It is true that the traditional narrative of Muhammad’s life contains gives no reliable data to reconstruct the proto-history of Islam. The proposal of a “Jewish connection” to Islamic origins is not new; Historical Writing, Studies in Late Antiquity and Early Islam 14 (Princeton, NJ: Darwin Press, 1998), 80. The Life of the Prophet Muhammad (HI-536 online) Instructor: Omer . Narratives of Islamic Origins: The Beginnings of Islamic Historical Writing is a 1998 book by historiographer of early Islam Fred Donner. The work was first published in January 1998 through Darwin Press as the fourteenth volume in the Studies in Late Antiquity and Early Islam series many reasons, not least because it clarifies the history of the issues that have