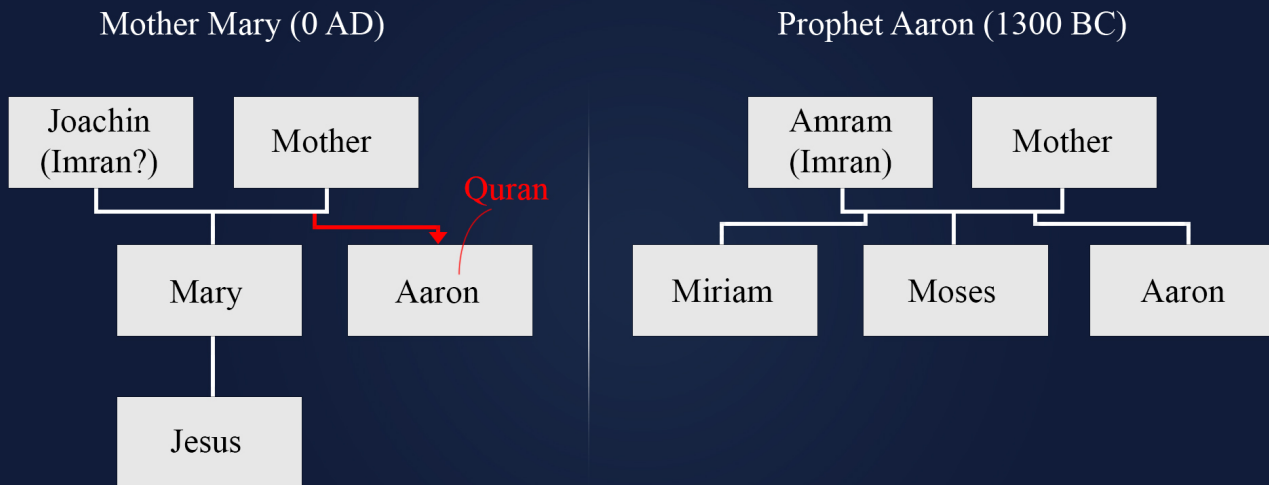


## Quran is talking about the wrong Mary

"And mention, [O Muhammad], in the Book [the story of] Mary, when she withdrew from her family to a place toward the east..... He said, "I am only the messenger of your Lord to give you [news of] a pure boy."" - Quran 19:16-19



"Then she brought him to her people, carrying him. They said, "O Mary, you have certainly done a thing unprecedented. O sister of Aaron, your father was not a man of evil, nor was your mother unchaste."" - Quran 19:27-28

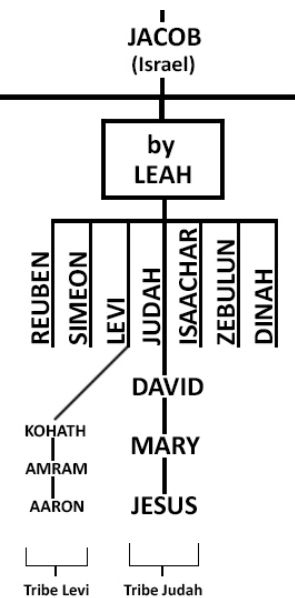
The problem here is that it says *O sister of Aaron*. The next verse below says that Imran is her father.

"And [the example of] Mary, the daughter of 'Imran, who guarded her chastity, so We blew into [her garment] through Our angel, and she believed in the words of her Lord and His scriptures and was of the devoutly obedient." - Quran 66:12

So Mary did not have a brother named Aaron, and she neither had a father named Imran. But when you look back 1300 years earlier, Miriam had a brother named Aaron and a father named Amram (Arabic = Imran). In fact the only Aaron mentioned is the brother of Moses, there are no other Aarons. So according to the Quran, Mary who had a child named Jesus, had also a brother named Aaron, and a father named Imran - which is completely false. But if the Quran talks about Miriam, then the problem is that Miriam did not had a child named Jesus, so no

matter what, it really is a mistake. The image below explains the dilemma. Many Muslims try to explain this by saying Mary was a descendant of Amram and Aaron, and use this Tafsir:

“(O sister of Harun!) referring to the brother of Musa, because she was of his descendants. This is similar to the saying, ‘O brother of Tamim,’ to one who is from the Tamimi tribe, and ‘O brother of Mudar,’ to one who is from the Mudari tribe. It has also been said that she was related to a righteous man among them whose name was Harun and she was comparable to him in her abstinence and worship.” - Tafsir Ibn Kathir



But this is totally false because Amram and Aaron were from the tribe of Levi and Mary was from the tribe of Judah. See image to the left. The bible says the same:

"He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David." - Luke 1: 32

"For it is clear that our Lord descended from Judah, and in regard to that tribe Moses said nothing about priests" - Hebrew 7:14

Other important points:

- There are no historical or biblical evidence that proves that Virgin Mary had a brother named Aaron. If her brother is so important that the Quran had to mention him with Mary's name, why don't we hear more about him? Especially when he is nowhere to be found except in Islam 600 years after in a single verse? Furthermore this point would contradict Ibn Kathir's statement that it really does refer to *the brother of Musa*.
- There are no historical or biblical evidence that proves that Mary had a father named Imran. The name Imran is the arabic version of Amram.
- Is Mary's lineage in the Gospels accurately preserved? If it weren't why did the Quran not explained this? There is no reason to assume that the Quran had preserved Mary's lineage after 600 years better than the Gospels which are under 50 years old when Jesus died.
- There are no other Aarons whose father's name is Amran/Imran in the Jewish text or in the Christian text, other than the family of Moses.
- Mary is never mentioned in the Jewish texts or jewish history, except a totally different Mary which was a hairdresser.
- A significant question would be why the Quran itself would honor Mary, the mother of Jesus, by comparing her to Aaron and Imran, two minor important and second-tier prophets in the Quran?

People will especially use this hadith:

"Mughira b. Shu'ba reported: When I came to Najran, they (the Christians of Najran) asked me: You read "O sister of Harun" (i. e. Hadrat Maryam) in the Qur'an, whereas Moses was born much before Jesus. When I came back to Allah's Messenger I asked him about that, whereupon he said: The (people of the old age) used to give names (to their persons) after the names of Apostles and pious persons who had gone before them." - Sahih Muslim 28:13

This was as a matter of fact answered with Ibn Kathir, who is the father of all tafsir, where he explains that when saying *Sister of X*, it implies that she is a descendant of the *Tribe of X*. Ibn Kathir explicitly uses the word *tribe* and also explains the meaning of it. Since Mary was from the tribe of Judah and not the tribe of Levi, the Quran is not correct. The last card people will use is that Mary was the cousin of Elizabeth who was a descendant of Aaron.

"And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren." - Luke 1:36

To begin with, it is important to mention that the King James translation of the term syngenis as *cousin* is not accurate. This greek term simply means *relative*, hence Mary and Elizabeth may have been first cousins or even third cousins.

It is worth noting that Judah was the kingly tribe and Levi was the priestly tribe. The husband of Elizabeths who's name was Zechariah was a Levitical priest, and we know for sure that Elizabeth was also a Levite since it was required for all priests who was Levite to marry within their tribes. We can know for sure that since Elizabeth was from the tribe of Levi, so was her father too since tribal affiliation was through the father and not mother. A small problem arises since we do not know that her father was a priest or not. This would mean that it cannot be determined if the mother of Elizabeth was 100% Levite or non-Levite, which the mother of Mary could have been related to. There are these possibilities:

- Mary's mother could be the sister of either Zachariah's mother or father
- Mary's mother could be the sister of either Elisabeth's mother or father

We know that the father of Mary whose name is Joachim was from the Judah tribe according to the Gospel of James and the Gospel of the Nativity of Mary. Tribal affiliation was through the male line in ancient Israel, so it wouldn't matter if

Mary's mother was sister to Elizabeth and was a Levite or not.

The only thing that matters is that her father Joachim was from the Judah tribe, which means that Mary also was. Regarding the tribe of Jesus, these further evidence supports that Jesus is not from the Levitical tribe:

1. Jesus could not have been a priest because his earthly foster father Joseph was clearly from the Judah tribe, and the father of Mary, Joachim, was also from the Judah tribe.
2. Jesus did not come to Earth to be a priest as Levitical tribe was, but rather as a prophet (as prophesied).
3. The most important is that the priesthood of Jesus was not that of the Levitical priesthood (Aaron), but the priesthood of Melchizedek. This is very important to note, because it would say that he was a priest according to the order of Levi which will put him in the tribe of Aaron, but this is not the case since it is the priesthood of Melchizedek.

Joseph was biologically the son of Jacob but legally the son of Heli. Jacob and Heli were half-brothers. When Heli died childless, Jacob married his widow and fathered Joseph. So either Jacob or Heli was the father of Joseph and they both are from the Judah tribe. Luke 3:23 below explains that Heli was the father of Joseph.

“And Jesus himself began to be about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, which was the son of Heli” - Luke 3:23

Below it is explained that daughters must marry within the same tribe.

"6 This is the thing which the Lord doth command concerning the daughters of Zelophehad, saying, Let them †marry to whom they think best; gonly to the family of the tribe of their father shall they †marry. 7 So shall not the inheritance of the children of Israel remove from tribe to tribe: for every one of the children of Israel shall †hkeep himself to the inheritance of the tribe of his fathers. 8 And ievery daughter, that possesseth an inheritance in any tribe of the children of Israel, shall be wife unto one of the family of the tribe of her father, that the children of Israel may enjoy every man the inheritance of his fathers. 9 Neither shall the inheritance remove from one tribe to another tribe; but every one of the tribes of the children of Israel shall keep himself to his own inheritance." - Numbers 36:6–9

If the relative of Zachariah and Elisabeth was Joachim then that would make

Mary a full-blood Levite. So because we know Joseph was from the Judah tribe, Mary also had to be of the same tribe, because only then would she meet the requirement of marrying within the same tribe, according to Numbers 36:6-9 above. This will put Joachim out of the question from being a Levite.

Both the lineages of foster father (Joseph) and the legal grandfather (Heli) of Jesus meet King David. Joseph who is the legal descent of Jesus comes through King Solomon, David's son (Matthew 1:6-7). Heli who was the grandfather (not blood related) lineage of Jesus came through Nathan, another son of David (Luke 3:31). David is the son of Judah and not Levi. The next verse confirms that the Quran is not speaking about tribes, but the wife of Imran who according to the Quran was pregnant to Mary and gave birth to her:

"[Mention, O Muhammad], when the wife of 'Imran said, "My Lord, indeed I have pledged to You what is in my womb, consecrated [for Your service], so accept this from me. Indeed, You are the Hearing, the Knowing." But when she delivered her, she said, "My Lord, I have delivered a female." And Allah was most knowing of what she delivered, "And the male is not like the female. And I have named her Mary, and I seek refuge for her in You and [for] her descendants from Satan, the expelled [from the mercy of Allah ]." - Quran 3:35-36

The next verse confirms that she is the mother of Jesus, because she was put in the care of Zechariah who didn't live during the time of Moses:

"So her Lord accepted her with good acceptance and caused her to grow in a good manner and put her in the care of Zechariah. Every time Zechariah entered upon her in the prayer chamber, he found with her provision. He said, "O Mary, from where is this [coming] to you?" She said, "It is from Allah . Indeed, Allah provides for whom He wills without account."" - Quran 3:37

And the next verse below confirms that is is talking about the same Mary, the mother of Jesus:

"[And mention] when the angels said, "O Mary, indeed Allah gives you good tidings of a word from Him, whose name will be the Messiah, Jesus, the son of Mary - distinguished in this world and the Hereafter and among those brought near [to Allah ]." - Quran 3:45

To summarize the whole points:

- Joachim and Anna are the parents of Mary. Joachim is according to the Gospel of James, a descendant of King David. Joachim is mentioned in the Gospel of James and the Gospel of the Nativity of Mary
- Jacob and Heli were half brothers, and when Heli died childless, Jacob married his widow and got his son Joseph. Jacob is Joseph's biological father, but Heli is his legal father. Both Jacob and Heli were of the Judah tribe - one through Solomon and the other through Nathan. Regardless what Joseph is from the Judah tribe whether legally or biologically.
- Jesus was a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek, and not that of Levi. This confuses some that he may be from Levi tribe, which is not true.
- It doesn't matter if Mary's mother is from the tribe of Levi or not due to being related to Elizabeth, since Joachim is from the tribe of Judah and that makes Mary and Jesus biologically from the tribe of Judah. Tribal affiliation was through the male line in ancient Israel.
- The wife of Imran gave birth to Mary, according to the Quran, who was put in her care of Zechariah, a person who didn't live during the time of Moses.
- Numbers 36:6–9 explains that daughters must marry within the same tribe. Joseph was for sure according to the Bible from the Judah tribe, and that means that Mary also must have been that in order for her to marry him.

This concludes the heritage of Mary that she indeed is from the tribe of Judah and not Levi, and that the Quran specifically refers to the wife of Imran being the mother of Mary, who in turn was the mother of Jesus. In the next page, the lineage of Mary has been illustrated.

### **The origin of the misconception**

According to an article by Guillaume Dye, there is a short but unknown text called Lection of Jeremiah, which is dated to be around 610 AD. It was used in liturgical celebrations in Jerusalem. In one place of the text it says:

"And the prophet (Jeremiah) said: 'His coming will be a sign for you, and for other children at the end of the world. And nobody will bring forth the hidden Ark from the rock, except the priest Aaron, the brother of Mary' - Lection of Jeremiah

There were also some Jews who believed that the Messiah would be from the lineage of Aaron and not from David. This evidence can be found in the Dead Sea Scrolls of Qumran, probably was used by the Essenes, which is a sect that lived during the time of Jesus. However these would only be an idea and a belief that the Messiah was from the lineage of Aaron, but not in terms of reality.

# Mary's lineage

From the book Disproving Islam by Edgar Morina

