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Deepak Chopra's 'Muhammad' to Be Released Early as E-Book

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"Muhammad," Deepak Chopra's fictionalized biography about the life of the Prophet Muhammad, will go on sale early in e-book form, weeks ahead of the print book's publication date of Sept. 21.

HarperCollins, the book's publisher, authorized Amazon and other e-book retailers to sell the book beginning Wednesday, trying to meet demand for the book since the national conversation has turned to Islam and [the planned community center and mosque](#) near ground zero.

It was the first time that HarperCollins had placed an e-book for sale before the print edition.

Dr. Chopra, an Indian-born spiritual guru and leader of alternative medicine, has written other so-called teaching novels about the founders of world religions, including his best-selling books "Buddha" and "Jesus."

"Books spark conversations, and in this case a national conversation has erupted," Michael Morrison, the president and publisher of HarperCollins's general books division for the United States and Canada, said in a statement. "As the publisher, we want our titles to be available in a timely manner to meet consumer demand and increase readership for our authors; digital publishing allows us to react quickly to achieve these goals."