

4:157 – Debate of translation regarding another person crucified in the place of Isa

Sahih International

And [for] their saying, "Indeed, we have killed the Messiah, Jesus, the son of Mary, the messenger of Allah ." And they did not kill him, nor did they crucify him; **but [another] was made to resemble him to them.** And indeed, those who differ over it are in doubt about it. They have no knowledge of it except the following of assumption. And they did not kill him, for certain.

Total Translations: 58

Translations in favor of another crucified in the place of Isa: 15

Translations that do not say another was crucified in the place of Isa: 42

Safi Kaskas

and said, "We have killed the Messiah Jesus, son of Mary, the Messenger of God." However, they did not kill him, nor did they crucify him, though it was made to appear as if it had been so. Those who disagree are confused, having no [real] knowledge to follow, only supposition. They certainly did not kill him.

The Clear Quran, Dr. Mustafa Khattab

and for boasting, "We killed the Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, the messenger of Allah." But they neither killed nor crucified him—it was only made to appear so. Even those who argue for this 'crucifixion' are in doubt. They have no knowledge whatsoever—only making assumptions. They certainly did not kill him.

Muhammad Asad

and their boast, "Behold, we have slain the Christ Jesus, son of Mary, [who claimed to be] an apostle of God!" However, they did not slay him, and neither did they crucify him, but it only seemed to them [as if it had been] so; and, verily, those who hold conflicting views thereon are indeed confused, having no [real] knowledge thereof, and following mere conjecture. For, of a certainty, they did not slay him

Wahiduddin Khan

They declared, We have put to death the Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, the Messenger of God. They did not kill him, nor did they crucify him, but it only seemed to them [as if it had been so]. And those who differ in this matter are in doubt concerning it. They have no definite knowledge about it, but only follow mere conjecture. But they certainly did not kill him

Dr. Laleh Bakhtiar

and for their saying: We killed the Messiah, Jesus son of Mary, the Messenger of God. And they killed him not, nor they crucified him. **Rather, a likeness to him of another was shown to them.** And, truly, those who were at variance in it *are* in uncertainty about it. There is no knowledge with them about it but they are pursuing an opinion. And they for certain killed him not.

T.B.Irving

and (also) for their saying: "We killed God's messenger Christ Jesus, the son of Mary!" They neither killed nor crucified him, even though it seemed so to them. Those who disagree about it

are in doubt concerning it; they have no [real] knowledge about it except by following conjecture. No one is certain they killed him!

[Abdul Hye](#)

And they say that: "We have killed Messiah Jesus, son of Mary, Messenger of Allah." Neither did they kill him, nor did they crucify him, but (it was made) to resemble for them. Surely those who differed in it (they were) in doubt about it. They did not have any knowledge about it except following the guess and surely they did not kill him (Jesus).

[The Study Quran](#)

and for their saying, "We slew the Messiah, Jesus son of Mary, the messenger of God"—though they did not slay him; nor did they crucify him, but it appeared so unto them. Those who differ concerning him are in doubt thereof. They have no knowledge of it, but follow only conjecture; they slew him not for certain

[Dr. Kamal Omar](#)

and their statement (in boast): 'we killed *Al-Maseeh*, Iesa, *Ibn-e-Maryam* (Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary) *Rasulullah* (Messenger of Allah)!' And they killed him not and they crucified him not. And rather it remained an incident of doubt for them. And surely, the people who differed therein (are) definitely in doubt thereof. There is not (available) to them, about it any thing from knowledge except an adherence to conjecture. And they did not kill him. (It is) certain

[Farook Malik](#)

They even say: "We have killed the Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, the Messenger of Allah." Whereas in fact, neither did they kill him nor did they crucify him but they thought they did because the matter was made dubious for them. Those who differ therein are only in doubt. They have no real knowledge, they follow nothing but merely a conjecture, certainly they did not kill him (Jesus)

[Talal A. Itani \(new translation\)](#)

And for their saying, 'We have killed the Messiah, Jesus, the son of Mary, the Messenger of God.' In fact, they did not kill him, nor did they crucify him, but it appeared to them as if they did. Indeed, those who differ about him are in doubt about it. They have no knowledge of it, except the following of assumptions. Certainly, they did not kill him

[Muhammad Mahmoud Ghali](#)

And for their saying, "Surely we killed the Masih, Isa son of Maryam, (The Messiah, Jesus son of Mary) the Messenger of Allah." And in no way did they kill him, and in no way did they crucify him, **but a resemblance of him was presented to them** (i.e. the matter was made obscure for them through mutual resemblance). And surely the ones who differed about him are indeed in doubt about him. (Or: it, "that") In no way do they have any knowledge about him except the close following of surmise, and in no way did they kill him of a certainty

[Muhammad Sarwar](#)

and their statement that they murdered Jesus, son of Mary, the Messenger of God, when, in fact, they could not have murdered him or crucified him. **They, in fact, murdered someone else by mistake.** Even those who disputed (the question of whether or not Jesus was murdered) did not have a shred of evidence. All that they knew about it was mere conjecture. They certainly could not have murdered Jesus

[Muhammad Taqi Usmani](#)

and for their saying, .We have certainly killed the MasiH 'Isa the son of Maryam, the Messenger of Allah., while in fact they did neither kill him, nor crucify him, **but they were deluded by**

resemblance. Those who disputed in this matter are certainly in doubt about it. They have no knowledge of it, but they follow whims. It is absolutely certain that they did not kill him

[Shabbir Ahmed](#)

And for claiming, "We killed the Messiah Jesus son of Mary, Allah's Messenger." They never killed him and never crucified him. But it appeared so to them and the matter remained dubious to them. Those who hold conflicting views on this issue are indeed confused. They have no real knowledge but they are following mere conjecture. Very certainly, they never killed him

[Dr. Munir Munshey](#)

(We punished them because of) their (blatant and boastful) statement, "We killed Jesus, the son of Mary, the Massiah, the messenger of Allah!" But they did not kill him, and they did not crucify him! It just appeared to them to be so! Those who differ are certainly in doubt about that matter. They do not have a definite knowledge. (They have nothing) except their assumptions and conjectures. They definitely did not kill him

[Syed Vickar Ahamed](#)

And because they said (in boast): "We killed the Messiah, Isa (Christ, Jesus) the son of Maryam (Mary), the messenger of Allah;" — But they did not kill him, nor crucified him, but so it was made to appear to them, and those who differ in this (matter) are full of doubts, with no (certain) knowledge; They follow nothing but idle talk, for sure they did not kill him:—

[Umm Muhammad \(Sahih International\)](#)

And [for] their saying, "Indeed, we have killed the Messiah, Jesus, the son of Mary, the messenger of Allah ." And they did not kill him, nor did they crucify him; but [another] was made to resemble him to them. And indeed, those who differ over it are in doubt about it. They have no knowledge of it except the following of assumption. And they did not kill him, for certain

[\[The Monotheist Group\] \(2011 Edition\)](#)

And their saying: "We have killed the Messiah Jesus the son of Mary, the messenger of God!" They did not kill him, nor did they crucify him, but it appeared to them as if they had. Those who dispute are in doubt of him, they have no knowledge except to follow conjecture; they did not kill him for a certainty

[Abdel Halcem](#)

and said, 'We have killed the Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, the Messenger of God.' (They did not kill him, nor did they crucify him, though it was made to appear like that to them; those that disagreed about him are full of doubt, with no knowledge to follow, only supposition: they certainly did not kill him

[Abdul Majid Daryabadi](#)

And for their saying: verily We have slain the Messiah 'Isa son of Maryam, an apostle of Allah, whereas they slew him not, nor they crucified him but it was made dubious unto them. And verily those who differ therein are in doubt thereof, they have no knowledge thereof; they but follow an opinion; and surely they slew him not

[Ahmed Ali](#)

And for saying: "We killed the Christ, Jesus, son of Mary, who was an apostle of God;" but they neither killed nor crucified him, though it so appeared to them. Those who disagree in the matter are only lost in doubt. They have no knowledge about it other than conjecture, for surely they did not kill him

[Aisha Bewley](#)

and their saying, 'We killed the Messiah, 'Isa son of Maryam, Messenger of Allah.' They did not kill him and they did not crucify him but it was made to seem so to them. Those who argue about him are in doubt about it. They have no real knowledge of it, just conjecture. But they certainly did not kill him.

[Ali Ünal](#)

And their saying "We killed the Messiah, Jesus son of Mary, the Messenger of God " – whereas they did not kill him, nor did they crucify him, but the matter was made dubious to them. Those who differ about this matter and about Jesus are indeed confused; they have no definite knowledge thereof, following mere conjecture; and they killed him not of a certainty

[Ali Quli Qara'i](#)

and for their saying, 'We killed the Messiah, Jesus son of Mary, the apostle of Allah' —though they did not kill him nor did they crucify him, but so it was made to appear to them. Indeed those who differ concerning him are surely in doubt about him: they do not have any knowledge of that beyond following conjectures, and certainly they did not kill him

[Hamid S. Aziz](#)

And because of their boastful saying, "Verily, we have killed the Messiah, Jesus, the son of Mary, the Messenger of Allah," - but they killed him not, nor did they crucify him, but it was obscured for them (or it appeared so to them). And verily

[Ali Bakhtiari Nejad](#)

and their saying: we killed Jesus Christ the son of Mary, God's messenger, while they did not kill him and did not crucify him but it was so appeared to them, and indeed those who disagree about it are in doubt about it, having no knowledge of it except following the speculation, and certainly they did not kill him

[A.L. Bilal Muhammad et al \(2018\)](#)

And they said, "We killed Christ Jesus, the son of Mary, the messenger of God. But they did not kill him, nor did they crucify him, but it was only made to appear as such. And those who differ therein are full of doubt, with no knowledge, and only speculation to follow. For certain, they did not kill him

[Musharraf Hussain](#)

They mockingly say: "We have killed the Messiah, Isa son of Maryam, the Messenger of Allah," though they didn't kill him nor crucify him, but it appeared like that to them. Those who differed over *the matter* are *still* in doubt about him. They have no knowledge of it except speculation, and they certainly didn't kill Isa.

[Maududi](#)

and their saying: 'We slew the Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary', the Messenger of Allah - whereas in fact they had neither slain him nor crucified him but the matter was made dubious to them - and those who differed about it too were in a state of doubt! They have no definite knowledge of it, but merely follow conjecture; and they surely slew him not

[\[The Monotheist Group\] \(2013 Edition\)](#)

And their saying: "We have killed the Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, messenger of God!" And they had not killed him, nor crucified him, but it appeared to them as if they had. And those who dispute are in doubt regarding him, they have no knowledge except to follow conjecture; they did not kill him for a certainty.

[Mohammad Shafi](#)

And their saying that they indeed killed the Messiah Jesus, son of Mary, Messenger of Allah. And they killed him not; nor did they crucify him. But it so appeared to them. And those indeed,

who differ therein, are certainly in doubt. They have no knowledge about it, but follow only conjecture. And they killed him not for sure.

Controversial or status undetermined works Ahmed Raza Khan (Barelvi)

And for their saying. 'We slew the Messiah, Jesus son of Mary, the Messenger of Allah', Whereas they slew him not and neither crucified him, **but one was made like him for them**. And those who are differing about him, certainly, they are in doubt regarding' him. They have not the least knowledge about it, but merely following a conjecture, and undoubtedly, they slew him' not.

[Rashad Khalifa](#)

And for claiming that they killed the Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, the messenger of GOD. In fact, they never killed him, they never crucified him - they were made to think that they did. All factions who are disputing in this matter are full of doubt concerning this issue. They possess no knowledge; they only conjecture. For certain, they never killed him.

Hasan Al-Fatih Qaribullah

and for their saying, 'We killed the Messiah, Jesus the son of Mary, the Messenger (and Prophet) of Allah.' They did not kill him, nor did they crucify him, **but to them, he (the crucified) had been given the look (of Prophet Jesus)**. Those who differ concerning him (Prophet Jesus) are surely in doubt regarding him, they have no knowledge of him, except the following of supposition, and (it is) a certainty they did not kill him

[Maulana Muhammad Ali](#)

And for their saying: We have killed the Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, the messenger of Allah, and they killed him not, nor did they cause his death on the cross, but he was made to appear to them as such. And certainly those who differ therein are in doubt about it. They have no knowledge about it, but only follow a conjecture, and they killed him not for certain

[Muhammad Ahmed - Samira](#)

And their saying: "We have killed the Messiah, Jesus, Mary's son, God's messenger, and they have not killed him, and they have not crucified him/placed him on a cross, and but (it) resembled/was vague/was doubtful to them, and that those who disagreed/disputed in (about) him (are) in (E) doubt/suspicion from him, (there is) no knowledge for them with (about) him, except following the assumption, and they have not killed him surely/certainly

[Bijan Moeinian](#)

They [proudly] spread a rumor that: "We killed Jesus, son of Mary." For sure they did neither kill Jesus nor crucify him. Their wishful thinking has created so much confusion in account of the lack of [historical] proof for their saying. Know for sure that they did not kill him

Faridul Haque

And because they said, "We have killed the Messiah, Eisa the son of Maryam, the Messenger of Allah"; they did not slay him nor did they crucify him, **but a look-alike was created for them**; and those who disagree concerning it are in doubt about it; they know nothing of it, except the following of assumptions; and without doubt, they did not kill him

[Sher Ali](#)

And for their saying, 'We did slay the Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, the Messenger of ALLAH;' whereas they slew him not, nor did they bring about his death upon the cross, but he was made to appear to them like one crucified; and those who differ therein are certainly in a state of doubt about it; they have no certain knowledge thereof, but only pursue a conjecture; and they did not arrive at a certainty concerning it

[Dr. Mohammad Tahir-ul-Qadri](#)

And (also) because of their uttering (the boastful claim): 'We (have) killed Allah's Messenger, the Messiah, 'Isa, the son of Maryam (Jesus, the son of Mary),' whereas they neither killed nor crucified him. **But (in truth) someone was made the like (of 'Isa—Jesus) in their view.** But those who disagree about him have surely fallen prey to doubt (concerning) this (murder). They know nothing (what the truth is) except (that they are) following fancy. And they certainly did not murder 'Isa (Jesus)

[Amatul Rahman Omar](#)

And because of their (falsely) claiming, 'We did kill the Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, the (false) Messenger of Allah,' whereas they killed him not, nor did they cause his death by crucifixion, but he was made to them to resemble (one crucified to death). Verily, those who differ therein are certainly in (a state of) confusion about it. They have no definite knowledge of the matter but are only following a conjecture. They did not kill him, this much is certain (and thus could not prove the Christ as accursed)

[Muhsin Khan & Muhammad al-Hilali](#)

And because of their saying (in boast), "We killed Messiah Iesa (Jesus), son of Maryam (Mary), the Messenger of Allah," - but they killed him not, nor crucified him, **but the resemblance of Iesa (Jesus) was put over another man (and they killed that man);** and those who differ therein are full of doubts. They have no (certain) knowledge, they follow nothing but conjecture. For surely; they killed him not (i.e. Iesa (Jesus), son of Maryam (Mary))

Non-Muslim and/or Orientalist works [Arthur John Arberry](#)

and for their saying, 'We slew the Messiah, Jesus son of Mary, the Messenger of God' -- yet they did not slay him, neither crucified him, only a likeness of that was shown to them. Those who are at variance concerning him surely are in doubt regarding him; they have no knowledge of him, except the following of surmise; and they slew him not of a certainty -- no indeed

[George Sale](#)

and have said, verily we have slain Christ Jesus the son of Mary, the apostle of God; yet they slew him not, neither crucified him, **but he was represented by one in his likeness;** and verily they who disagreed concerning him, were in a doubt as to this matter, and had no sure knowledge thereof, but followed only an uncertain opinion. They did not really kill him

[Edward Henry Palmer](#)

and for their saying, 'Verily, we have killed the Messiah, Jesus the son of Mary, the apostle of God'.... but they did not kill him, and they did not crucify him, **but a similitude was made for them.** And verily, those who differ about him are in doubt concerning him; they have no knowledge concerning him, but only follow an opinion. They did not kill him, for sure

[John Medows Rodwell](#)

And for their saying, "Verily we have slain the Messiah, Jesus the son of Mary, an Apostle of God." Yet they slew him not, and they crucified him not, **but they had only his likeness.** And they who differed about him were in doubt concerning him: No sure knowledge had they about him, but followed only an opinion, and they did not really slay him

[N J Dawood \(2014\)](#)

They declared: 'We have killed the Christ, Jesus son of Mary, the apostle of God.' They did not kill him, nor did they crucify him, but they thought they did.¹ Those that disagreed about him were in doubt concerning him; they knew nothing about him that was not sheer conjecture; they did not slay him for certain

New, Partial, or In Progress Translations [Linda "iLHam" Barto](#)

They also said that they killed Jesus the Messiah, son of Mary, Allah's messenger. But they did not kill him or crucify him, although such was made apparent to them. Those who differ about this are full of doubts about it with no authentic knowledge, but only conjecture to follow. For certain, they did not kill him!

[Sayyid Qutb](#)

and their boast: "We have killed the Christ Jesus, son of Mary, God's Messenger." They did not kill him, and neither did they crucify him, but it only seemed to them [as if it had been] so. Those who hold conflicting views about him are indeed confused, having no real knowledge about it, and following mere conjecture. For, of a certainty, they did not kill him.

[Ahmed Hulusi](#)

And for saying, "We killed the Rasul of Allah, Jesus, the son of Mary"... In truth, they neither killed nor crucified him, but it was made to appear to them so (the crucified one). Those who argue about this are in doubt of it; they have no certain knowledge about it, they only talk with assumptions. What is certain is that Jesus was definitely not killed!

[Sayyed Abbas Sadr-Ameli](#)

And because of their saying (in boast) : ' Verily we slew Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, Allah's Messenger; ' but they did not slay him nor did they crucify him, but it appeared to them (a likeness of that) ; and indeed those who differ therein are only in doubt about it, they have no knowledge respecting it, but only follow a conjecture, and, certainly, they did not slay him

[Al-muntakhab fi tafsir al-Qur'an al-Karim](#)

And their false allegation that they slew the Messiah, Isa, the son of Maryam, the Messenger of Allah, when in fact they never killed him nor did they crucify him but they thought they did (See introduction). And those who disputed his fate were themselves in a state of uncertainty as to the truth and reality of the incident; their belief was based on empty knowledge and their supposition was formed on grounds admittedly insufficient, for indeed they just did not slay him but the guilt nevertheless resided in the intention

Mir Aneesuddin

and (due to) their saying, "We killed Messiah, Isa the son of Maryam, messenger of Allah." And they did not kill him nor did they crucify him, **but for them, he (the one crucified) was made to resemble (Isa)**, and those who differ in it are certainly in a doubt about it. They do not have any knowledge of it, they follow nothing but conjecture and they certainly did not kill him.

Obsolete and/or older editions [Yusuf Ali \(Orig. 1938\)](#)

That they said (in boast), "We killed Christ Jesus the son of Mary, the Apostle of God";- but they killed him not, nor crucified him, but so it was made to appear to them, and those who differ therein are full of doubts, with no (certain) knowledge, but only conjecture to follow, for of a surety they killed him not:

OLD Literal Word for Word

And for their saying, "Indeed, we killed the Messiah, Isa, son (of) Maryam, (the) Messenger (of) Allah." And not they killed him and not they crucified him but it was made to appear (so) to them. And indeed, those who differ in it (are) surely in doubt about it. Not for them about it [of] (any) knowledge except (the) following (of) assumption. And not they killed him, certainly

