religion but a state construct using paganism fused with monotheism as its unifying culture. Using the Medinians and their men, Mohammed made war upon Mecca, finally conquering the Meccans in AD 624 at the Battle of Badr.

At this crucial battle, it is recorded by Islamic historians that "[Mohammed] took a handful of gravel when the battle was extremely heated [and] threw it at the faces of the pagans saying, 'May Your faces be disfigured.'" This battle and Mohammed's violence during the affair laid the foundation of the Islamic state and made the Muslims a terrifying force of gangsters and opportunists. Islam was built in the fires and blood of war—not in peace and charity. Its ethos is imbued with this martial spirit. Upon winning the Battle of Badr, Mohammed and his men spent three days killing the prisoners. After peacefully conquering in AD 630 his hometown of Mecca, he ordered the spread of Islam and its empire by sword, as well as the eradication of his former Jewish allies in Medina and beyond.

From this one key victory at Badr, the Islamists, by AD 630 were ready to sweep across Arabia and into the Near East, fueled by their absolute paganism (one word, one Allah, one Mohammed), which created an esprit de corps and ruthlessness that other tribes and cities could not withstand. University of Chicago professor Fred Donner, in his book *The Early Islamic Conquests*, theorizes that there may be something intrinsic to Islam that spurs a conquering attitude: "[T]here is the possibility that the ideological message of Islam itself filled some or all of the ruling elite with the notion that they had an essentially religious duty to expand the political domain of the Islamic state as far as practically possible; that is, the elite may have organized the Islamic conquest movement because they saw it as their divinely ordained mission to do so." This martial spirit, imbued with divine guidance and coupled with their natural warring spirit and mobility, undoubtedly gave the early Muslim armies the advantages of surprise and ferocity against non-nomadic and more settled cultures.

Mohammed's ideology was a perfect fit for a hard, pagan, and warlike people. The fact that Mohammed was a man and not a divinely inspired prophet is beyond doubt. He was a warrior, a politician, a deeply flawed man, and hardly a symbol of good religious teachings. He was violent, lecherous, spiteful, adulterous, and conniving. He was also like Hitler and, to a lesser extent, Stalin, probably quite mad. Much of the Koran and the so-called teachings of Mohammed are revelations that would embarrass a drunken psychopath. Mohammed had revelations that can be read in the rubbish that makes up the Koran, including the sanctioning of theft and robbery:

Allah said, "No Prophet before Mohammed took booty from his enemy nor prisoners for ransom." Mohammed said, "I was made victorious with terror.

The earth was made a place for me to clean. I was given the most powerful words. Booty was made lawful for me. I was given the power to intercede. These five privileges were awarded to no prophet before me."

Other revelations also included Allah's favoring war against unbelievers ("Until there is no religion other than Allah's"), promising paradise and seventy-two nubile virgins in return for those killed in jihad, Allah's approval of his taking 20 percent of all booty captured in war (100 percent in peace), Allah's consenting to his having sex with a nine-year-old girl, Allah's support for practicing adultery and polygamy, Allah's agreement with destroying Jewish and Christian villages and trade caravans, and Allah's permission to engage in slave trading. Many more malicious revelations could be listed, but the above are some examples of "divine" revelations that the moon deity Allah gave unto Mohammed.

These revelations are, of course, the centerpiece of the Koran. As with all pagan cults Mohammed constructed a document and a set of instructions that would be emulated centuries later by Hitler in his Nazi Charter or Mein Kampf, by Marx in Das Kapital and his Communist Manifesto, and by Stalin and the communists in their "democratic" constitution. The Koran and its accompanying sharia law were, for Mohammed and his party, the total explanation of society and life. All legal, moral, cultural, political, military, and existential ideas come from the Koranic-sharian creation. But as with other pagan tracts, and even the Bible, most of the Koran is contradictory, unreadable, illogical, or just incomprehensible. It is not a coherent, well written, logical tract. It is a jumble mash of sayings, ideas, beliefs, stories, warnings, laws, and revelations. What the Koranic revelations most "reveal" is the inner evil nature of the philosophy and its genetic confusion. As one would expect when dealing with a deranged politician, revelations would miraculously occur when Mohammed wanted something or needed to distance himself from crimes past or current. Any sane person listening to such nonsense would declare the speaker insane. Here are two suras from the Koran that illustrate the illogic of Mohammed's creed and associated revelations:

Warfare is ordained for you, though it is hateful unto you; but it may happen that you hate a thing which is good for you and it may happen that you love a thing which is bad for you. Allah knoweth, you knew not. (Koran 2:216)

The context of this sura is the debate about the barbarity of the war between Medina, Mohammed's base of operations, and his hometown of Mecca. Here Mohammed the politician completely removes all blame from himself for having started the war between Medina and Mecca. The obvious implication of this

Fred Donner, *The Early Islamic Conquests*, Princeton Univ. Press, 1981.