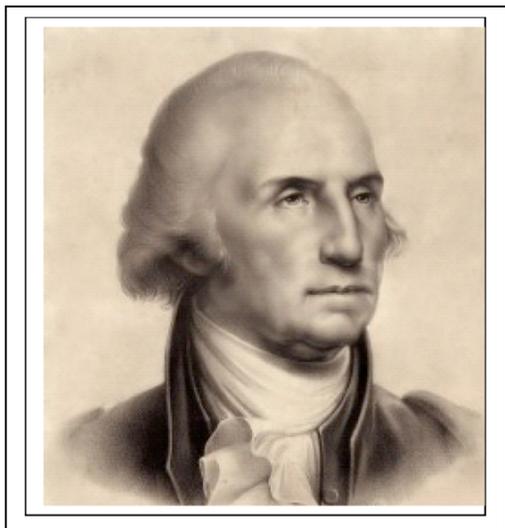




A Quote from George Washington:



Location in Three Faiths: Revelation

“May the children of the stock of Abraham who dwell in this land, continue to merit and enjoy the good will of the other inhabitants; while everyone shall sit in safety under own his own vine and fig tree, and there shall be none to make him afraid.”

This quote was excerpted from a letter written by George Washington to the Jesuit Israel congregation of Touro Synagogue in Newport Rhode Island, when this country was in the midst of The Revolutionary War. No doubt this turbulent period raised concerns from this small Hebrew congregation about its continued religious freedoms. Wanting to boldly affirm these rights, Moses Seixas, the warden of the Synagogue wrote a letter to the President praising him and vowing his congregations’ support. The President’s response served to allay their fears to declare this country’s support of these freedoms.



Bible for Native Americans

Location in Three Faiths: Spreading the Word

John Elliot, Editor
Cambridge, Massachusetts
Samuel Green and Marmaduke Johnson, 1661
NYPL, Rare Books Division

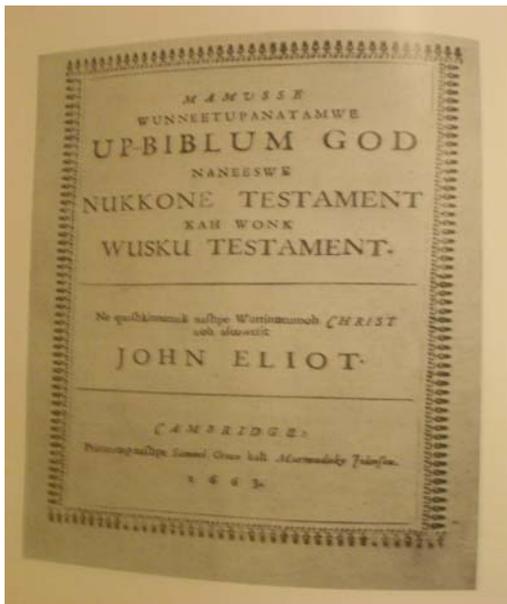


Image 1: Google

Image 2: <http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/id?1227948> (John Eliot speaking to Natives)

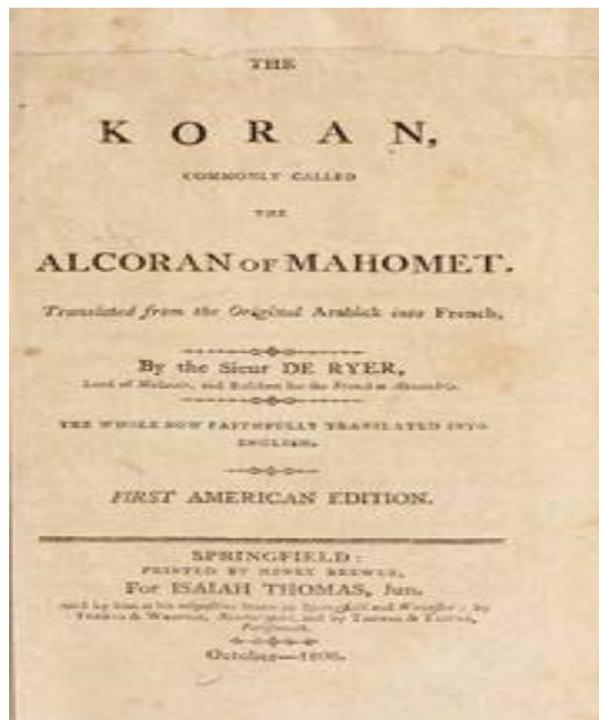
Mamusse Wunneetupanamwe - The bible for Native Americans has the significance of being the first bible printed in the United States in the native Algonquian Indian Language. English and European language bibles were printed an entire century later. John Eliot also went on to write books that would enable better communication between settlers and native tribes and dispel some of the misconceptions about Indians and their “savagery” as they were lacking a written language similar to that of the European settlers.



Qur'an in Federal America

Location in Three Faiths: Spreading the Word

The Koran Alcara of Mohamet
Henry Brewer, Springfield Massachusetts for Isaiah Thomas, 1806
NYPL, Rare Books Division



Art work: [http://openlibrary.org/books/OL6346532M/The Koran commonly called the Alcoran of Mahomet](http://openlibrary.org/books/OL6346532M/The_Koran_commonly_called_the_Alcoran_of_Mahomet)

The Alcoran of Mahomet is the first American edition of the Koran originally translated from Arabic into French by Sieur de Ryer. In 1806 it was translated into English by Henry Brewer. Islam was introduced to the new colonies and predated the newly arriving Muslim African slaves in the 1600's. However, many of these slaves wrote their Qur'ans in Arabic from memory spreading this religion throughout the country. Thomas Jefferson was known to own a copy of the Koran.



The Gutenberg Bible

Location in Three Faiths: Spreading the Word

And Main Reading Room, NYPL

Research call number: JAX B-6335



The Gutenberg bible was acquired by John Lenox in 1847. John Lenox was interested in The American History and formed an Americana collection which included this copy. At the time, it was a very exciting venture. The Gutenberg printing press, created by Johann Gutenberg (1390-1468) in 1455 revolutionized book making and the spread of literary information throughout the world. Originally, 148 of these bibles were printed, of which 45 were on vellum. This copy is 1,300 pages and made of paper. Currently only 48 exist in the world. The NYPL proudly owns two copies.



Psalms for the New England Puritan

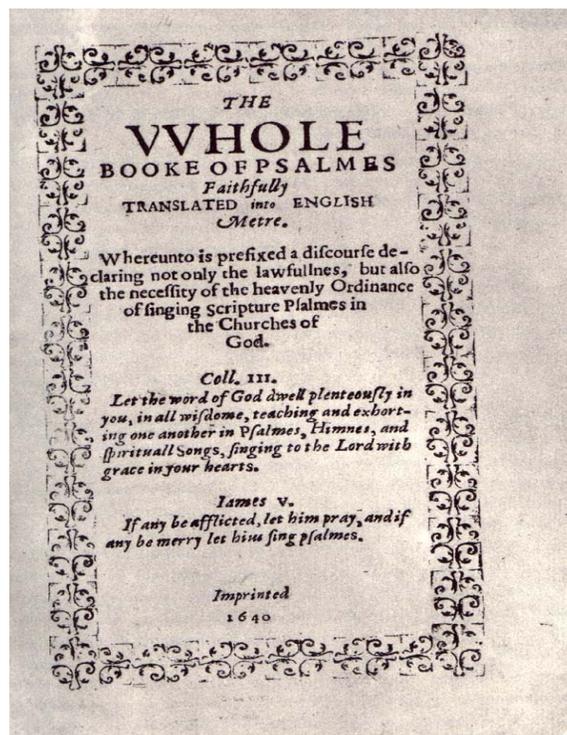
Location in Three Faiths: Spreading the Word

The whole book of psalms translated (Bay Psalm Book)

Cambridge, Massachusetts

Stephen Dave, 1640

NYPL, Rare Books Division



The Whole Booke of Psalms, also known as the Bay Book of Psalms, was translated from Hebrew and Greek, into English by John Eliot, Richard Mather, and Thomas Welde. Printed in 1640, just 25 years after the arrival of the first Pilgrims in Plymouth, Massachusetts, it is the first book that was printed in the English colonies of North America. It quickly spread to the American colonies and speaks of the importance and lawfulness of having religion and scripture in one's life.



Coming to America

Location in Three Faiths: Spreading the Word

Tefillah Mt. Khol

Hu-Shanah

Minhah Ketanah (Small offering)

1860, Dorot Jewish Division



The Minhah Ketanah (small offering) prayer book made it possible for private prayer in the new land. It was originally printed in Germany in 1842, at a time of increased immigration to the United States, when thousands of Jews from German lands immigrated here escaping political unrest and religious persecution. Between 1840 and 1860 the Jewish population in the new world ballooned from 15,000 to 150,000, and the book's intended audience was for these travelers on their long journey to the new world.