وَعَرَضْنَا جَهَنَّمَ يَوْمَئِذٍ لِلْكَافِرِينَ عَرْضًا

And on that, Day We shall let some of them to surge like waves against others, and the Trumpet shall be blown. Then we shall gather them all together.<sup>238</sup>

#### Explanation of some essential words:

##### Dhūl-Qarnain:

Dhūl-Qarnain literally means someone who possesses two 'qarns'. This word is actually a combination of two words; "zoo" (ذو) and "qarn" (قرن). The word "zoo" means the one with wealth; its feminine and plural is "ذوان" and "ذوو" respectively.<sup>239</sup>

Whereas the word "qarn" (قرن) has several meanings that include:

1. Time
2. 'Epoch' or 'age'
3. Horn
4. Mountain or hilltop fortress of
5. Generation
6. Hair braided, etc.<sup>240</sup>

<sup>238</sup> Al-Qur'ān 18:82-97

<sup>239</sup> المنجد. (1996). مله نور (الإصدار 35). بيروت، لبنان: المكتبة الشرفية.

<sup>240</sup> أيضاً، مله نور

Whenever the word occurs in the Qur'an however, it is always used in the latter sense. The implication is that Sūrah al-Kahf has here presented a narration that finds application in, or impacts upon, two ages. The two ages would be so different that they would be opposite to each other.<sup>241</sup>

Hazrat Ali says that Dhūl-Qarnain called people towards ALLAH, ALLAH gave him death and again revived him with life, he again called people towards ALLAH; then again, ALLAH made him dead and then again revived him with life; this is the reason why he is named as Dhūl-Qarnain, meaning the one with two factors. Two generations were killed in front of him; that is why he is named as Dhūl-Qarnain.<sup>242</sup>

Wahb bin munabah (وہب بن منبہ) quotes that both sides of his head were made of copper that is why he named as Dhul-Qarnayn. Another quotation says that there were two marks on Dhūl-Qarnain's head at both sides that is why he started wearing amamah and was later named as Dhūl-Qarnain.<sup>243</sup>

Sayyid Abu'l 'Ala Mawdudi's verdict seems to be more authentic in such account. According to him, the reason behind Dhūl-Qarnain's nickname is, that his empire was spread at both sides of east and west respectively. In addition, this is why he is called as the one with two Horns. Some of the words mentioned above are based on defect; which mainly includes that he had two marks in his head. It is obvious that such titles cannot be named for a king; and that too, for a king who is honest and justice loving.  
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1. Word كَمَدَيْن used in the expression: بَيْنَ كَمَدَيْن. Denotes what becomes a barrier against something. It may be a wall or mountain and it may be natural or artificial. At this place, the word: كَمَدَيْن (as-saddain) means two mountains that stood as a barrier against the intrusion of Ya'juj and Ma'juj. But, they still attacked through the pass in between the two mountains and which was closed by Dhūl-Qarnain.

<sup>241</sup> N. Hosin, 1. (2009). An Islamic Views of Gog and Magog in the Modern Age. Ansari memorial series, Sūrah al-Kahf Quartet, Vol. 3, imranhosine.org

<sup>242</sup> Al-Hafiz Isma' il Ibn Katheer Ad- Dimashqi (2000-2001). Dhul Qarnain. In *Story of the Quran*. Riyadh: Dar Al-Manarah. P. 99

<sup>243</sup> عبد الله بن محمود الحسيني الألويسي (1267-1252 هـ). روح المعاني في تفسير القرآن العظيم والسبع المثني (المجلد 16). بيروت: دار إحياء التراث العربي

<sup>244</sup> Abul Ala Maududi, (1942-1972). *Tafhim-ul-Quran* (Vol. 6). Lahore: Tarjman-ul Quran. page 255

The word (السَّد) is pronounced in two ways whenever it used in holy QURAN.

I. SAD(السَّد)with (الفتح) mostly QURA recite it SAD(السَّد) and Ibn Jarir Tabari writes:

حدثنا القاسم، قال ثنا الحسين، قال ثنا حجاج، عن ابن جريج، عن عطاء الخراساني، عن ابن عباس «حَتَّى إِذَا بَلَغَ بَيْنَ السَّدَّيْنِ» قال: الجبلين الردم الذي بين يأجوج ومأجوج، أمتين من وراء ردم ذي القرنين، قال: الجبلان أرمنية وأذربيجان<sup>245</sup>.

II. And Sud بالضم some QURA belong to KOFA (الكوفه) recite it in this way

III. Abu-Amar recited it السَّد in SURAH KAHAF and السَّد in SURAH YASEEN

Now the question arises that whether “sad” and “sud” hold of the same meanings or there is any difference in them. Ibn Jarir (ابن جريج) has narrated from Hazrat Akramh (عكرمه).

حدثنا به أحمد بن يوسف، قال ثنا القاسم، قال ثنا حجاج، عن هارون، عن أيوب، عن عكرمة قال: ما كان من صنعة بني آدم فهو السَّد، يعني بالفتح، وما كان من صنع الله فهو السَّد.

“The ones made by humans are “sad” and ones created by God is “sud”.

وكان الكسائي يقول: هما لغتان بمعنى واحد

These are two words but meaning is same.

Ibn Jarir (ابن جريج) said this view is right as he said.

والصواب من القول في ذلك عندي أن يقال: إنهما قراءتان مستفيضتان في قراءة الأمصار، ولغتان متفقتا المعنى غير مختلفة، فبأيتهما قرأ القارئ فمصيب<sup>246</sup>.

According to me the right is that, these two words has been adopted from different people of different areas but the meaning of both words are same.

2. The word زُبَرَ (zubar) in: زُبَرَ الْحَدِيدِ (zubar al-hadid) is the plural of زُبْرَة (zubrah) which means sheets in the sense of pieces, fragments or ingots of iron which were to be used in the wall designed to block the pass, obviously a stronger device as compared to bricks and rocks.

<sup>245</sup>الإمام أبي جعفر محمد بن جرير الطبري. (2001). جامع البيان عن تأويل أي القرآن - تفسير الطبري (المجلد الخامس عشر). مركز البحوث والدراسات العربية والإسلامية بدار هجر. ص 387

<sup>246</sup>الإمام أبي جعفر محمد بن جرير الطبري. (2001). جامع البيان عن تأويل أي القرآن - تفسير الطبري (المجلد الخامس عشر). مركز البحوث والدراسات العربية والإسلامية بدار هجر. ص 387-388

3. The word الصَّدْفَيْنِ (As-Sadafain) signifies the two sides of the mountain facing each other.

4. According to most commentators, the last word فِطْرًا (qitr) in verse 96 means molten copper. There are some others who have explained 'qitr' as molten iron or pewter.

5. The expression: دَكَّاءٌ (dakkaa'a) used about the wall means what would crumble down to the level of the ground.<sup>247</sup>

### Ya'jūj Ma'jūj:

Whoever they are? Gog and Magog are alike to *Dhūl Qarnain* in admiration of the power they possess. This is clear from the fact that the people who were under attack from Gog and Magog had to request *Dhūl Qarnain* to build a barrier to protect them. That power which they possessed was also confirmed in a *Hadīth al-Qudsi* recorded in the *Sahīh* of *Imām Muslim* in which *ALLAH Most High* is reported to have said, "I have created creatures of mine (i.e. Gog and Magog) so powerful that none but I can destroy them."<sup>248</sup>

Nevertheless, *Sūrah al-Kahf* also delivered the extraordinary news that Gog and Magog used their power in exactly the opposite way from that of *Dhūl-Qarnain*. They inflicted *Fasād fil Ard*, i.e. they destroyed everything that they targeted with their indestructible oppressive power. Random murder, organized murder, spreading of fear, acts of terrorism, oppression, etc. are all recognized as *Fasād fil Ard*. Those convicted Of *Fasād fil Ard* are to be punished in accordance with *ALLAH's* decree, either by "being put to death, crucifying after cutting off hand and foot on opposite sides or by banishment from society"<sup>249</sup>

The astonishing insinuation of the above is that when Gog and Magog are lastly unrestricted into the world, mankind would be issued to a world-order that would be the conflicting of that of *Pax Qarnain*. That second *Qarn* (i.e. age) of the *Qarnain* (i.e. two ages) would be solitary in which Gog and Magog would impose universal *Fasād*

<sup>247</sup> الإمام أبي جعفر محمد بن جرير الطبري. (2001). جامع البيان عن تأويل آي القرآن - تفسير الطبري (المجلد الخامس عشر).

مركز البحوث والدراسات العربية والإسلامية بدار هجر، ص412، 409

<sup>248</sup> أبو الحسين مسلم بن الحجاج القشيري النيسابوري، (1930). كتب الفن وأثرها الساعة: بيب نكر الدجال وصفته وما معه في

المنهاج شرح صحيح مسلم بن الحجاج (ط. الأولى). ج 18، المصريه بالازهر

<sup>249</sup> Al-Qur'ān 5:36

upon humankind. This verse must qualify as one of the most important in Sūrah al-Kahf as far as the Sūrah explains the modern age.<sup>250</sup>

### **Gog Magog in Hadith**

The Quran is the word of ALLAH and is the primary source of Islamic teachings. It contains the principles and the fundamentals of Islam. Whilst the Hadith of the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon Him) is an explanation and elaboration of these principles and contains the details of the Qur'anic fundamentals. The function of the Prophet was not merely to deliver the book but also to explain it and put it into practice. Thus to make the word of ALLAH a living reality.<sup>251</sup> As ALLAH said: "*Your companion (Muhammad PBUH) has not strayed, nor has he erred, Nor does he speak from [his own] inclination.*"<sup>252</sup>

Same matter is in the case of Ya'jūj Ma'jūj, Hadith explained them in more detailed and we can get answer for all those Questions about that Qur'an is silent.

### **Ya'jūj Ma'jūj are human beings**

As proved earlier, that Qur'an said they inflicted Fasād. this word make sure that they have will to chose the way which jinn and angels do not have. Hadith also proved that they are human beings as

Abu Saeed al- Khudri narrates that the Prophet said: "*On Judgment Day ALLAH will ask Adam to pick out from his entire progeny those who would enter the hellfire. Adam will ask: 'O Lord-God, who are they?' ALLAH will say: 'Nine hundred and ninety nine of a thousand are for the hellfire while one is for heaven.' On hearing this, the companions were overtaken by fear and they asked, O Messenger of ALLAH who will that one for heaven be?' The Prophet said: 'Do not grieve, the nine hundred and ninety nine will be Ya'jūj and Ma'jūj while you will be the one for heaven.' (i.e. your numbers in relation to them will be one in a thousand). Who is that (accepted) one? He said, Rejoice with glad tidings; one person will be from you and one-thousand will be from Gog and Magog.*"<sup>253</sup>

<sup>250</sup> N. Hosin, I. (2009). An Islamic Views of Gog and Magog in the Modern Age. Ansari memorial series, Sūrah al-Kahf Quartet, Vol. 3, p135

<sup>251</sup> Khan, Muhammad Rauf (2011). *A concise and easy to grasp explanation of Hadith*. Sriya: Darse Hadith, lecture 1

<sup>252</sup> Al-Qur'an 53:2-3

<sup>253</sup> أبو عبد الله محمد بن إسماعيل البخاري. كتاب الرقاق - باب كيف الحشر. تأليف صحيح البخاري. بيروت: موقع الإسلام



Another Hadīth confirmed in these words: *"Verily Gog and Magog are of the progeny of Adam."*<sup>254</sup>

The above *Ahadīth* verify Gog and Magog to be human beings, who belong to the offspring of Ādam (*'alaihi al-Salam*).

There is also a Hadīth al-Qudsi recorded in Sahīh Muslim in which ALLAH Himself describes Gog and Magog as His 'Ibād : *"I have created servants of mine (i.e. Gog and Magog) so powerful that none but I can wage war on them."*<sup>255</sup>

Servants of ALLAH, who have the capability to wage war and to beat military, are usually human beings. My conclusion, based on considerable evidence derived from both the Qur'ān and Hadīth , is that Gog and Magog are human beings.

#### **They will wage "star war"**<sup>256</sup>

Not only they have strong military supremacy, in addition, it is obvious from the use of the word 'arrows' in the *Hadīth* quoted below that they will be able of waging what is now known as 'star wars'.

In a long, Hadīth Hazrat Nawwas narrated ". . . *Gog and Magog would walk until they would reach the mountain of al-Khamar and it is a mountain of Bait-ul-Maqdis and they would say: We have killed those who are upon the Earth. Let us now kill those who are in the sky and they would throw their arrows towards the sky and the arrows would return to them besmeared with blood. . . .*"<sup>257</sup>

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<sup>254</sup>العلامة علاء الدين علي المتقي بن حسام الدين الهندي. (1985). كنز العمال في سنن الأقوال و الأفعال (الإصدار الخامس، المجلد

السلع). بيروت: مؤسسة الرسالة. ح 2158

<sup>255</sup>أبو الحسين مسلم بن الحجاج القشيري النيسابوري. (1930). كتب الفتن وأشراف الساعة: باب ذكر الدجال وصفته وما معه في

المنهاج شرح صحيح مسلم بن الحجاج (ط. الأولى). ج 18, المصريه بالأزهر

<sup>256</sup>Star Wars is an American epic space opera franchise centred on a film series created by George Lucas. The events depicted in Star Wars media take place in a fictional galaxy. Many species of alien creatures (often humanoid) are depicted. Robotic droids are also commonplace and are generally built to serve their owners. One of the prominent elements of Star Wars is the "Force", an omnipresent energy that can be harnessed by those with that ability, known as Force-sensitive's. It is described in the first produced film as "an energy field created by all living things [that] surrounds us, penetrates us, [and] binds the galaxy together.

<sup>257</sup>أبو الحسين مسلم بن الحجاج القشيري النيسابوري. (1930). كتب الفتن وأشراف الساعة: باب ذكر الدجال وصفته وما معه في

المنهاج شرح صحيح مسلم بن الحجاج (ط. الأولى). ج 18, المصريه بالأزهر

### **Their target will be (especially) Arabs**

The blessed Prophet (PBUH) disclosed the particular aggressive attitude that Gog and Magog have for Arabs "Narrated Zainab bint Jahsh: *One day ALLAH's Apostle entered upon her in a state of fear and said: None has the right to be worshipped but ALLAH! Woe to the Arabs from the Great evil that has approached (them). Today a hole has been opened in the barrier of Gog and Magog like this. The Prophet made a circle with his index finger and thumb. Zainab bint Jahsh added: I asked: O ALLAH's Apostle! Shall we be destroyed though there will be righteous people among us? The Prophet said: Yes, (it will come to pass) when wickedness increases.*"<sup>258</sup>

This point out not only political, economic and military subjugation of Arabs but also, they would be demonized in every possible obscene and spiteful way.

### **They consume an excessive amount of water**

The *Qur'an* has declared that ALLAH Most High created every living thing from water (*Al- Qur'an* 21:30.) Water therefore enjoys the position of 'mother' of all living things including human beings. The spiritual way of life is one which persists on respect for water and which forbid waste or extreme utilization of water. Yet the profile of Gog and Magog emerging from the *Ahadith* of Prophet Muhammad (*sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam*) is that of a people who use water so terribly (and foolishly) that even the Sea of Galilee in the Holy Land, would finally turn out to be dry. Hence, they are the author of their own devastation: ". . . the first of them (i.e. Gog and Magog) will pass by Lake Tiberias (i.e. the Sea of Galilee) and drink out of it, and when the last of them passes, he will say: 'There was once water here . . . .' (This implies such excessive consumption of water that nature will not be able to replenish such water and that the water level would constantly decrease until the Lake would dry up)."<sup>259</sup>

"They will so drink (i.e. consume) the water of the world that when some of them pass by a stream they will drink all that is in it and leave it dry."<sup>260</sup>

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<sup>258</sup>بو الحسين مسلم بن الحجاج القشيري التيسلوري، (1930). كتاب الفتن وأشراف الساعة: بيب القتراب الفتن وفتح ردم بأجوج وماجوج في المنهاج شرح صحيح مسلم بن الحجاج (ط. الأولى). ج18، المصريه بالأزهر . ح 2880

<sup>259</sup>أيضاً، ح 2937

<sup>260</sup>العلامة علام الدين علي المتقي بن حنبل الدين الهندي. (1985). كنز العمال في سنن الأقوال و الأفعال (الإصدار الخامس، المجلد

السادس). بيروت: مؤسسة الرسالة. ح 2157

### **They are linked to the desertion of the Hajj**

A *Hadīth* recorded in *Sahīh Bukhāri* disclosed a link that exists between Gog and Magog and the elimination of the *Hajj*: Narrated Abu Said Al-Khudri: *The Prophet said, "The people will continue performing the Hajj and 'Umra to the Ka'ba even after the appearance of Gog and Magog."* Narrated Shu'ba extra: *"The Hour (i.e. Last Hour) will not be established till the Hajj (to the Ka'ba) is abandoned."*<sup>261</sup>

What this prophecy does is to direct attention to the eventual abandonment of the *Hajj* and to inform that the release of Gog and Magog into the world is an event that would precede that abandonment of the *Hajj*. In other words, when the *Hajj* is abandoned it would no longer be possible for any Muslim to deny the release of Gog and Magog.

### **How they will be defeated**

After doing great corruption on earth until ALLAH's will they will die in the result of Hazrat 'Isa's pray as *Hadīth* explain it in these words: *"...then the people will return to their own lands and will be confronted with Gog and Magog people, who will: swoop down from every mound. They will not pass by any water but they will drink it, (and they will not pass) by anything but they will spoil it. They (the people) will beseech ALLAH, and I will pray to ALLAH to kill them. The earth will be filled with their stench and (the people) will beseech ALLAH and I will pray to ALLAH, then the sky will send down rain that will carry them and through them in the sea. Then the mountains will turn dust and the earth will be stretched out like a hide. I have been promised that when that the Hour will come upon the peoples like a pregnant woman whose family does not know when she will suddenly give birth. (One of the narrators) 'Awwām said: Confirmation of that is found in the Book of ALLAH, where ALLAH says: Until, when Gog and Magog people are let loose (from their bather), and they swoop down from every mound."*<sup>262</sup>

Another *Hadīth* also mentioned it in these words *"...So, 'Isa ibn Maryam will turn to ALLAH with his companions. So, ALLAH will send down upon them insects on their*

أبو عبد الله محمد بن إسماعيل البخاري. كتاب الحج - باب قول الله تعالى جعل الله الكعبة البيت الحرام قياما لنا , تأليف صحيح البخاري 261

262 أبو عبد الله محمد بن يزيد بن ماجه , كتاب الفتن - باب فتنة الدجال وخروج عيسى ابن مريم وخروج يأجوج ومأجوج في سنن ابن ماجه. ج 4075

necks, and by morning all of them would have perished as though they were one person. 'Isa and his companions would descend but not find space of even a span without being filled with their fat, odour, and blood. So, 'Isa and his companions would again turn to ALLAH Who will send birds on them. Their necks will be like camel's and they will carry the corpses away to mahbul."<sup>263</sup>

### Aftermath of Ya'jūj Ma'jūj

"...Thereafter, Muslims will kindle fire with their arrows, bows, and quivers for seven years. ALLAH will send down on them rain which no mud house or tent will keep out but the earth will be washed and it will shine like glass. Then the earth will be commanded to grow its fruit and other produce and bring back its blessings. A whole group will eat from the pomegranate and they will shelter themselves under its peel. There will be tremendous blessing in milk so that a whole group of men will be satiated with the milk of one she-camel, a whole tribe with the milk of a cow and a whole family with the milk of a she goat. While they are thus living, ALLAH will send a wind that will take away the soul of every believer, but there will remain the evil people who will have sexual intercourse on the roads just as asses have. The Hour will come upon them."<sup>264</sup>

It can be conclude in the light of Qur'ān and Hadīth that these are human beings. Those have great power. The figure of 'Ya'juj Ma'juj is numerous times higher than the numeral of the human beings of the entire world, at least at the percentage of one to ten. They will do Fasād on earth. Nevertheless, Muslims will continue to perform Hajj and Umrah.

### 3.3 Traditional Islamic View

The theme of Gog and Magog and the barrier of Dhūl-Qarnain is also discussed in different traditional scholars writings. These writings show early Islamic thinking about the Motif. An early Islamic authority after Qur'ān and Hadīth is al-Tabari. In his commentary he closely follow Qur'ān and Hadīth on 'Ya'juj Ma'juj. Same case is

<sup>263</sup> محمد بن عيسى بن متور بن موسى بن الضحاك، المسلمي الترمذي. كتاب الفتن عن رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم - باب ما جاء في فتنة الدجال، في سنن الترمذي، بيروت: دار إحياء التراث العربي  
<sup>264</sup> أبو الحسين مسلم بن الحجاج القشيري النيسابوري، (1930). كتاب الفتن وأشراف الساعة: باب ذكر الدجال وصفته وما معه في المنهاج شرح صحيح مسلم بن الحجاج (ط. الأولى)، ج 18، المصرية بالأزهر. ح 2880

with al-Zamakhshari and Fakhr-al-Din al-Razi. Early Islamic interpretations on Gog and Magog was summarized by al-Qazwini.<sup>265</sup>

Here information about Gog and Magog is divided in themes, which are not founded in sources.

### Appearance

*Al-Qazwini* in his work deals with well-known living creatures with strange forms and shapes. Which are different from those well-known creatures he divided these creatures in three categories:

First category is the people with the strong forms and shapes created by God in the limits of the earth and on the Island of the sea. To these belongs to Gog and Magog. They are people whose number only God can count. The height of one individual is half the stature of a medium sized man. They have canine teeth, instead of nails they have claws, and they have a very hairy tail. No individual dies before having seen seven thousand of his offspring. They are short size, five spans high, broad faced, black-skinned with white spots, climb trees, and do not associate with human beings.<sup>266</sup>

*Al-Tabari* has also mentioned their following features in his commentary:

Their height is half than human beings. It is also said, they are of two types, some are taller than humans are and some are smaller. They feed on grass like animals. They hunt animals like bears. They eat snakes, scorpions, and all kind of insects. Their generation grow more rapidly other than any creation in the universe. As we have nails, likewise they have paws. They have long hairs on their body, which protect in warm and cold weather. They have two long ears one of them they use as pillow and the other one as blanket. They barks like dogs and shout like animals. Their corruption is that they eat human beings. They coo each other like pigeons.<sup>267</sup>

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<sup>265</sup> Abu Yahya Zakariya' ibn Muhammad al-Qazwini (أبو يحيى زكرياء بن محمد القزويني) (1203–1283) was an Arab or Persian physician, astronomer, geographer and proto-science fiction writer.

<sup>266</sup> Andrea Schmidt, (2010). *Gog and Magog in Early Eastern Christian and Islamic Sources*. Netherland: BRILL, p65

<sup>267</sup> الإمام أبي جعفر محمد بن جرير الطبري. (2001). *جامع البيان عن تأويل آي القرآن - تفسير الطبري (المجلد الخامس عشر)*. مركز البحوث والدراسات العربية والإسلامية بدار هجر، ص 397.

## Origin

Ibn Hajar writes that *"they are two tribes from the children of Japheth son of Noah"*, according to Ibn Hajar, Ibn Mardawayah view is prophetic traditional according to which *"Gog is a nation and magog another."*<sup>268</sup>

Previously, narration from Ka'b al-Ahbar has been mentioned in which he told the birth of Gog and Magog, which was rejected by all traditional scholars. Ibn Hajar also added that they are Turks, as al-Dahhak mentioned that Gog is a Turk, and Magog a Daylam.<sup>269</sup>

Al-tabari, al-Zamakhshari and Fakhr-al-Din al-Razi do not mentioned the details on the origin of Gog and Magog given by Ka'b al-Ahbar.

## Number

People believed to bring about the end time are always represented as being very numerous, whether they are historical, such as the Assyrian, the Scythians, and the Huns or legendary such as Gog and Magog.

According to *Al-Sha'bi*,<sup>270</sup> ... they are so many nations that God only can count them. Those who dwell in our neighborhood are six tribes: Gog, Magog, Tawil, Taris, Mansak and Kamadi. Each of these tribes is as numerous as the inhabitants of the earth. As for those who are far away from us we do not know them.<sup>271</sup>

According to Tabari Gog and Magog are many peoples, each of them numbering 400000: they are nine times more numerous than human beings are, Gog and Magog foresee their own death, for no male dies before having fathered thousand children, nor does any female dies before having given birth to the same number.<sup>272</sup>

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<sup>268</sup> الحافظ ابن حجر. كتاب الفتن - بلب ياجوج وماجوج في فتح الباري شرح صحيح البخاري، القاهرة: مكتبة الغربا الاثرية <sup>269</sup> أيضاً.

<sup>270</sup> Daylam is a city in and the capital of Daylam District, in Siahkal County, Gilan Province, Iran.

<sup>271</sup> Andrea Schmidt, (2010). *Gog and Magog in Early Eastern Christian and Islamic Sources*. Netherland: BRILL, p70

<sup>272</sup> الإمام أبي جعفر محمد بن جرير الطبري. (2001). *جامع البيان عن تأويل أي القرآن - تفسير الطبري* (المجلد الخامس عشر).

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## Food

Al-Qazwini mentioned: *Dhūl-Qarnain asked what they eat. They answered: each year the sea ejects two fishes for them: the distance between head and tail of each fish is longer a ten days journey: they feed on crocodiles, snakes and sea monsters: in spring they pray, in the way rain is prayed for, that these tananin are rained down on them. If they are doused with that way they become barren and emaciated.*<sup>273</sup>

*Al-Tabari said: Their food consists of sea-monster called tinnin. In spring, it falls down from heaven. If they do not get it, they become barren.*<sup>274</sup>

## Location

In the tradition of Islamic division of the world in to seven climes, the land of Gog and Magog is generally located between the fifth and seventh climes.<sup>275</sup>

Al-Tabari and Al-Baydawi located the two mountains mentioned in al-Qur'ān 18:93-96 are in Armenia, in Azerbaijan or in the most eastern part of the land of the Turks ;but the two mountains perhaps are also to be found between Armenia and Azerbaijan or in the farthest North. <sup>276</sup>

## Identification

Al-tabari is silent on their identification and al-Zamakhshari said: *this seems a reminiscence of raid made by nomadic people, such as the Turkish tribes in central Asia.*<sup>277</sup>

<sup>273</sup> Andrea Schmidt, (2010). *Gog and Magog in Early Eastern Christian and Islamic Sources*. Netherland: BRILL, p71

<sup>274</sup> الإمام أبي جعفر محمد بن جرير الطبري. (2001). *جامع البيان عن تأويل أي القرآن - تفسير الطبري (المجلد الخامس عشر)*. مركز البحوث والدراسات العربية و الإسلامية بدار هجر، ص 397

<sup>275</sup> J. B. HARLEY . (1992). *Cartography of al-Sharif al-Idrisi, S. Maqbul Ahmad* . In J. B. HARLEY, *The History of Cartography, Volume 2, Book 1*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

<sup>276</sup> القاضي عبد الله بن عمر البيضاوي. (1317هـ). *مسورة الكهف في أنوار التنزيل وأسرار التأويل (المجلد الثالث)*. القاهرة. ص

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الإمام أبي جعفر محمد بن جرير الطبري. (2001). *جامع البيان عن تأويل أي القرآن - تفسير الطبري (المجلد الخامس عشر)*.  
<sup>277</sup> العلامة جلال الله أبو القاسم محمود بن عمر الزمخشري. (1998). *تفسير الكشاف (المجلد الثالث)*. الرياض : مكتبة العبيكان.ص

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### **Description of the Dhūl-Qarnain wall**

Al-tabari discussed the issues that include: the reasons of the construction of this wall, the distance between the two mountains where the wall was constructed, how much area was dug beneath, and what sort of material was used in the construction of this wall. But most important was that he should have discussed the wall's area and location and also whether anyone had seen the wall or not; and if someone witnessed it, what was his reaction? In short, he should have debated the reality and observation instead of general book talk.

Imam Razi's opinion about barrier is that *this is in the land, located somewhere in the northern part. In his second quotation, he says that it is located between Armenia and Azerbaijan, which is near Turkey.* He has also narrated an incident from Imam

Tabari's historic pages; *it tells that when Azerbaijan was conquered, the victorious emperor asked a man to see how the Dhūl-Qarnain linkage was; the man came back and told that it is a large wall, located in the middle of a deep pit.*<sup>278</sup>

Ibne khardazba writes in his book "Al-maslike wal-mumalik" that *wasiq billah dreamt that he has conquered the Dhūl-Qarnain wall. Therefore, he sent someone to inspect that wall, he came back and told that It is a wall made up of melted steel; also it has a door with a lock.*<sup>279</sup>

### **Who is Dhūl-Qarnain?**

Al-tabari in his commentary has adapted the quotes of a person who was at first a non-Muslim and later accepted Islam; also he used to describe the events of 'jmi's quite frequently. He said that Dhūl-Qarnain belonged to Egypt and his name was Mirzib bin Mardaba Al-younani (مرزيبا بن مردبة اليوناني).

In addition, he was son of يونس بن يلفث بن نوح.

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<sup>278</sup> الإمام فخر الدين الرازي. (1938). *التفسير الكبير* (ط 1، المجلد 21). الهيئة المصرية، ص 170  
<sup>279</sup> عبد الله بن محمود الحسيني الألويسي (1252-1267 هـ). *روح المعاني في تفسير القرآن العظيم والسبع المثاني* (المجلد 16). بيروت: دار إحياء التراث العربي. ص 290



حدثنا ابن حميد، قال: حد لنا سلمة، قال: حدثنا محمد بن إسحاق، قال: حدثني بعض من يسوق أحاديث الأعاجم من أهل الكتاب، ممن قد أسلم، مما توارثوا من علم ذي القرنين، أن ذا القرنين كان رجلاً من أهل مصر اسمه مرزبا بن مردبة اليوناني، من ولد يونن بن يافث بن نوح<sup>280</sup>

However, Imam Tabari statement is very brief and one fails to get details related to Dhūl-Qarnain personality and his time, out of this statement. The most confusing thing in this paragraph is that the narrator has written that Dhūl-Qarnain belonged to Egypt, whereas his name suggests he was a Greek.

حدثنا ابن حميد، قال: ثنا سلمة، قال: ثني محمد بن إسحاق، قال: فحدثني من لا أتهم عن وهب بن منبه اليماني، وكان له علم بالأحاديث الأول، أنه كان يقول: ذو القرنين رجل من الروم. ابن عجز من عجائزهم، ليس لها ولد غيره، وكان اسمه الإسكندر. وإنما سمي ذا القرنين أن صفحتي رأسه كانتا من نحاس فلما بلغ وكان عبداً صالحاً<sup>281</sup>

He narrates Wahab bin Munabbah's quote that says that Dhūl-Qarnain belonged to Rome, and he was a son of an old woman, having no other child; his name was Alexander, and later when he grew up he was renowned as a noble man.

From above mentioned detail, we cannot define who was Dhūl-Qarnain. Imam Tabari just copied both saying but he did not conclude that which one is more correct.

According to Imam Razi, most of the scholars contradict when it comes to Alexander; many citations have been adapted relating to this topic.

1. Fylbus's son, Alexander was a Greek. Holy Quran states comprehensively that no other person then Alexander Dhūl-Qarnain himself has travelled from east to west part of the world. History pages reveal the same fact that Dhūl-Qarnain stands out, as being the only one to have travelled from the eastern path and then to cross the western boundary. After his father's death, he united all the scattered kings of Rome and handsomely ruled over them. After that, his visits to other countries also started; which include: Egypt, Libya, Palestine, Armenia, India, China, Abyssinia, Kherson and etc. All these attributes are salient features of Dhūl-Qarnain's personality. Fylbus was not Dhūl-Qarnain's father; in fact, he was his grandfather, whereas Dhūl-Qarnain was Dara Akbar's son. The actual scene is that dara Akbar got married with Flybus'

<sup>280</sup> الإمام أبي جعفر محمد بن جرير الطبري. (2001). جامع البيان عن تأويل آي القرآن - تفسير الطبري (المجلد الخامس عشر). مركز البحوث والدراسات العربية و الإسلامية بدار هجر، ص 397

<sup>281</sup> أيضاً، ص 368-371

daughter but after the marriage, he sensed a stinking smell from her body and hence he sent her wife back to his father. However, while all this happened, his wife had pregnant; she gave birth to Dhūl-Qarnain and he came back to his father once he was grown up.

2. Abu reehan Harvey, who was a renowned astrologist, mentioned that Dhūl-Qarnain Abu karb shimar bin Obadiyah bin Abeer bin Afreeqish alhymry, belonged to Egypt, in order to prove his words he mentioned a poet's particular stanza, in which he states that according to him, Dhūl-Qarnain was also a Muslim and had conquered both east and west. He also put forth another indication that tells that the word "zoo" (ذو) was adapted by the kings of Humera for example: zoo nady, zoon noon and zoo nawas etc.

قال أبو الريحان الهروي المنجم في كتابه الذي سماه بالآثار الباقية عن القرون الخالية، قيل: إن ذا القرنين هو أبو كرب شمر بن عبيد بن أفريقش الحميري فإنه بلغ ملكه مشارق الأرض ومغاربها وهو الذي افتخر به أحد الشعراء من حمير حي

قد كان ذو القرنين قبلي مسلما - ملكاً علا في الأرض غير مفندي  
بلغ المشارق والمغارب يبتغي - أسباب ملك من كريم سيد

ثم قال أبو الريحان ويشبه أن يكون هذا القول أقرب لأن الأذواء كانوا من اليمن وهم الذين لا تظن أساميهم من ذي كذا كذي النادي وذي نواس وذي النون وغير ذلك.<sup>282</sup>

3. In his third quotation, Imam Razi said that he was a righteous man. Nevertheless, this proves to be a vague statement with absolutely no room in the academic circles.

4. However, in his fourth quotation, he writes that Alexander was an angel, And he argues this with Hazrat Omar's following reference Hazrat Omar heard a man calling someone by the name of Dhūl-Qarnain, Hazrat Omar convicted him and said, "It may be right to keep prophet's names, But now you're starting with the names of angels too"?

أن ذا القرنين ملك من الملائكة عن عمر أنه سمع رجلاً يقول: يا ذا القرنين فقال: اللهم اغفر. أما رضيتم أن تسموا بأسماء الأنبياء حتى تسموا بأسماء الملائكة!<sup>283</sup>

<sup>282</sup>الإمام فخر الدين الرازي. (1938). التفسير الكبير (ط 1 الأولى، المجلد 21). البهية المصرية، ص 163.

After this discussion, Imam Razi writes that first quotation proves to be more prominent, but with a following objection, that Alexander was Aristotle's student, which means, Aristotle's religion was a right one although he was a mixer and worshipped idols. After this he did not answer to this objection, rather said ALLAH knows better.

Traditional Islamic scholars only talk about the issues related to the story of Gog and Magog, which mentioned in Qur'an and Hadith. However, not as much debate found about their identification and the exact time when they will be release. Those scholars, who identified them with Turks, were under the influence of anti-Turk movement in 9<sup>th</sup> century, which led to move on Caliphal court from capital to Samarra. Moreover, majority of traditional Islamic scholars are not agree with this identification. They only discussed their food, physical features, and barrier in short those topics that discussed in both Qur'an and Hadith, because some of them believed if ALLAH wants he can tell these hidden realities through Qur'an or His Prophet Peace Be Upon Him. ALLAH did not clearly discuss them so its mean it is not important for us to know.

### 3.4 Contemporary Islamic perception of Ya'jūj Ma'jūj

We are observing annihilation on a universal scale. There is an vital require to understand the nature of this damage and to find out what we can do about it. Religious intellectuals are competing to bring answers. Contemporary Muslim scholars put Islam at a enormous benefit in this rivalry because they suggest a solid clarification to the main suspects of worldwide destruction. Scholars try to relate recent world order with Qur'anic explanation.

Like Imran Hosain in his Commentary mention that in Sūrah Al-'Anbya' verse

من كل حذب ينسلون<sup>284</sup>,

Mean they will multiply all over the world. But since the global system will commit injustice, and conflict on religion, it will completely in clash with the heavenly system. None of the insured person will fell comfort with the system and community the follows the main trend in the world order.

<sup>283</sup> أيضاً, ص 165

<sup>284</sup> Al- Qur'an 21:95

وَحَرَامٌ عَلَى قَرْيَةٍ أَهْلَكْنَاهَا أَنَّهُمْ لَا يَرْجِعُونَ<sup>285</sup>

In the commentary of this verse, he says: "The town in verse is Qudus from where ALLAH has rundown Jews, now they came back and claimed that it (Qudas) belongs to them, and they have sufficient power to impose their control on all over the world. In addition, they use their power and authority mercilessly in the cruelty of human and do battle against Islam in frequent and the Arabs in meticulous".

Since the era of the Christian world in the Middle Ages and contemporary secular Western civilization, Europe showed a gradual global system attributes Ya'jūj and Ma'jūj. In these days, Europeans are using the powers and authority in North America, and the Holy Land to take over the world for imposing injustice and corruption.

The Reader finds it difficult to understand his view because he didn't explain directly that Europeans and their global system is Ya'jūj Ma'jūj.<sup>286</sup>

*"He identified Ya'jūj Ma'jūj as human beings. Gog is the Anglo-American-Israeli alliance and Magog is Russia. Gog and Magog were originally located in the Khazars of Eastern Europe. While many of them became European Jews it is certain that some of them must also have become European Christians and that the forging of the mysterious European Judeo-Christian alliance was possible since the Khazars were present on both sides of that once bitterly divided fence. This, perhaps, is included in the meaning of the Qur'anic verse, which declared that Gog and Magog would one day merge with each other as waves merge into each other. He also added that Gog Magog has been released in some extend not fully".<sup>287</sup>*

Muhammad Zafar Iqbal in his book says *Ya'jūj Ma'jūj are from Mongol tribes* and he also mentioned Mulana abu Kalam azad's view. He identified *Ya'jūj and Ma'jūj as Mongols and Tartars.*<sup>288</sup>

<sup>285</sup> Al-Qur'ān 21:96

<sup>286</sup> عمران حسين. (22 ربيع الأول، 1426). *ياجوج وماجوج والقدس. علامات اليوم الآخر*. imranhosein.org

<sup>287</sup> N.Hosin, I. (2009). *An Islamic Views Of Gog And Magog In The Modern Age* (Vol. 3). imranhosine.org. p 192

<sup>288</sup> *Shaykh Muhammad Zafar Iqbal*.(2009). *Fitna-e-Yajuj Majuj*. lahore: Bait-ul-Alum.

Maulana Sayyid Muhammad Anwar Shah said *Russia is from Gog and Britannia is from Magog*.<sup>289</sup>

Manazir ahsan gilani said *it is very difficult to locate Gog and magog, because Qur'an didn't discussed it from all perspective. So how any nation can be identified as Ya'jūj Ma'jūj*.<sup>290</sup>

Allama Tantaravi writes in his Tafsir, "Jawahir-ul- Qur'an":

*"Gog and Magog are the progeny of Japheth son of Hazrat Noah and their names have been derived from 'Ajeeh ul Nar' meaning flame or spark; indicative of their intensity and abundance. Some scholars, while explaining their origin, hold that the chain of Mughals (Mongolians) and Tartars reaches a person named 'Turk', and he is the man called by Abul Fida<sup>291</sup> 'Magog'".<sup>292</sup>*

*Therefore, it is evident that Gog and Magog mean the Mongolian and Tartarian tribes and the chain of these tribes' starts from the northern Asia and spreads through Tibet and China, and towards the west it expands up to Turkistan. Many other hold the same view".<sup>293</sup>*

Like human beings Gog magog also live in tribes as *Mufti Muhammad Shafi* says in his tafsir: *They are in 21 tribes and Dhul-Qarnain made wall around twenty tribes and one of them remaining is Turk.*

*He also said that they are the middle creature between man and Jinn*.<sup>294</sup>

Syed Abul-Ala Maududi, a great scholar of the Modern times writes about the Gog and the Magog in his Tafsir:

*"Gog and Magog were the wild tribes of North Eastern Asia, from the very early times they had been making inroads on settled kingdoms and empires in Asia and Europe and ravaging them. According to the Muslim historian, they were the*

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<sup>289</sup> محمد أنور الكشميري. (1938). *فيض الباري على صحيح البخاري* (المجلد 6). بيروت: دار المعرفة للطباعة و النشر. ص 551

<sup>290</sup> Ibid,

<sup>291</sup> Abu al-Fida was a Kurdish historian, geographer, and local governor of Hamāh

<sup>292</sup> Muhammad Sharif Chaudhry, (2004). *Gog and Magog*. In D. M. Chaudhry, *MARCH TOWARDS THE DOOMSDAY*. Lahore: Burhan Education Foundation.

<sup>293</sup> Ibid, retrieved 2-4-2013

<sup>294</sup> Shabbir Ahmad Usmani. (1989). *Tafseer-e-Usmani*. (M. Mehmood-ul-Hassan, Trans.) Krachi : Aalameen publication.

descendants of Japheth, the son of Noah. And according to the book of Ezekiel (Chapters 38,39), they inhabited the territories of Meshech (Moscow) and Tubal (Tubalsek). According to the Israelite historian Josephus, they were the Scythians and their territory spread to the north and the east of the black Sea. According to Jerome, Magog inhabited the territory to the north of Caucasia near the Caspian Sea."<sup>295</sup>

Allama Abdullah Yusuf Ali, another well-known scholar of the modern times, noted down in his English translation and commentary of the Holy Quran about Gog and Magog as follows:

*"The question of Gog and Magog and the iron barrier built to keep them out is of some interest. It is practically agreed that they were the wild tribes of Central Asia, which have made inroads on settled kingdoms and Empires at various stages of the world's history. The Chinese Empire suffered from their incursions and built the Great Wall of China to keep out the Manchu people and Mongols. The Persian Empire suffered from them at various times and at various points. Their incursions into Europe in large hordes caused migrations and displacements of population on an enormous scale, and eventually broke up the Roman Empire. These tribes were known vaguely to the Greeks and Romans as Scythians, but that term does not help us very much, either ethnically or geographically".<sup>296</sup>*

Maulana Hifz ur-Rehman Sevharvi identified them as Turk as he said Turk named as leaving behind, so in this concept he believes that tribes which was left behind is now known as Turk,<sup>297</sup>

He also added in his books that those nations who were wild ( like Turks), but now they became civilized so after that they have their own identity and they are known as a different nations so these civilized nations have no relation with Ya'jūj Ma'jūj. any more, in addition according to Hifz ur-Rehman it is wrong to identify European and Israel as Ya'jūj Ma'jūj due to their anti-Islamic behaviour, and the

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<sup>295</sup> Abul A'la Maududi. (1942-1972). *Tafhim-ul-Quran* (Vol. 6). Lahore: Tarjman-ul Quran. P44

<sup>296</sup> Muhammad Sharif Chaudhry, (2004). Gog and Magog. In D. M. Chaudhry, *MARCH TOWARDS THE DOOMSDAY*. Lahore: Burhan Education Foundation, p213

<sup>297</sup> مولانا حفظ الرحمن سیو ہاروی. (1371ھ). *قصص القرآن* (المجلد 3). کراچی: دار الاضاعت. ص 241-243

war which they have waged on Islamic countries and the weapon they are using against Islam, because war between nations is common throughout in history.<sup>298</sup>

Mulana Usmani have same opinion that only wild nations are the part of Ya'jūj Ma'jūj tribes. After being civilized they cannot be considered as the part of these Ya'jūj Ma'jūj.

Another modern scholar Mansur Abdul Hakeem identified *Ya'jūj Ma'jūj as Turk*. He said that Turk residents of the north-east Asia, now days it is called Turkey and Tartars are procreate of Ya'jūj Ma'jūj.<sup>299</sup> To prove his view he mentioned Hadīth:

حدثنا أبو بكر بن أبي شيبة وابن أبي عمير واللفظ لابن أبي عمير قال حدثنا سفيان عن الزهري عن سعيد عن أبي هريرة أن النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم قال " لا تقوم الساعة حتى تقاتلوا قوما كان وجوههم المجان المطرقة ولا تقوم الساعة حتى تقاتلوا قوما نعالهم الشعر"<sup>300</sup>.

Abu Huraira account ALLAH's Messenger (may peace be upon him) as saying: "The Last Hour would not come until you fight with a people wearing shoes of hair and the Last Hour would not come until you fight with a people having small eyes and broad snub noses".

According to Hamdi bin Hamza *The people in Asia are Ya'jūj and Chinese neighbours on North borders are called by Chinese historians horse people, which means the inhabitants of the horse continents are Ma'jūj*.

When he talk about the essences of the Ya'jūj, he mention very clearly that Japanese, Koreans, Manchurians, Siberian people (today part of Russia), Tibet people, and Mongolians are their essence.<sup>301</sup>

### **Who is Dhūl- Qarnain**

According to Abu- Kalam Azad Dhūl-Qarnain is a Cyrus. *Maulana Hifz ur-Rehman Sevharvi* explains his point of view in his book.

<sup>298</sup> *Ibid*, p243

<sup>299</sup> منصور عبد الحكيم. (2004). *ياجوج وماجوج من الوجود حتى الفناء*. القاهرة: دار الكتاب العربي. ص 19  
<sup>300</sup> أبو الحسين مسلم بن الحجاج القشيري النيسابوري، ( 1930). *كتاب الفتن وأشراط الساعة* : باب اقتراب الفتن وفتح روم بأجوج وماجوج. في *المنهاج شرح صحيح مسلم بن الحجاج* (ط. الأولى). ج 18، المصرية بالازهر ح 2880 .

<sup>301</sup> Hamdi bin Hamza Al-Johani . (2008). *unlocking the secrets of Dhul-Qarnain and Yajouj and Majouj*. Riyadh: King Fahad National Library cataloging-in- publication. P408

*He said Dhūl-Qarnain was a pious man who has believe on the presence of God but Alexander the Great was atheist, and he did compulsorily for everyone to bow him. Therefore, he cannot be Dhūl- Qarnain.*<sup>302</sup>

*Another view is that the King Alexander who was in the time period of Hazrat Ibrahim (AS) is meant there, but it is not possible because scholars are confused about his real name, his journey mentioned in Qur'ān and the origin he ruled.*

*Last and most considered view is that the Cyrus is Dhūl-Qarnain. In Bible, he is known as Kūruš, in Greek he is known as Cyrus and in Persia, he was Koresh. These different names are used for single person in different traditions. Mulana Azad said the Cyrus is Dhūl-Qarnain, because he was a pious man and respected among Jews, because he was the one who protected them from Babel<sup>303</sup>. We found that he did three journeys, which Qur'ān has mentioned in the story of Dhūl-Qarnain.*<sup>304</sup>

*Mulana Thanvi wrote in his tarsier that, if we put a close eye on Qur'ān and Hadīth related to Dhūl-Qarnain, we can find some description about to the personality of Dhūl-Qarnain, his journey and the wall he constructed. However, we didn't find all of these descriptions about single person, so it is not acceptable to identify a single person as Dhūl- Qarnain.*<sup>305</sup>

*Hamdi Bin Hamza identified Dhūl-Qarnain with Akhenaton. He was son of Amunhetop the third. His mother name was Tiye (same pious women who take Musa from river as Qur'ān told this story in detail). He was the only Pharaoh man*

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<sup>302</sup> مولانا حفظ الرحمن سیو بروری. (1371ھ). *قصص القرآن* (المجلد 3). کراچی: دار الاضاعت. ص 239

<sup>303</sup> According to the story, a united humanity of the generations following the Great Flood, speaking a single language and migrating from the east, came to the land of Shinar where they resolved to build a city with a tower "whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth. God came down to see what they did and said: God scattered them upon the face of the Earth, and confused their languages, so that they would not be able to return to each other, and they left off building the city, which was called Babel "because God there confounded the language of all the Earth".

<sup>304</sup> *Shaykh Muhammad Zafar Iqbal*. (2009). *Fitna-e-Yajuj Majuj*. lahore: BaIt-ul-Alum. P. 23

<sup>305</sup> *Shaykh Ashraf Ali Thanvi* (1426 H). Surah Al-Kahaf. In S. A. Thanvi, *Bayan -ul- Quran*. Multan : Talefat Asharfia. p. 634



mentioned in history that he believed on one God. He became the disbeliever of all his fathers and grandfathers' beliefs. He was contemporaneous with Musa (A.S)<sup>306</sup>

Modern scholars also discussed the origin where Ya'jūj Ma'jūj live. Majority of Muslim scholars' believed that *Qur'ān* talk about three journeys of Dhūl-Qarnain. One of them was towards east second was towards west, and third and last journey where he build wall was in north because the southern areas are not dense populated yet.<sup>307</sup>

### **Where is the Rampart**

Now the question arises that where is the wall or barrier between two mountains, which was built by Dhūl-Qarnain, which has been identified by many scholars and historians as Cyrus the great a ruler of ancient Persia in the 6<sup>th</sup> century B.C. To identify this wall of Dhūl-Qarnain, Maulana Hifz-ur-Rehman sevharvi, in his enormous work *Qasas-ul-Quran*, argued these issues very fascinatingly. The gist of his research and the conclusion by him is presented in his own words as:

*"Before the determination of this wall, it should be kept in mind that the invasions by Gog and Magog spread over a substantially vast region; on one side, the habitations situated beneath the Caucasus range were their victim and on the other side, the inhabitants of Tibet and China were not safe from their oppression. Therefore, for the same purpose, i.e., to evade the invasions of Gog and Magog several walls had been erected at different times; which is about a thousand miles long."*

*"The second wall is situated in Daghistan, a Russian state. It is known as 'Derbend'and 'Bab ul Abwab', and some historians name it as Al Bab. Yaqoot Hamvi in Mou'jam ul Buldan, Idrisi in Geography and Bustani in Da'irat ul Mu'arif, have discussed this wall in detail."*

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<sup>306</sup> Hamdi bin Hamza Al-Johani . (2008). *unlocking the secrets of Dhul-Qarnain and Yajouj and Majouj*. Riyadh: King Fahad National Library cataloging-in- publication. P.96

<sup>307</sup> Shabbir Ahmad Usmani. (1989). *Tafseer-e-Usmāni*. (M. Mehmood-ul-Hassan, Trans.) Krachi : Aalameen publication.

*"And to the west of Caucasus range, advancing from this Bab ul Abwab, there is a pass known as Daryal Pass, which is situated on the upper side of Caucasus range, and there is the third wall known as Caucasus Wall and it has been built between two mountains."*

The writer leaves aside the possibility of grand Wall of China as the barrier of Dhūl-Qarnain. He discusses the other three walls in detail and then concluded that Caucasus Wall was constructed by means of iron and molten copper is the same wall, which was fabricated by Dhūl-Qarnain in his journey discussed in Qur'ān. His finding is below:

*"So it is now proved that the Daryal Pass is surrounded by two cliffs of the mountains and historical facts also confirm it. Moreover, the commission of Wasīq Billah has manifestly described its observation that this wall has been built with iron and molten copper. Now it should be admitted that this wall is the wall of Dhūl-Qarnain as mentioned in the Holy Qur'an because this wall fulfils the required specifications given by the Holy Qur'an. It is also believed that will they came from Caucasus mountains, now a days there are some Muslims in minority but some wild tribes are still there, and it believed that these wild tribes will came down from these mountains and will get full control on world. For the same reason, Abu Hayyan, Allama Anwar Shah, and Maulana Abul Kalam Azad also believed that this wall is the wall of Dhūl -Qarnain."*

*"After this detailed research, we can conclude that this wall of the Daryal Pass was erected by Cyrus, and this wall was built to protect the people from the invasions of those savage tribes who lived across the Caucasus range; and these were the Scythian tribes who were ravaging the people during the reign of Cyrus, and these tribes were in fact Gog and Magog, and Cyrus had erected this wall to save the people living hither from the brutal invasion of these Scythian tribes".<sup>308</sup>*

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<sup>308</sup> مولانا ابو کلام آزاد، (2012)، اصحاب کبف اور یاجوج ماجوج، لاہور: مکتبہ جمال، ص 112

The view of Maulana Hafiz-ur-Rehman that the wall of Caucasus is the wall of Dhūl -Qarnain has been accepted by numerous intellectuals. Syed Abul 'Ala Maududi in his Taffhimul Qur'an writes:

*"Some people have entertained the misunderstanding about that wall attributed here to Dhūl -Qarnain refers to the famous Wall of China, whereas this wall was built between Derbent and Dar'yal, two cities of Daghestan in the Caucasus, the land that lies between the Black Sea and the Caspian. There are high mountains between the Black Sea and Dar'yal having deep gorges, which cannot allow large armies to pass through them. Between Derbent and Dar'yal, however, there are no such mountains and the passes are wide and passable. In ancient times savage hordes from the north invaded and ravaged southern lands through these passes and the Persian rulers who were scared of them had to build a strong wall, 50 miles long, 29 feet high and 10 feet wide, for fortification purpose, ruins of which can still be seen. Though it has not yet been established historically who built this wall in the beginning, the Muslim historians and geographers assign it to Dhūl -Qarnain because its remains correspond with the description of it given in the Qur'an."*<sup>309</sup>

From Maulana Abul Kalam Azad writing it is clear that the wall of Dhūl -Qarnain is actually the wall of daryal Pass across the Caucasus range, and Ya'jūj Ma'jūj live there and they are bound their until Last Hour came.

According to Hamdi Bin Hamza, *"who requested Dhūl-Qarnain to build the barrier were the Chinese of today's people of Republic of China. and the Chinese land where Dhūl-Qarnain made rampart is most likely in Henan county, namely in the city of Zhengzhou in the central part of the china"*.<sup>310</sup>

After the detailed study of contemporary Muslim scholars views it can sketched that like traditional Muslim scholars they identified Gog and Magog as Turk and Mongol they also believe that they are wild and uncivilized tribes, but after the migration of these nation they became civilized and can't be considered as Gog and

<sup>309</sup> Abul A'la Maududi. (1942-1972). *Taffhim-ul-Quran* (Vol. 6). lahore: Tarjman-ul Quran. P44

<sup>310</sup> Hamdi bin Hamza Al-Johani . (2008). *unlocking the secrets of Dhul-Qarnain and Yajouj and Majouj*. Riyadh: King Fahad National Library cataloging-in- publication.P 326

Magog, there is another class of scholars who believed they are Europeans, Jews and Russians. And they have been released. Another view is that, in future china will rule the world and Europeans will alliance with north-eastern Asia and will wage war against china. Majority of Muslim scholars believe that Gog and Magog will be recognize after coming of 'Isa (A.S) because Gog and Magog are one of the sign of last hour.

## **CHAPTER 4: CONCLUSION**

This study was drawn to delve into the concept of Gog and Magog in Christianity and Islam, the primary reason and motivation was to study the correlation and variations in the conception of Gog and Magog in both revealed religions.

Secondary reason for emphasizing on this topic was to find their root, civilization, and rigorous occasion of arrival. As this union has been discussed in both revealed religions as the clue of last hour, so this research was sort to know about that sign.

### **COMPARISON OF CHRISTIAN AND ISLAMIC PERCEPTIONS**

After the detailed study of the concept of Gog and Magog, we have found some similarities and differences in both religions which are being presented below.

#### **Similarities of Concept:**

##### **1. Sign of Last Hour:**

When Qur'ān discussed about signs of last hour, one of them is Gog and Magog, and the same sign is mentioned in Bible. This is one and the only major sign, which is believed in both religions without any conflict.

##### **2. Warrior:**

Ya'jūj Ma'jūj are discussed as powers in both religions, Islam talk about Ya'jūj Ma'jūj as satanic power who will wage war against religious people, like as Bible also identified these as hostile prince who will attack against God's chosen people.

##### **3. Aftermath:**

Hadīth narrate in detail that what will happen after that. According to Hadīth when they will die Allah will send beast that will eat them. They will be buried in special place. People will burn their weapon for seven months. The same predictions are in Christianity.

#### **4. Who are they?**

Scholars of both religions identify them as a creature and they have strong believed that are son of Japheth son of Noh.

Muslim scholars identified them as human beings mostly and some of them as Jinn or middle creature same case is in Christianity. Qur'an clearly mentioned that they are wild people. So Muslim scholars when categorized them as nation they supposed them as Scythian.

#### **Difference of Concept:**

##### **1. Ya'jūj Ma'jūj are Powers:**

Muslim scholars believe that these powers will be used against Islam while the

Christian scholars have belief that the powers will wage war against Israel.

##### **2. Personality of Ya'jūj Ma'jūj:**

Regarding this some of major concepts of both religions are as follow:

- **Powers to Lead:** According to traditional view of Christian scholars, they referred them as nation more precisely are human being. These categories of scholars believe that these nations or human beings were leaders or have powers to lead and have power to overcome the system or nation. They can rule and have strong administrative qualities in them, for example Gyges (seventh century B.C.), king of Lydia (extreme western Asia Minor), Alexander the Great.
- **Wild And Violent:** In Islam Gog and Magog are mostly considered as nation which are wild. In Quran and Hadith, these nations are also discussed in details. It is very clear from the Holy Quran that this nation will appear against Islam and wage war with Muslims. We can conclude that these nations are wild and violent. it can be said that they

are human beings but far from civilization and lack of human habits and features.

### 3. Origin of Ya'jūj Ma'jūj:

Origin of Ya'jūj Ma'jūj is still confusing and scholars have not any common opinion about their exact location or position. Some scholars of both religions have belief that they are from north of Israel and neighboring countries but this belief is not strong. There are not any authentic mark or details about this belief.

- We can categorize Christian scholars in two types while discussing their origin.
  - i. Traditional Christian scholars' views are that Gog and Magog may have their origin in an ancient Etiological tale connected to the Abarim Mountains to the East and Southeast of the Dead Sea. Almost the same view about their origin they were in the era of Matthew Henry. They believe that Scythia, Tartary and Russia.
  - ii. Second category of scholars believes that they are Turks, and these are wild nations.
- On the other hand, in Islam's view they will come from *Caucasus Mountains*. We can categorize Muslim scholars also in two slots.
  - i. Some of them believe that they are Turk. Turk are also discussed as a nation on the behalf of their origin. Turk people are now known as Turkish people live in Turkey. In the same category some scholars believe that they are decedents from Japheth son Noah (A.S).
  - ii. Second category of scholars believes that they are from Asia. And most of scholars of this category are considered as modern scholars. Few of these scholars' beliefs are discussed below

- Mahmood Jamal believes that they belong to china and know and Gog, and the city they lived in is magnolia, the word magnolia has been derived from the word Moog. He also believed that the wall discussed in Quran and Hadīth about Gog and magog is meant by the great wall of china.
- Hamid bin Hamza also believes that they are from Asia and more precisely from china.

#### **4. Appearance of Ya'jūj Ma'jūj:**

According to Catholic priest and biblical scholar Rev. George Leo Haydock Gog are those people who are antichrist and against Church of God. He also believes that these names or peoples are hidden or covered. According to him these powers are not exposed yet against Church of God.

A number of scholars of both religions believe that Gog and Magog have been released or appeared as the signs of their appearance were told. However, some of the signs which were supposed to appeared before the arrival of Gog and Magog are still not fulfilled, so this view agreed by majority of scholars of both religions.

One of view about their appearance is that they will appear and wage war against christens with modernized weapons, in this perspective the view of Christian scholars can be considered as 3<sup>rd</sup> World War will be the war of Gog and Magog, using nuclear weapons.

#### **5. Closing Stages:**

While discussing the end of these powers, nations or people we have also some references who believe that these powers will have painful ending. Some of these scholars in this category believe that some nations will unite or combine against these powers and fight until these nations will end.



Christian scholars believe that they will be defeated in the result of nuclear war. On the contrary in Islamic tradition it is believe that Hazrat 'Isa will pray and in the answer Allah will send insects on their necks in the result they will pass away.

#### **6. Alliance :**

The Bible describes Gog and Magog as "barbaric tribes which threaten a settled nation, the Jews(Israil).

The question is that who is this leader of the land magog, which called Gog? Who will be his alliance? What is time for their attack on Israel? What will happen after the attack?

The nations who will be his alliance can be divided into four groups:

#### **a) Those nations from the "land of Magog" led by Gog, its "prince" Rosh, Meshech and tubal**

- **land of Magog** is the land we know today as southern Russia; the area North of the Caucasus Mountains.

- **Rosh, Meshech and tubal.**

We conclude, "Rosh" is Russia. Modern day Russia meets all of the characteristics of a supper nuclear power to be Rosh..

Meshech and Tubal described along with Rosh as from the "land of Magog Geographically Meshech and Tubal interpreted as cities, of the modern day; post Soviet Union, Russian Federation, north of the Caspian Sea.

#### **b) Other Nations Specifically Named In Gog's Alliance:**

- Persia : Modern day Iran**
- Ethiopia**
- Put**
- Gomer:** According to Josephus, "Gomer" was the area the Greeks called "Galatia," an area once located in modern day Turkey
- Beth-Togarmah:** a northern nation and country sprung from Gomer, abounding in horses and mules. "Armenia,"

#### **c) Many peoples:**

“many peoples” means they are Muslims from around the world, particularly, those Muslims living in countries neighboring Israel. They are now under the dominion of Iran. Thus, Gog’s “many peoples” also includes the organizations that make up the terrorist “watch lists” of the World’s free nations.

**d) Possible additional allies in Gog’s Alliance:**

- Of course, Islam or terrorism is not mentioned as a driving force behind this invasion. However, the geographical areas identified by christian scolors as participant in this invasion are all identifiable Islamic nations today with the exception of Russia (Central Asia, Libya, Sudan, Iran, and Turkey).
- From bible it is clear that the kingdom is Iran (the nation who will control others will be Shia Islam and Iran is the only one who has 90% Shia population). Lastly, it can be concluded that the king is Islam and his kingdom is Iran.
- The 6 neighboring nations
  - i. Iraq
  - ii. Syria
  - iii. Jordan
  - iv. Lebanon
  - v. Saudi Arabia
  - vi. Egypt

At the time of the Alliance’s attack on Israel, they are all under the domain of one powerful nation, In the light of above mentioned detail it was concluded that Iran is a king who will gathered other nations against Israel.

In contrast, Muslims interpret that Korea, Japan, America and Russia will make alliance against Islam especially Arab

## **ABBREVIATIONS**

**OT:** old Testament

**NT:** new Testament

**e.g.:** For example

## **GLOSSARY**

### **Reubenite:**

1. The eldest son of Jacob and Leah. Gen. 29, 30.
2. One of the 12 tribes of Israel, the tribe traditionally descended from him.

**Scythian:**

1. A member of an ancient nomadic people of Scythia.
2. The extinct language of this people, belonging to the East Iranian branch of the Indo-European family.

**Anikó Góg:**

Anikó Góg (born February 10, 1980 in Orosháza békés) is a female athlete from Hungary. She competes in triathlon. Góg competed at the first Olympic triathlon at the 2000 Summer Olympic. She took thirty-ninth places with a total time of 2:14:50.55.

**Gagai:**

Chhota Gagai is a stream in the region of Azad Kashmir, the country of Pakistan with an average elevation of 3,121 meter above sea level. The location is sparsely populated with 11 people per km. The nearest town larger than 50,000 inhabitants takes about 13:43 hour by local transportation.

**Tanakh:**

The Tanakh is a Jewish name for the Old Testament. The term Old Testament is a Christian term, which refers to the sacred books written before Jesus Christ. The Tanakh includes all of the Old Testament books. They arranged into different groups and into a different order from their order in the Bible. The Tanakh includes sections called the Torah, the Nev'im or "The Prophets," and the Kethuvim or "The Writings." The Tanakh is an acronym of the Torah, Nev'im, and Kethuvim: Tanakh.

**Septuagint**

The Septuagint (also known as the LXX) is a translation of the Hebrew Bible into the Greek language. The name "Septuagint" comes from the Latin word for seventy. The tradition is that 70 (or 72) Jewish scholars were the translators behind the Septuagint. The Septuagint was translated in the third and second centuries B.C. in Alexandria, Egypt

**Vulgate:**

The Vulgate is a late 4th-century Latin translation of the Bible. It was largely the work of St. Jerome, who was commissioned by Pope Damasus I in 382 to make a revision of the old Latin translations.

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