



ALJAZEERA

▶ LIVE



News | Religion

## King Charles: What are his views on Islam?

*During the course of his life, the British monarch has on several key occasions expressed his views on Islam and the Muslim world.*



Prince Charles and his wife, Camilla Duchess of Cornwall, walk with Kuwait's Minister of Awqaf (Religious Affairs) Abdullah al-Matouq, right, during a visit to the Grand Mosque of Kuwait in 2007 [Stephanie McGehee/Reuters]



By Al Jazeera Staff

11 Sep 2022



Interest in Britain's new monarch [King Charles III](#) has spiked since he ascended the throne on Saturday, following the death of his mother Queen Elizabeth II.

While the 73-year-old has been in the public eye for decades, much of the attention surrounding Charles has largely focused on his doomed marriage to the late Princess Diana.

---

#### RECOMMENDED STORIES

**King Charles proclaimed monarch of Australia, New Zealand**

**King Charles III formally proclaimed UK's new monarch**

**Explained: King Charles III accession to the throne**

**King Charles III to be formally proclaimed new UK monarch**

---

However, the new British monarch has also garnered attention for his views on a number of cultural and social issues including climate change, politics and religion.

On Islam, Charles has on several occasions expressed his thoughts and has openly talked about his admiration for the Muslim religion.

Writer Robert Jobson in his book *Charles At Seventy: Thoughts, Hopes and Dreams* noted that the monarch studies the Islamic holy book the Quran and signs letters to Muslim leaders in Arabic.

Here are some of his thoughts on Islam and Muslims as they relate to world issues:



## The environment

Charles has been an outspoken advocate on environmental issues for decades, urging world leaders to seek immediate and long-term solutions to climate change.

In a speech at the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies in 2010, Charles said based on his knowledge of Islam and the Quran, “there are limits to the abundance of Nature”.

“These are not arbitrary limits, they are the limits imposed by God and, as such, if my understanding of the Quran is correct, Muslims are commanded not to transgress them,” Charles, a member of the Church of England, said.

Moreover, in the same speech, he added: “We share this planet with the rest of creation for a very good reason – and that is, we cannot exist on our own without the intricately balanced web of life around us. Islam has always taught this and to ignore that lesson is to default on our contract with Creation.”



Britain's Prince Charles, front, and his wife the Duchess of Cornwall Camilla, front right, visit the tomb of Mevlana Jalaluddin Rumi, in the central Turkish city of Konya on November 26, 2007 [Burhan Ozbilici/Pool/Reuters]

## **Danish cartoons**

During a 2006 visit to Al-Azhar University in Cairo, Egypt, Charles criticised the 2005 publication of Danish cartoons that mocked Islam's Prophet Muhammad, calling everyone to respect others' beliefs.

## Advertisement

### Trending

War on Gaza   Afghanistan earthquake   Donald Trump   Gaza flotilla   Russia-Ukra

---

“The true mark of a civilised society is the respect it pays to minorities and to strangers ... The recent ghastly strife and anger over the Danish cartoons shows the danger that comes of our failure to listen and to respect what is precious and sacred to others,” he said in his remarks.

Sign up for Al Jazeera

## Breaking News Alert

Get real-time breaking news alerts and stay up-to-date with the most important headlines from around the globe.

E-mail address

Subscribe

By signing up, you agree to our [Privacy Policy](#).

protected by reCAPTCHA

The cartoons led to debate about anti-Muslim hatred and the limits of freedom of speech in the west.

## Ramadan

At the start of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan in April, Charles said that everyone could learn “from the spirit of Ramadan”.

“Not only the generosity, but also abstention, gratefulness and togetherness in prayer which will give great comfort to many across the world,” he said in a statement.

“The generosity of spirit and kind-hearted hospitality of Muslims does not cease to astound me and I am sure that as we enter more uncertain times ... the Muslim community will again be a source of immense charitable giving this Ramadan.”

## **Islam and the West**

Charles has long advocated for bringing the Muslim world and the West closer, adding there was a lot of “misunderstanding” about Islam in the West.

“If there is much misunderstanding in the West about the nature of Islam, there is also much ignorance about the debt our own culture and civilisation owe to the Islamic world. It is a failure which stems, I think, from the straightjacket of history which we have inherited,” he said in 1993 during a much-cited speech at the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies.

Charles warned that extremism must not be seen as a “hallmark” of Islam, and said it was “no more the monopoly of Islam than it is the monopoly of other religions, including Christianity”.

What's the future for the monarchy in the UK? | Inside Story



SOURCE: AL JAZEERA

## LISTEN TO THESE PODCASTS

From: The Inside Story Podcast

### **Why is the US military building up its presence in the Caribbean?**

Why is the U.S. military building up its presence in the Caribbean? It recently targeted a Venezuelan boat it said - was C...

From: The Inside Story Podcast

### **What message is China sending with its largest military parade?**

China's growing power on full display with its largest military parade ever commemorating the end of the second World War...



From: The Inside Story Podcast

## Will Western nations face consequences for their stance on Gaza?

Led by the US, Western weapons and support have been central to Israel's genocide in Gaza. UK and EU relations with Israel...

---

### RELATED

#### King Charles proclaimed monarch of Australia, New Zealand

The British monarch is the head of state in Australia and New Zealand, a role that is largely ceremonial.

11 Sep 2022



#### King Charles III formally proclaimed UK's new monarch

The ceremony, the first since 1952 when Queen Elizabeth II took the throne, was broadcast live for the first time.

10 Sep 2022



#### Explained: King Charles III accession to the throne

An Accession Council convened at St James's Palace, the official residence of the sovereign, to proclaim the successor.

10 Sep 2022



#### UK royals latest updates: King Charles III proclaimed new monarch

UK royals news on September 10: Proclamation announcing King Charles III as Britain's new monarch read out in UK cities.

10 Sep 2022





---

## MORE FROM NEWS

Hundreds of bodies pulled from Darfur landslides as many remain trapped



In besieged Sudan city, civilians face death if they try to escape



France enter World Cup qualifying but scheduling demands take toll



DR Congo announces new Ebola outbreak



---

## MOST POPULAR

Israel pummels residential areas of Gaza City, kills 69 people across Strip



In boat strike, Trump repurposes 'war on terror' for Latin American crime



Ukraine knocks out Russian refineries as Russia kills dozens in Kyiv



Is Venezuela the big cocaine menace Trump claims it to be?



About ▾

Connect ▾

Our Channels ▾

Our Network ▾

Follow Al Jazeera English:

