



Those who were given the holy book before the Quran are called the People of the Book or *Ahl al-Kitab*. It usually means the Jews and the Christians.



In general the Quran gives them a very special status:

“There are among the People of the Book some who are upright; who recite Allah’s message throughout the night, and prostrate themselves before Him.”



Muslims are asked to argue with them
in "the most courteous manner:"

"Say: 'We believe in that which is
revealed to us and which was revealed
to you. Our God and your God is one.
To Him we surrender ourselves.'"



Among the other People of the Book,
the Quran considers the Christians as the
nearest in brotherly love to the Muslims:

“The nearest of them in affection to the
believers are those who say: ‘We are
Christians.’ That is because there are priests
and monks among them, and because they
are free from pride.”