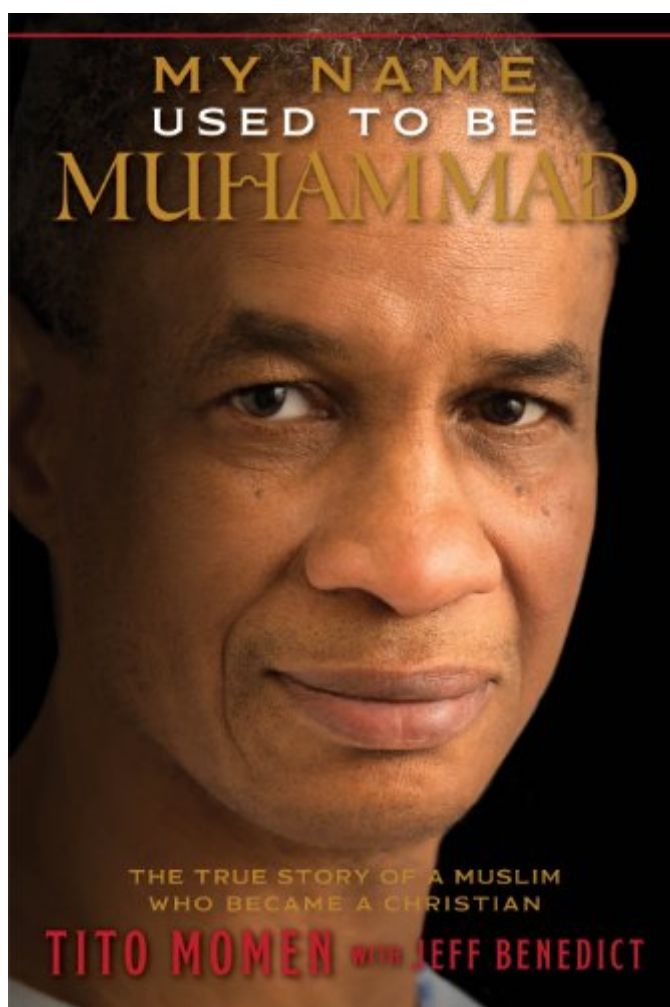


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# My Name Used To Be Muhammad



## Synopsis

Tito Momen was raised Muhammad Momen. He was born in Nigeria and was taught to observe the strict teachings of Islam. At age five he woke at 4:45 every morning to attend the mosque and perform dawn prayer with the other men in his village. Training to memorize the Qur'ân began at age six. It was at this same age that he began copying the entire Qur'ân word for word. He was being raised to emerge as a leader among clerics, capable of leading a jihad, or holy struggle, to convert nonbelievers to Islam. However, Tito's path took an unexpected turn when he was introduced to Christianity. His decision to believe in Jesus Christ cost him his family and his freedom. Tito thought he would spend his remaining days enduring a life sentence in an uncivilized Egyptian prison. For fifteen years he suffered and waited and prayed. Tito said, "I never gave up hope. I never stopped believing." Although he was falsely imprisoned, beaten, and ridiculed, Tito's remarkable true story is one of faith, forgiveness, and testimony that God does hear and answer prayers.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

We are all God's children, and after all is said and done, we are not that different from each other.

Regardless of where we were born on this Earth, what circumstances we face, what religion we belong to, we can know this surety: He loves us and will help us. These are the thoughts I have after reading Tito's book. The book is well written and flows easily as we follow Tito from chapter to chapter. There are times of intense affinity, such as growing up in a small, close-knit religious community; striving through early adulthood to remain chaste; leaving home for years to attend to religious training and duties; intense scripture study. I realize that as an American, there are some places I can't go on this Earth or I'll be killed, because of my nationality, my religion, my government, or my race. After reading Tito's story, I appreciate now that those would call me an infidel and spill my blood share a great many commonalities with me and others of my culture, race, religion and nationality. We are not as different as we suppose. We all share similar devotion, faith, hopes and dreams. Reading about Tito and his preparation from a young age to serve God, and attend a religious university doesn't sound so that foreign to me. Watching Tito court his girlfriend, as they talk about their faith and plan for a life together, try to keep their religion central in their lives, and face temptations and struggles together, nothing out of the ordinary from my own experience. There were times I wanted to shout out, "No, Tito! Don't do it!" and other times I was dumbfounded by the amazing circumstances of Tito's deliverance.

Because he was his father's favorite son, when Muhammad Momen was a little boy he was groomed to become an "imam" or a holy leader in his community. This required much sacrifice and dedication, even memorizing the Qur'an by copying it diligently, verse by verse. Muhammad wanted very much to please his father and as a teen was thrilled to be accepted into a prestigious Islamic private school. He was disillusioned however when he arrived at the school to discover it wasn't so much an institute of higher learning as it was a place to indoctrinate and brainwash young male teens to follow the teachings of extreme Islam. The teachers were very abusive going so far as to beat students who asked questions that were contrary to Islamic teachings. Muhammad stands up for himself and his friends eventually finding himself expelled from 2 schools, hurting his fiancée Aaban by cheating on her, drinking alcohol, and smoking. As he falls further and further away from Islam he finds himself falling closer to Christ. He attends church with a friend and discovers the healing love and acceptance of Christianity when he attends the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Cairo. Eventually seizing the opportunity to be baptized, Muhammad changes his name to Tito (the Italian version of Titus) and embraces the gospel tightly. This dedication to Christ eventually leads to imprisonment where he was given a life sentence...Never giving up hope and never giving up on his faith, Tito tells his story of life as a child of extreme Islam, his conversion

to Christianity and paying the price for his dedication to God by serving 15 years in terrifying conditions. A prisoner in a corrupt system of government. All I can say about this book is wow.

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