

Exposition on the Manifesto for Islamic Reform

(Introduction of upcoming The Quran: A Reformist Translation)

"O people, a proof has come to you from your Lord, and We have sent down to you a guiding light." (4:174)

"and do not make corruption on the Earth after it has been reformed" (7:85)

"It is one of the great ones. A warning to humanity. For any among you who wishes to progress or regress" (74:36-37).

By Dr. Edip Yuksel

The influence of the religion concocted by clerics during the Umayyad and Abbasid dynasties is still dominant in Muslim countries. The blasphemous idea that the Quran is incomplete, unintelligible, and insufficient for spiritual guidance created a huge demand for religious books, and clergymen with big turbans and long beards supplied volumes of them. The masses were told that those books were going to complete, explain, and detail the Quranic revelation. These clerics thus implied that God was not a wise and articulate author; He could not make His message sufficiently clear and he failed to provide guidance on many issues, sometimes even issues involving important spiritual principles and practices. Without these supplementary books, the Quran was of limited use to the individual seeking religious guidance. Some even went so far as to declare that reading the Quran alone would mislead the reader. Numerous books of *hadith* and sectarian jurisprudence (*sharia*) were labeled "authentic" and for all practical purposes, they replaced the Quran. The Quran was not a book to be understood on its own; people needed to read books written by professional narrators, collectors, editors, and scholars of hearsay and speculation. Many people got lost among the volumes of books written to interpret and explain the Quran and did not find sufficient time to study the Quran itself. The privileged few who did find that time, had little chance of understanding it, since their minds were tainted with man-made religious instructions, and their logic had been corrupted by contradictory teachings or what we call might call "holy viruses."

Although religious scholars, clerics and their blind followers have always demonstrated the utmost formal respect for the Quran as physical media, (the leather or paper on which the verses of the Quran were written) they lost faith in, and respect for its message. Verses of the Quran are hung in high places on the walls, touched and treated with utmost reverence, yet Muslims rarely refer to them for their guidance. They are too confused by the contradictory and tangled maze of thousands of *hadith* falsely attributed to Muhammad and lost among the trivial details of sectarian books. When they occasionally refer to the Quran, it is most likely to be in an abusive manner, abusing the verses by taking them out of context and using them as slogans to declare holy wars or justify aggression. The Quran that liberated people from the darkness of ignorance was transformed, soon after Muhammad's departure, to a book whose verses were recited for the dead, an amulet carried by the mentally and physically sick, and a paper idol to be revered and feared.

Though the Quran is considered one of the most read books, millions of Muslims read the Quran without understanding it. Even if their native language is Arabic, they are taught not to trust their understanding. The Quran might be the most read book, but unfortunately, due to the concerted effort of religious clerics, it has been turned to the least understood and the least followed popular book in history.

When the mass reversion from the progressive and enlightening message of the Quran started, those who rejected the fabricated *hadith* and *Sunna*, the Arab version of Jewish Mishna and Gemara, they were labeled as "*murtad*" (apostates) and they were threatened, tortured and murdered by the followers of *hadith* and *sunna*. For instance, a critical study of the Muslim history will reveal that Abu Hanifa was one of those courageous monotheists (*hanif*) who was persecuted during both the Umayyad and Abbasid dynasties. During his lifetime, he was accused of not accepting *hadith*. However, the murderers took advantage of his growing reputation after his death and led the creation of a Sunni sect falsely attributed to him.

The Origins of Hislam

After the death of the Prophet Muhammad, a diabolic event happened. In direct contradiction to the teachings of the Quran, male clerics dedicated the religion not to God alone, but to a "holy" corporation consisting of:

God +

Muhammad +

Muhammad's companions +

The companions of Muhammad's companions +

Early sect leaders +

Late sect leaders +

Early scholars of a particular sect +

Late scholars of a particular sect, and so on.

The product of this corporation was the *hadith* (teachings attributed to Muhammad), the *Sunna* (actions attributed to Muhammad), the *Ijma* (consensus of a select group of early scholars), and the *Sharia* (religious decrees by early scholars). The result was numerous hostile factions that afflicted a great amount of division and atrocities in the land about thirty years after the departure of Muhammad (6: 159; 23: 52-56). This concoction of medieval Arab/Christian/Jewish cultures was introduced to the masses as God's infallible religion, as delivered by the last prophet. The only thing actually delivered by God to Muhammad, however, was the text of the Holy Quran, which is set out as the final and authoritative divine message to humankind:

"Once We recite it, you shall follow such a recitation (Quran). Then, it is We who will explain it."
(75: 18-19)

Unfortunately, ignorance, intolerance, misogynist teachings, superstitions, and outdated practices have accumulated over the centuries in interpreting and translating the holy book of Islam. It is time to re-introduce the actual message of the Quran. It is time to remove the accumulated layers of man-made dogmas and traditions that have attached themselves to the text. (6: 21; 7: 29; 9: 31; 16: 52; 39: 2, 11, 14; 40: 14, 65; 42: 21; 45: 17; 74: 1-56; 98: 5).

Under a very cruel theocratic state terror, many men mobilized to participate in the creation what we rightly call Hislam. They did not have much chance to add or subtract to what was considered The Quran, but there was a lot of room for innovations, superstitions, additions and distortions through fabricating *hadith*. When a man from Bukhara started collecting hearsay more than two hundred years after the departure of the prophet Muhammad, the landscape and social demographics were fertile for all kinds of theological concoctions and mutations. Those people and their parents had participated in numerous sectarian wars and atrocities. Many educated Gentiles, Christians and Jews were converted to Islam for dubious reasons. Most of these converts had never experienced a paradigm change; they just found it convenient to integrate their culture and most of their previous religious ideas with the new one. To justify and promote their version of religion, the elite started packaging and introducing their religious, cultural, and political ideas and practices under the brand names of *hadith*, *sunna*, commentaries, and *fatwas*. Besides, they fabricated numerous stories called "*asbab ul-nuzul*" (the reasons for revelation) about why each verse was revealed, thereby distorting the meaning or limiting the scope of many Quranic verses. There was a great effort and competition to distort the meaning of words, taking them out of context to promote the agenda of a certain religion, culture, tribe, sect, cult, or king. Male chauvinists, hermits, misogynists too took advantage of this deformation movement. Hearsay statements attributing words and deeds to Muhammad and his idolized comrades became the most powerful tool or Trojan horse, for promotion of diverse political propaganda, cultural assimilation, and even commercial advertisement. As a result, the Quran was deserted and its message was heavily distorted. [\[1\]](#)

Soon after Muhammad's death, thousands of *hadiths* (words attributed to Muhammad) were fabricated and two centuries later collected, and centuries later were compiled and written in the so-called "authentic" *hadith* books:

to support the teaching of a particular sect against another (for instance, what nullifies ablution; which sea food is prohibited);

to flatter or justify the authority and practice of a particular king against dissidents (such as, Mahdy and Dajjal);

to promote the interest of a particular tribe or family (such as, favoring Quraysh tribe or Muhammad's family);

to justify sexual abuse and misogyny (such as, Aisha's age; barring women from leading Salat prayers);

to justify violence, oppression and tyranny (such as, torturing members of Urayna and Uqayla tribes, massacring Jewish population in Medina, assassinating a female poet for her critical poems);

to exhort more rituals and righteousness (such as, nawafil prayers);

to validate superstitions (such as, magic; worshipping the black stone near Kaba);

to prohibit certain things and actions (such as, prohibiting drawing animal and human figures, playing musical instruments, chess);

to import Jewish and Christian beliefs and practices (such as, death by stoning, circumcision, head scarf, hermitism, rosary);

to resurrect pre-islamic beliefs and practices common among Meccans (such as, intercession; slavery; tribalism; mysoginism);

to please crowds with stories (such as the story of Mirage (ascension to heaven) and bargaining for prayers);

to idolize Muhammad and claim his superiority to other messengers (such as, numerous miracles, including splitting the moon);

to defend *hadith* fabrications against monotheists (such as, condemning those who find the Quran alone sufficient); and even

to advertise products of a particular farm (such as, the benefits of dates grown in a town called Ajwa).

In addition to the above mentioned reasons, many *hadith* were fabricated to explain the meaning of the "difficult" Quranic words or phrases, or to distort the meaning of verses that contradicted the fabricated *hadith*, or to provide trivial information not mentioned in the Quran (such as, Saqar, 2:187; 8:35â€¦)

Islam versus Hislam

Let's first check the Quran and enumerate some of the characteristics of Islam, the system of peace, submission and surrender to God alone.

Islam

is not a proper name, but a descriptive noun coming from the Arabic root of surrendering/submission/peace, used by God to describe the system delivered by all His messengers and prophets (5:111; 10:72; 98:5), which reached another stage with Abraham (4:125; 22:78).

is surrendering to God alone (2:112,131; 4:125; 6:71; 22:34; 40:66).

is a system with universal principles, which are in harmony with nature (3:83; 33:30; 35:43).

requires objective evidence besides personal experience (3:86; 2:111; 21:24; 74:30).

demands conviction not based on wishful thinking or feelings, but based on reason and evidence (17:36; 4:174; 8:42; 10:100; 11:17; 74:30-31).

esteems knowledge, education, and learning (35:28; 4:162; 9:122; 22:54; 27:40; 29:44,49).

promotes scientific inquiry regarding the evolution of human kind on earth (29:20).

rejects clergymen and intermediaries between god and people (2:48; 9:31-34). Æ

condemns profiteering from religion (9:34; 2:41,79,174; 5:44; 9:9).

stands for liberty, accountability, and defiance of false authorities. (6:164).

stands for freedom of expression (2:256; 18:29; 10:99; 88:21-22).

requires consultation and representation in public affairs (42:38; 5:12).

promotes a democratic system where participation of all citizens is encouraged and facilitated (58:11).

prohibits bribery, and requires strict rules against the influence of interest groups and corporations in government (2:188).

requires election of officials based on qualifications and principles of justice (4:58).

promises justice to everyone, regardless of their creed or ethnicity (5:8).

acknowledges the rights of citizens to publicly petition against injustices committed by individuals or government (4:148).

encourages the distribution of wealth, economic freedom and social welfare (2:215, 59:7).

promotes utmost respect to individuals (5:32).

relates the of the quality of a society to the quality of individuals comprising it (13:11).

recognizes and protects individual right's to privacy (49:12).

recognizes the right to the presumption of innocence and right to confront the accuser (49:12).

provides protection for witnesses (2:282).

does not hold innocent people responsible for the crime of others (53:38).

protects right to personal property (2:85,188; 4:29; exception 24:29; 59:6-7).

discourages non-productive economy (2:275; 5:90; 3:130).

encourages charity and caring for the poor (6:141; 7:156).

unifies humanity by promoting gender and race equality. (49:13).

values women (3:195; 4:124; 16:97).

values intellect (5:90).

offers peace among nations (2:62; 2:135-136, 208).

considers the entire world belonging to all humanity and supports immigration (4:97-98).

promotes peace, while deterring the aggressive parties (60:8,9; 8:60).

pursues the golden-plated brazen rule of equivalence, that is, retaliation with occasional forgiveness (42:20; 17:33).

stands for human rights and the oppressed (4:75).

encourages competition in righteousness and morality. (16:90)

stands for peace, honesty, kindness, and deterring from wrong doing. (3:110)

expects high moral standards (25:63-76; 31:12-20; 23:1-11).

asks us to be in harmony with nature and environment (30:41).

teaches that the only system/law approved by god is Islam (3:19,85).

Through *hadith*, *Sunna* and sectarian jurisprudence, scholars produced a religion, which we properly call Hislam to replace God's system called *islam* or surrender and peace. The breadth and depth of distortion is astonishing. Here is a sample list of distortions made by the leaders of Sunni and Shiite sects, despite the Quranic teaching to the contrary. The list below is a selection of anti-Quranic teachings, which are found in the most respected Sunni or Shiite sources:

Teachings Based On The Man-Made Sources, Such As, <i>Hadith</i>, <i>Sunna</i>, <i>Ijma</i>, And <i>Sharia</i>^[1]	The Quranic verses That These Teachings Contradict, and Brief Discussions on their Sources
<p>Killing apostates, that is, those who leave Islam (read as Hislam), is commanded. Also anyone who verbally attacks or insults the prophet should be killed.</p> <p>Muhammad sent a platoon at night to kill a woman poet who criticized or insulted him.</p> <p>We are ordered to kill people until they declare "<i>la ilaha illa allah</i>"</p>	<p>Muhammad was not a tyrant. Islam promotes freedom of opinion, religion and expression. Muslims cannot use violence against even those who insult God (2:256; 4:140; 10:99; 18:29; 88:21,22).</p> <p>Critical studies on the history of <i>hadith</i> shows the origins of intolerant teachings found in <i>hadith</i> books to the Jewish scholars who claimed to have converted to Islam. Our intention is not to accuse Jews for the corruption, but to show the similarities and the common origin of the corruption. According to the Quran, every individual will be held responsible from his or her choices. So, no Muslim can save themselves on the Day of Judgment by pointing at a Jewish reporter of hearsay for their own betrayal of the Quran.</p> <p>Even the Sunni and Shiite scholars acknowledge the great influence of Jewish teachings and practices have found their way into <i>hadith</i> and <i>sunna</i>. They called them <i>Israiliyyat</i> and wrote volumes of books to analyze and expose them. However, despite their efforts, still many of those teachings passed their poor and inconsistent filters. We are not claiming that the only source of violent teachings came from corrupt Jewish teachings, but the influence is one of the historically documented main factors.</p> <p>Here are a few examples of intolerance and cruel punishment attributed to God through Moses (See Quran 2:79; 5:13; 5:41) for those who harbor different opinions or choose different religious beliefs:</p> <p>"The Lord said to Moses: 'Take the blasphemer outside the camp. All those who heard him are to lay their hands on his head, and the entire assembly is to stone him. Say to the Israelites: If anyone curses his God, he will be held</p>

	<p>responsible; anyone who blasphemes the name of the Lord must be put to death. The entire assembly must stone him. Whether an alien or native-born, when he blasphemes the Name, he must be put to death.... Then Moses spoke to the Israelites, and they took the blasphemer outside the camp and stoned him. The Israelites did as the Lord commanded Moses." (Leviticus 24:13-16).</p> <p>"If your very own brother, or your son or daughter, or the wife you love, or your closest friend secretly entices you, saying, 'Let us go and worship other gods' ... Show him no pity. Do not spare him or shield him. You must certainly put him to death. Your hand must be the first in putting him to death, and then the hands of all the people. Stone him to death, because he tried to turn you away from the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out the land of slavery. Then all Israel will hear and be afraid, and no one among you will do such an evil thing again." (Deuteronomy 13:6-11).</p> <p>"Then shall thou bring forth that man or that woman, which have committed that wicked thing, unto thy gates, even that man or that woman, and shall stone them with stones, till they die" (Deuteronomy 17:5).</p> <p>The first five books of the Old Testament do not exactly correspond to the book given to Moses since they contain interesting clues about the distortions and additions made in the name of Moses (Deuteronomy 34:5- 10; Numbers 12:3).</p> <p>Ironically, the Jews are no more following these instructions, and many of them do not have even desire to resurrect them. They left them to the followers of <i>hadith</i> and <i>sunna</i> who are dreaming a world based on those fabricated Jewish instructions. No wonder, the minds and attitude of a Jewish zealot and a Sunni zealot are much alike, like twins. Yet, they hate each other.</p>
<p>Those who do not observe daily prayers should be beaten in public.</p>	<p>The Quran mentions daily contact prayers about 70 times, and nowhere has it instructed us to beat or harass those who do not observe them. Contact prayers are to be observed for the one and only God (20: 14). This rule is an assault on the dignity, which God has bestowed on humanity (17: 70) and promotes the observance of prayer for fear of social chastisement rather than for God, as they</p>

	<p>should be (6:162).</p> <p>The <i>hadith</i> reports again follow the Jewish tradition imposing severe penalties for those who commit sins or do not observe their expected religious rituals. For instance, those who violate the Sabbath, according to the Old Testament must be stoned to death (Numbers 15:32-36).</p>
<p>Married adulterers should be stoned to death (<i>al-rajm</i>).</p>	<p>Stoning-to-death is never recommended in the Quran as a punishment for any crime. It was a Jewish practice which found its way into Muslims' practice centuries after the revelation of the Quran, through <i>hadith</i> and <i>sunna</i>. The God who legislated hundred lashes for married adulterers who accept the jurisdiction of Islam (24:1-10; 4:25) is the same God who made the Quran clear (24:1), who does not have any shortage of words (31:27), who is the best legislator (5:50), who does not forget (19:64), and has detailed the Quran (11:1; 6:114; 12:111).</p> <p>Ironically, the word <i>rajm</i> is used in the Quran not for stoning but for rejecting and excommunicating. This is a common threat used by pagans against monotheists (11:91; 19:46; 36:18; 18:20).</p> <p>The Old Testament instructs a stoning to death penalty for various sins and crimes, including witchcraft; blasphemy, violating the Sabbath, and murder:</p> <p>"Again, thou shall say to the children of Israel, Whosoever he be of the children of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn in Israel, that gives any of his seed unto Molech; he shall surely be put to death: the people of the land shall stone him with stones" (Leviticus 20:2).</p> <p>"A man also or woman that hath a familiar spirit, or that is a wizard, shall surely be put to death: they shall stone them with stones: their blood shall be upon them" (Leviticus 20:27).</p> <p>"And he that blasphemeth the name of the LORD, he shall surely be put to death, and all the congregation shall certainly stone him: as well the stranger, as he that is born in the land, when he blasphemeth the name of the LORD, shall be put to death (Leviticus 24:16)."</p> <p>"And the LORD said unto Moses, The man shall be surely put to death: all the congregation shall stone him with stones</p>

	<p>without the camp (Numbers 15: 35).^Å</p> <p>"And if he smite him with throwing a stone, wherewith he may die, and he die, he is a murderer: the murderer shall surely be put to death (Numbers 35: 17).^Å</p>
<p>There was a Quranic verse instructing stoning to death for married adulterers, but it was eaten by a hungry holy goat after Muhammad's death. Though these verses were abrogated through the goat, they are still legally binding and their meaning is valid.</p>	<p>This is an absurd lie. There is no abrogation in the Quran. 4: 82; 6: 21; 15: 9; 15: 90-99; 2: 85; 6: 19, 38, 43, 112-115; 7: 52; 10: 15, 37; 16: 89; 18: 27; 41: 42.</p>
<p>Omar, the second Caliph, wanted to restore the Quran by reinserting the verses eaten by the goat; but he could not do it because of his fear of what people would say.</p>	<p>It is most likely a lie attributed to Omar. Regardless, the Quran is not left to be tempered by someone's decision, including Muhammad (15: 9; 74: 30; 41: 41, 42; 9: 127; 75: 17-19). A Muslim reveres God and is not afraid of what other people would say. (3: 175; 5: 54; 32: 16; 39: 36; 50: 45; 74: 53).</p>
<p>Those who are caught consuming alcohol for the fourth time should be killed.</p>	<p>The Quran suggests society penalize crimes that incur injustice or harm of a person; the Quran does not ask us to penalize immorality or personal sins. People may regulate or restrict the consumption of alcohol or drugs. This should not be done in the name of God, which gives it absolute power. Human experience shows that production, sales, and consumption of alcohol or drugs should not be prohibited by the society. People should have freedom to choose to be stupid, to commit sins, including the biggest one, which is, setting partners to God (2: 256; 18: 29).</p> <p>It is no coincidence that we find many Jewish customs (such as circumcision), stories (such as ascension to the seventh heaven), penalties (such as stoning to death), etc., entering Islam through <i>hadith</i> narrations, since many Jewish scholars, became respected figures after their "conversion."^Å</p> <p>Chapter 20 of LEVITICUS contains a list of very severe punishments for various sins. The severity of the prescribed punishment, though is harsher and more diverse than we find in <i>hadith</i>, the</p>

	<p>following examples will provide an insight regarding deformation. For instance,</p> <p>• cursing one's own father of mother would prompt death penalty;</p> <p>• a man marrying a woman together with her daughter must be burned in the fire.</p> <p>• homosexual men must be put to death.</p> <p>• people found guilty of bestiality, together with the animals must be put to death.</p> <p>And many more death and burning penalties! The following penalty prescribed by the Old Testament is both bizarre and unjust:</p> <p>"If two men are fighting and the wife of one of them comes to rescue her husband from his assailant, and she reaches out and seizes him by his private parts, you shall cut off her hand. Show her no pity." (Deuteronomy 25: 11-12).</p>
<p>There were three Jewish tribes in Medina: Banu Qaynuqa, Banu al-Nadir and Banu Qurayza. They provoked Muslims and the first two tribes were forced to leave the city with their transportable possessions. However, prophet Muhammad did not forgive Banu Qurayza; their necks were struck and their children were made slaves. Estimates of those killed vary from 400 to 900.</p>	<p>The Quran refers to the event and never mentions killing or enslaving them, which is in direct contradiction of many verses of the Quran. The Quran, in the Chapter known as Exodus, informs us that a group from "The People of the Book" were forced to leave the territory because of their violation of the Medina constitution and secretly organizing war together with their enemies against Muslims (59:1-4). Verse 59:3 clearly states that they were not penalized further in this world.</p> <p>The credibility of the story of Muhammad massacring Bani Qurayza Jews has been the subject controversial since the time it was published by Ibn Ishaq. Ibn Ishaq who died in 151 A.H., that is 145 years after the event in question, was severely criticized by his peers for relying on highly exaggerated Jewish stories. He was also harshly criticized for presenting forged poetry attributed to famous poets. Some of his contemporary scholars, such as Malik, called him "a liar." However, his work was later copied by others without critical examination. This is an example of a hearsay used by Jewish reporters for propaganda purposes.</p> <p>Modern scholars found astonishing similarities between Ibn Ishaq and the account of historian Josephus regarding</p>

	<p>king Alexander, who ruled in Jerusalem before Herod the Great, hung upon crosses 800 Jewish captives, and slaughtered their wives and children before their eyes. Many other similarities in details of the story of Banu Qurayza and the event reported by Josephus are compelling.</p> <p>Besides, the lack of reference or justification in the Quran for such a massacre of great magnitude and the verses instructing principles for muslims to abide by takes all credibility out of this story (35: 18: 61: 4). The Quran gives utmost importance to human life (5: 32) and considers racism and anti-Semitism as evil (49: 11-13).</p>
<p>The prophet gave permission to kill children and women in war.</p>	<p>There is no such permission in the Quran. This instruction, which is used by Islamic terrorists to justify their killing of innocent people for their cause, contradicts one of the most often repeated Quranic principles of not holding responsible one person for the crime of another. (6: 164; 17: 15; 35: 18; 39: 7; 53: 38). The Quran, which condemns the unappreciative people for attacking weak men, women and children (4: 75), would not justify the same action for muslims.</p> <p>This and many other vicious instructions found in the so-called "authentic" <i>hadith</i> books, including Bukhari, had a major motive: to provide religious justification for aggression, atrocities, and massacres committed by the Umayyad and Abbasid kings and their governors.</p> <p>Another source of these instructions for violence and terrorism comes from Jewish literature, which found its way into <i>hadith</i> books through the Jewish scholars who supposedly converted to Islam. The Old Testament contains numerous instructions for violence and terror, which cannot be attributed to a benevolent and just God. They are mixed and introduced together with beautiful and constructive instructions:</p> <p>"And they devoted the city to the Lord and they utterly destroyed all that was in the city, both man and woman, young and old, and ox, and sheep, and ass, with the edge of the sword." (Joshua 6:21).</p> <p>"Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel</p>

and ass." (1Samuel 15:3).

Also see the following verses from the Old Testament:

Exodus 22:18-19

Leviticus 20:1-27;

Leviticus 21:16-23

Leviticus 24:13-23;

Numbers 15:32-36;

Numbers 31:1-18;

Deuteronomy 13:6-10;

Deuteronomy 17:2-7;

Deuteronomy 20:16-17

Deuteronomy 22:23-24;

Deuteronomy 25:11-12;

Joshua 6:20-21; 1

Judges 1:4-12;

Judges 3:22,29;

1 Samuel 15:3;

2 Kings 2:23-24;

2 Chronicles 15:13;

2 Chronicles 36:17;

Psalms 58:10-11;

Psalms 137:9;

Psalms 149:6-9;

Isaiah 13:13-16;

Jeremiah 10:10;

Jeremiah 12:1-3;

Jeremiah 13:13-15;

Jeremiah 16:4;

Jeremiah 48:10;

Jeremiah 51:10-24;

	<p>Ezekiel 9: 5-6;</p> <p>Ezekiel 23: 25;</p> <p>Zephaniah 3: 8.</p> <p>The New Testament, however, contains a different teaching. Nevertheless, since the New Testament relies on many verses of the Old Testament and there are ambiguities regarding the degree of its validity for Christians, Christians have justified many barbaric acts, atrocities, and torture by using and abusing the verses of both Old and New Testament.</p> <p>Matthew 5: 17-19, 29-30;</p> <p>Matthew 10: 34;</p> <p>Matthew 19: 12;</p> <p>Matthew 21: 19;</p> <p>John 15: 6 (was abused by church and used together with Exodus 22: 18 to burn witches)</p> <p>1 Peter 2: 13-14 (following this instruction, many atrocities and wars committed by Christians)</p>
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[\[1\]](#) Every sect does not necessarily subscribe to all of the following theological statements, but most are common belief catechism among the major sects who have abandoned the Quran).

<p>When Muhammad was 53 years-old, he married Aisha who was only 9 years-old.</p>	<p>This is another lie by the enemies of God and His messenger. They tried to create a moon-splitting, tree-moving, child-crippling superman with the sexual power of 30 males (Verse 24: 11-12 with its non-specific language, prophetically addresses this lie too). Muhammad was an honorable person and would not have sexual relationship with a child (68: 4). Discrepancies in the historical account show a deliberate attempt to reduce Aisha's age. This lie is perhaps produced to justify the sexual excesses of kings and the wealthy. They tried to justify their violence, oppression, injustice, sexual transgressions, and many other crimes through the fabrication and promotion of <i>hadith</i>.</p>
<p>The menstruating women should not touch the Quran,</p>	<p>This is based on misunderstanding of at least two verses. Verse 56: 79 is not an inscriptive but a descriptive verse about</p>

<p>should not pray and should not enter the mosques.</p>	<p>understanding of the Quran. The only verse mentioning menstruation forbids sexual intercourse during menstruation since it is considered a painful period (2: 222), and does not forbid women from praying or reading the Quran.</p>
<p>Women should not lead congregational prayers, and it is not recommended for them to participate either.</p>	<p>The verse instructing those who acknowledge the truth to gather for congregational prayer does not exclude women (62: 9). The Quranic expression, "O you who acknowledge" includes both men and women. Thank God, we have ended this misogynistic rule since 1999 and women have been leading congregational prayers and giving speeches since then. The end of the world did not come, nor did anything bad happen. To the contrary, we are blessed with being a member of a balanced congregation</p>
<p>Women are mentally and spiritually inferior to men.</p> <p>If a donkey, a dog, or a woman passes in front of the praying person the prayer is nullified.</p> <p>Hell will be filled with mostly women; women are deficient in intelligence and religion.</p>	<p>These are male chauvinist statements that reflects a diabolic arrogance, and lack appreciation of half of human population, who are the mothers, sisters, friends, and wives (9: 71; 33: 35).</p> <p>This is another misogynistic statement falsely attributed to Muhammad by so-called "authentic" <i>hadith</i> books. If we measure the level of intelligence by people's response to those who questioned their dogmas and superstitious beliefs, men have not scored better than women. Most of those who committed violence against the messengers and prophets were the male leaders, and most of those who distorted their message after their departure, again were all male religious leaders.</p> <p>With a few exceptions based on biological differences or special conditions, men and women are considered equal in every aspect. The Quran expressly states the equality of man and woman, by the expression "you are from each other" (4:25). Furthermore, it reminds us the common origin of both sexes and the purpose of why God created us male and female, which is love and care (30:21). <i>Hadith</i> sources do not reflect a loving and caring relationship between man and woman, but an arrogant, chauvinistic and patronizing attitude towards women. Unfortunately, when consultation and election was replaced by monarchy and satanic <i>khilafa</i>, the rights women enjoyed with the revelation of the Quran were taken one by one, and within two centuries after Muhammad, Muslims reverted to the misogynistic attitude and</p>

practice of the pre-Islamic days of ignorance.Â

The rights of women during the time of prophet Muhammad is reflected with all its power in verse 58: 1, where a Muslim woman argues with Muhammad regarding her husband. God does not reprimand that woman; to the contrary, God sides with the grievances of the woman and criticizes the superstition. A critical study of *hadith* and history books will reveal that even those books contain many hints regarding the individual, social and political rights enjoyed by women during the era of revelation and even decades afterwards.Â Â History books report that Aisha, Muhammad's wife, in her old age became the leader and commander of a major faction that participated in a civil war that took place thirty years after the departure of Muhammad.

According to the Quran, Mary was a sign for the world equally with Jesus (21: 91). The Quran reports that Abraham's wife together with her husband welcomed male guests, participated in conversation, and laughed loud in their presence. She was not reprimanded for participating. To the contrary, at that meeting, God blesses her with the good news of pregnancy with Ishaq (11: 71).

Verse 49: 13 unequivocally rejects sexism and racism, and it reminds us that neither man nor female, neither this race nor that race is superior over the other. The only measure of superiority is righteousness; being a humble, moral and socially conscientious person who strives to help others.

The Quran is filled with verses referring to men and women in a neutral language that treats them equally.Â (3: 195; 4: 7, 25, 32, 124; 9: 68-72; 16: 97; 24: 6-9; 33: 35-36; 40: 40; 49: 13; 51: 49; 53: 45; Â 57: 18; 66: 10; 75: 37-39; 92: 3).

The Old Testament and St. Paul's Letters in the New Testament contain many misogynistic instructions. I recommend comparing Torrey's index for Man and Woman entries. The comparison will show how the OT and St. Paul are biased against women.

Here are some of the misogynistic Biblical verses that changed Muslims attitude towards women centuries after the Quran:

	<p>••••• Woman was created from Adam's ribs (Genesis 2:21-22).</p> <p>••••• Woman was deceived by Satan (Genesis 3:1-6; 2Co 11:3; 1Ti 2:14).</p> <p>••••• Woman led man to disobey God (Genesis 3:6,11-12);</p> <p>••••• Woman was cursed (Genesis 3:16);</p> <p>••••• Woman is weaker than man (1Peter 3:7);</p> <p>••••• Woman is subordinate to man (1Corinthians 11:7).</p>
<p>Women should be covered from head to toe under a veil. Women should be confined in their homes. Women should be segregated in public places.</p>	<p>Societies, on certain occasions, times, or places might choose to segregate the sexes, but none can sanctify those decisions in the name of God.</p> <p>After a brief period of freedom and progress women enjoyed during the revelation of the Quran and several decades afterwards, they lost many of their human rights because of the fabricated misogynistic teachings introduced under the title of <i>hadith</i>, <i>sunna</i>, and Sharia of various sects (3:195; 4:19,32; 9:71; 2:228).</p> <p>The word "<i>KHuMuR</i>" in 24:31 is a plural noun that comes from the root word of "<i>KHaMaRa</i>" which means, "to cover". It is used for any cover, not exclusively for headscarves. An extensive Arabic dictionary, <i>Lisan-ul Arab</i>, informs us that the word was even used for rugs and carpets, since they cover the floor. The singular form of the same word "<i>KHaMR</i>", has been used for intoxicants, which "cover" the mind (5:90). In verse 24:31, God advises female believers to maintain their chastity and put their covers on their chests, not their heads! Additionally, the word "<i>fel yedribne</i> = they shall put, they shall cover" is significant in that verse. If <i>KHuMuR</i> meant head cover, instead of this verb, "<i>fel yudnine</i> = they shall lengthen" (like in 33:59) would be more appropriate.</p> <p>Another distortion involves the word "<i>ZiYNa</i>" of verse 24:31. Muslim clergymen have abused this word to cover women from head to toe. They considered almost all parts of female body as <i>ZiYNa</i>. Reflecting on the rituals of ablution for the daily prayers, one can easily infer that women can publicly open</p>

their faces, hair, arms, and feet as an act of worship (5:6). Therefore, opening their faces and arms is indeed an act of worship; and they are not required to worship in secret or segregated places (17:110). If a man stares at a woman who is taking ablution and is sexually aroused it is not her fault, but it is either a symptom of his psychological problems or an indication of the deep-rooted problems in that society. By requiring women to cover any of these parts of their body, religious scholars have turned a religious ritual into a matter of sexual expression.

It is up to women to cover themselves for their own protection. It is not up to men or moral police to mandate or impose this divine instruction on women, since the instruction is personal and specific to women. Besides, the language of the instruction is deliberately designed to accommodate different cultures, norms, conditions, and individual comfort level. A divine recommendation to protect women from the harassment of unrighteous men should not be abused to justify the harassment and oppression of self-righteous misogynistic men.

Verse 33:52 informs us that Muhammad was attracted to the physical beauty of women. No reasonable man is attracted to the "beauty" of women walking in black sacks. Despite this verse informing us that Muslim women during the time of Muhammad were interacting with men, their faces open, those who tried to deprive women from social and political life and from their individual and group identity, went to the extreme and issued religious fatwas mandating a veil to cover their faces. The veil is a satanic innovation designed to turn women into the slaves of men who claim to be lords and masters.

Verse 60:12 mentions the practice of another role model, Prophet Muhammad. There the Prophet acknowledges women's right to vote, by taking the pledge of believing women to surrender themselves to God alone and lead a righteous life. The word "*BaYA*" used in the verse implies the political nature of the pledge; they accepted the leadership of the Prophet individually, with their free choice. Muhammad did not receive any divine warning regarding the danger of the devil during this face-to-face interaction! Furthermore, the Quran permits men and woman to eat together

or to help each other (24:61; 3:195; 9:71)

The Quran, for some important political reasons, advises to the wives of the Prophet not to mingle with people as they used to (33:32-33). The advice is due to protecting Muhammad and his spouses from the defamation campaign started by the unappreciative crowd (8:30-31; 24:11-20).

Ironically, the followers of *hadith* ignore their own history regarding the condition of women during the time of Muhammad and the four "guide leaders": Aisha, Muhammad's wife, is reported to lead a faction of Muhammad's companions after his departure. How could have Aisha lead men and women, in peace and war, if she did not interact and communicate with them, if she did not have her own identity, if she was imprisoned in her home or in her black veil?

The Quran provides several examples of women being active role models in their societies and were interacting with men, such as Abraham's wife (11:69-71; 60:4-6), Muslim women in Madyan with one whom Moses married (28:23-28), the Queen of Sheba who later surrenders to the will of God (27:34:40), and Mary (19:16-30; 3:42-43; 66:11-12). Muslim women were so outspoken that they could engage in debate with Muhammad (28:23-28), and women pledged allegiance and voted for Muhammad's leadership (60:12).

Therefore, segregating men and women has no Islamic basis; it is a Hislamic practice imported from misogynistic teachings of St. Paul.

Segregation in places of worship existed as an innovation among Jews (Exodus 38:8; 1 Samuel 2:22) and reached its zenith with additional condemnation and degradation with St. Paul who condemned women for Adam's sin and silenced them in the public arena.

"Let your women keep silent in the churches, for they are not permitted to speak; but they are to be submissive, as the law also says." (I Corinthians 14: 34).

"For a woman is not covered, let her also be shorn. But if it is shameful for a woman to be shorn or shaved, let her be covered. For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and

	<p>glory of God; but woman is the glory of man. For man is not from woman, but woman from man. Nor was man created for the woman, but woman for the man." (I Corinthians 11:6-9).</p> <p>"Let a women learn in silence with all submission. And do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence. For Adam was formed first, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression. Nevertheless, she will be saved in childbearing if they continue in faith, love and holiness, with self-control." (I Timothy 2:11-15).</p> <p>The followers of Hislam adopted the misogynistic teachings of St. Paul through <i>hadith</i>, and still many of them clung onto them as their religion, while most of Christendom has mutated many times and quietly ignored and abandoned those teachings. In the Christian world, St. Paul's teachings have been partially rejected; women no more cover their heads, and they no more stay silent in churches. It is ironic that today's Sunnis and Shiites follow more seriously many of the teachings of Judaism and Christianity than the Jews and Christians themselves.</p>
<p>A woman cannot divorce her husband on her own.</p>	<p>Verse 2:228 establishes equal rights to both genders. By associating and even preferring numerous collections of lies and innovations to the Quran, the followers of <i>hadith</i> and <i>sunna</i> denied Muslim women the right to divorce and turned them into slaves of male despotism.</p>
<p>A man can divorce his wife by uttering some words three times.</p>	<p>Sectarian scholars who ignored the Quran and upheld volumes of books of <i>hadith</i> and <i>sunna</i>, issued laws (<i>sharia</i>) allowing the marriage contract to be terminated with several words coming from the husband's mouth. Divorce is an event lasting several months; it is not just an oral declaration of the male spouse. A wife cannot be divorced by announcing, "I divorce you three times." This ease and one-sided divorce created miserable marriages and destroyed many families. Many men, who "divorced" their wives by uttering the magical word "<i>talaq</i>" (divorce) unintentionally or in the heat of anger, desperately looked for a solution (<i>fatwa</i>), and found mullahs and religious judges there selling <i>fatwas</i> to save their marriage! The class that created the problem in the first place became the benefactor of the solution (2:226-230;</p>

	<p>9: 34-35; 33:49).</p> <p>The New Testament takes the opposite direction; divorce is considered a great offense; after the marriage, none should divorce, except for adultery. Marriage after divorce is committing adultery (Matthew 5: 32; 19:9).</p>
<p>Polygamy up to four women is permitted. One can marry four previously unmarried women. Men do not need the consent of his wife(s) for polygamy.</p>	<p>The Quran does not limit the number of women. Though the Quran allows polygamy (4:3), it discourages its practice by requiring certain conditions: a man can marry more than one, only to the widows with children and should try to treat them equally (4:19-20, 127-129). Besides the consent of the former wife(s) is essential since they have the right to object or divorce their husbands. Unfortunately, verse 4: 127 has been traditionally mistranslated as to allow marriage with juvenile orphans rather than their mothers. The word "<i>ibkar</i>" in verse 66:5 too has been mistranslated. For discussion on verses, 4:127 and 66:5 please see the side notes next to the translation.</p> <p>It is an injustice to blame the Quran for advising us to care about the orphaned children and their widowed mothers. These verses primarily advocate the economic interests, psychological and biological needs, and social status of orphans, especially during war. Unfortunately, the enemies of the last prophet who attributed volumes of fabrications to him (6:112-116), have distorted the meaning and purpose of these wonderful divine precepts.</p> <p>Muhammad's marriages to widows had political and social reasons. Unfortunately, the permission for polygamy was distorted and it became a means to satisfy the libido of the rich and dominant males. The all-male scholars, to achieve their goal used <i>hadith</i> and distorted the meaning of verses, such as 4:3-6, 4:127 and 66:5.</p> <p>Here, we should note that exaggerated examples of polygamy, explicit details of sexual affairs, and stories of incest have been inserted into the Bible. We find much similarity between stories in <i>hadith</i> books and those Biblical stories. For instance, 1 King 11:3 claims that Solomon had 700 wives and 300 concubines. Anyone familiar with the current versions of the Bible would know that it contains numerous textual problems, transnational errors, and</p>

	<p>contradictions. Numbers in the Bible are easily subjected to distortion, exaggeration, or simple scribing errors. For instance, we see a big difference in the number of charioteers killed by David. It is 700 according to II Samuel 10:18 and it is 7000 according to I Chronicles 19:18. Note that both numbers are whole numbers and the discrepancy is ten times. A little attention to the numbers of wives and concubines attributed to Solomon would reveal a deliberate attempt to make it as round as possible. $700+300=1000$. Total of seven zeroes! Most likely Solomon had a few wives.</p>
<p>Dividing into sects is a good thing, as long as they are authorized by kings and their paid scholars.</p>	<p>Between Shiite and Sunni sects and among many branches of each sect, there are numerous contradictory rules. History is full of fights and persecution of one sect against another. Division into sects and factions is a symptom of ignorance and polytheism (3:19; 3:64,84-85; 6:159; 23:52-56; 30:32; 42:13-14; 68:36-38).</p>
<p>Pilgrims must cast stones at the devil.</p>	<p>Every year hundreds of pilgrims are killed and injured while an agitated crowd stampedes each other to death trying to cast stones and their shoes at a pillar representing Satan. The practice of stoning the devil during pilgrimage comes from the distortion made in the meaning of the word <i>rajm</i>. According to the Quran, God indeed did '<i>rajm</i>' Satan. The word <i>Rajm</i>, according to the Quran, does not necessarily mean stoning, but it means rejecting or excommunicating. God did not stone Satan to death but excommunicated or rejected him from His presence. The word <i>rajm</i> simply means excommunication or rejection (3:36; 11:91; 15:17,34; 16:98; 18:20; 19:46; 26:116; 44:20; 36:18; 38:77; 81:25). It also means casting, forecasting, and throwing (18:22; 67:5). We are not sure when the meaning of <i>rajm</i> started including "stoning," even if it had that extra meaning, it is obvious that cannot be the one considered in connection with Satan.</p>
<p>A Muslim may own slaves or concubines.</p>	<p>The widely practiced slavery was abolished by the Quran (4:25,92; 5:89; 6:10; 8:67; 24:32-33; 58:3; 90:1-20). The Quran rejects slavery not as one of the big sins, but as the greatest sin and crime, equivalent of setting up partners to God, which is an unforgivable sin if maintained until death. The Quran unequivocally rejects accepting other than God as lord/master (<i>rabb</i>). Claiming to be the lord/master of someone is tantamount to claiming to be God (12:39-40; 3:64;</p>

	<p>9:31). Decades after Muhammad's departure kings and their servant religious leaders wanted to resurrect and justify slavery by distorting the verses about Joseph's reference to his friend's master (12:41,42). However, they ignored the fact that Joseph never called other than God his lord or master, and he advised his prison mates to seek freedom by rejecting the unjust claim of false lords/masters on them (12:39-40).</p> <p>Verse 16:75-76 compares a slave with a free person and emphasizes the importance of being a free person. No wonder, the Quran condemns Pharaoh for his claim of being the lord and master of other people (79:15-26). God saved Jews from slavery and reminded them that their freedom was more important than the variety of food they were missing (2:57-61). The Quran warns Muhammad not to capture and imprison his enemies during peacetime, and gives him permission for such only as a measure against those who participate in war (8:67). The Quran acknowledges the fact that those who set up partners with God had slaves (24:32; 16:75), and freeing them is considered an activity and a quality of Muslims (90:13).</p> <p>It is ironic that Jews who suffered the most from slavery and were saved by God through the leadership of Moses (Exodus 1:13-14), later justified enslaving other people and inserted that practice into their holy books (Exodus 21:26-27; Leviticus 25:44-46; Joshua 9:6-27).</p> <p>Though Jesus never condones slavery, St. Paul, the founder of modern Christianity, once asked the masters to treat their slaves nicely (Colossians 3:22), and asked the slaves to be "submissive to your masters with all fear" (1 Peter 2:18; Ephesians 6:5; 1 Timothy 6:2; Colossians 3:22; Titus 2:9) justifying the Marxist maxim, "Religion is the opium of masses." The use of religion by the privileged class to enslave or exploit people is vividly depicted by the South African archbishop Desmond Tutu: "When the missionaries came to Africa, they had the Bible and we had the land. They said 'let us close our eyes and pray'. When we opened them, we had the Bible, and they had the land".</p>
<p>We should emulate Prophet Muhammad and his companions and follow the details</p>	<p>This mindset makes mockery of God's system. The Quran reports the message and struggle of numerous prophets, messengers and their supporters and</p>

<p>in Sharia books that cover every aspect of one's life, from praying to sleeping, from cutting one's fingernails to going to the bathroom.</p> <p>Wearing a turban and growing beards in a particular fashion is a religious practice emulating Muhammad.</p>	<p>nowhere do we see any word or discussion on how to groom one's hair and beards, how to cut nails, how to sleep, how to go to the bathroom, or any other formalities and trivial personal or cultural choices (5:101; 42:21; 2:67-71). While <i>hadith</i> books are filled with hundreds of contradictory narrations indulging in details of grooming, fashion, attire, even the color of cloths, the Quran reminds us not to focus on these trivial issues, but focus on righteous deeds (7:26).</p> <p>Ironically, the Sunnis and Shiites do not even follow their <i>hadith</i> and <i>sunna</i> books consistently. Though <i>hadith</i> books describe Muhammad with long hair, almost all Hislamic clerics who consider aping Muhammad as a path to eternal salvation cut their hair short like Buddhist monks. This is an anomaly for those who split hair in the name of Muhammad.</p>
<p>Circumcision is a religious practice needed to correct the male genitals.</p>	<p>Making changes in God's creation for religious purposes is considered evil (4:119). Obviously, foreskin is not an abnormality in God's creation; it is the norm. Attempting to change such a creation through surgery to attain salvation is superstition.</p> <p>The Quran never mentions Abraham practicing circumcision. If indeed Abraham did such a surgery on himself, perhaps he wanted to eliminate some kind of infection and the blind followers who later idolized him turned his personal deed into a religious ritual. Considering the history of Jewish people and their trials and tribulations, it is more likely that this is an invention of Rabbis, perhaps to mark the endangered race and protect it from extinction. Introducing innovations in religious communities may need some "holy stories" to attribute the innovation to historical idols.</p> <p>The Quran never mentions the adventures of the Biblical characters Samson who had a bizarre hobby of collecting the foreskins of thousands of people he killed by the jaw of an ass (Old Testament Judges 15:16).</p> <p>The Old Testament contains hyperbolic exaggerations and bizarre practices. For instance, ignoring the discrepancy in the number of mutilated penises read the following verses from the Bible:</p> <p>"So David rose and he and his men went and struck down among the Philistines</p>

	<p>two hundred men, and David came bringing their foreskins and giving them in full number to the king, to form a marriage alliance with the king. In turn Saul gave him Michal, his daughter, as a wife." (1 Samuel 18: 27).</p> <p>"Then David sent messengers to Ish-Bosheth son of Saul, demanding, 'Give me my wife Michal, whom I engaged to myself for a hundred foreskins of the Philistines" (2 Samuel 3: 14).</p> <p>Using a bundle of foreskins of mutilated genitals of the dead bodies of an enemy as the symbolic show of manhood, and literally using them in exchange of a woman is difficult to digest. The Quran does not contain any of the Jewish insults to the Jewish prophets, such as David, Solomon, Lot, etc.</p> <p>Samson's obsession and adventure with Philistine girls is similarly strange (Judges 14). When Samson is betrayed by his wife, Timnah, or his heifer (Judges 14: 18!), he loses the bet during the seven days of the feast. This time thirty men from Ashkelon have to lose their lives. Later, Samson torches Philistine grain fields with torches tied to the tails of foxes; kills a thousand Philistines with a "donkey's jawbone," and prays to God not to let him die in the hands of the "uncircumcised" (Jud 15: 15-16). This Biblical hero, in his bloody pursuit of another wife, spends a night with a prostitute (Jud 16: 1) and later another wife, Delilah, who shaves his hair, the source of his extraordinary power, betrays him (Jud 16: 18-20). Samson dies after killing more Philistines. The story can be outlined in several words: Marriage, Feast, Foreskins, Slaughtering, Torching, Betraying, Heifer, Prostitute, Hairy Superstition, Killing, and Killing more!</p> <p>Muslims, long after the revelation of the Quran and departure of Muhammad, acquired from Jews the bizarre obsession with hair and foreskins! If someone converts to Islam, one of the first troubles he finds himself in is to undergo surgery on the foreskin of his penis and a holy recommendation to grow a long beard. Besides, he will exchange his original name with an Arabic name! This is just the beginning of becoming a Jewish Arab who follows a concocted culture of medieval ages.</p>
Converts should change their names	The names with negative meaning or implications should be changed, of

to Arabic names.	<p>course, but changing names to Arabic has no Quranic basis. This practice contradicts even the teachings of <i>hadith</i> and <i>sunna</i>. According to both Sunni and Shiite sources, those who converted to Islam from polytheism during the time of Muhammad never changed their names. Bilal of Ethiopia remained Bilal; Salman of Persia remained Salman, Omar remained Omar, Hamza remained Hamza.</p> <p>How can one consider human names in a particular language holy while God Almighty permits us to call him with any good attribute (17:110)?</p>
<p>Paying the <i>zakat</i> charity is required only once a year. There are many different rates for different assets and one must refer to his or her particular sect to find out how much <i>zakat</i> charity is due.</p>	<p>Purification of God's blessings, including the financial ones, through sharing them with others, is a continuous and important act of charity (6:141; 7:156). The amount of financial charity to the poor and needy is not fixed; it is left to individuals to decide based on some guidelines (2:219; 17:29).</p>
<p>The Hajj pilgrim should be done in certain days.</p>	<p>Hajj pilgrimage can be done within four restricted months, <i>Zil Hijja</i>, <i>Muharram</i>, <i>Safar</i>, and <i>Rabi Awwal</i> (2:189,197).</p>
<p>Those who break their fast during Ramadan before the sunset, they should fast 60 more days for not completing the day as a punishment.</p>	<p>There is no such a penalty in the detailed, clear, and easy-to-understand book of the One who neither forgets, nor runs out of words (2:184).</p>
<p>Khalifa, that is succession in leadership, is the right of the Quraysh tribe.</p>	<p>No affair can be more deserving consultation than the election of leader. The Quran leaves this important issue to be decided by consultation or vote by the population (42:38). Muhammad was elected as a revolutionary leader by those who accepted his message of their own free will. After Muhammad, the election continued for about thirty years with the elections of Abu Bakr, Omar, Ali, and Usman. Usman's weakness and nepotism lead the Umayyad tribe to take over. Thus, the democratic system, which started with Muhammad, was replaced with monarchy several decades after his departure.</p>
<p>Gold and silk is prohibited for men.</p>	<p>Gold and silk is not prohibited for use by men. Prohibiting God's blessings in the name of God is the greatest sin (5:48-49; 6:145-150; 7:31-32; 10:59-60; 18:31;</p>

	22:23; 35:33; 42:21).
Drawing pictures of animated creatures, and making their statues is a great sin.	This is another reflection of shallow understanding of monotheism. The Quran does not prohibit drawing or making 3-D model of living beings. Prophet Solomon, who had statues in his mansion, was a monotheist (34:13; 42:21).
Playing musical instruments other than those used by medieval Arabs is a sin.	The Quran contains many verses condemning the temptation of the religious people to prohibit the blessings of God (6:145-150; 7:31-32; 10:59-60; 42:21).
Dogs especially black dogs are from devil. If a dog touches you, you must wash in a special way.	This is another superstition reflecting the attitude of the <i>hadith</i> fabricator against a particular dog. <i>Hadith</i> books contain contradictory <i>hadiths</i> . Some well-respected narrators of the same sources accused Abu Hurayra of fabricating prohibitions. The Quran treats dogs as human companions, and mentions a dog as one of the members of the young monotheists who were protected from the oppression of polytheists via a miraculous hibernation in a cave (18:18-22). Dogs may also be used in hunting, and their mouth does not make the game unclean (5:4).
Eating the meat of certain animals is prohibited and the contradictory list of prohibitions in authorized sects is good. The taste of the Quraysh tribe is the ultimate authority regarding which food is prohibited or not.	Despite the enumerated list given in the Quran and despite its clear rejection of any other dietary prohibitions, those who associated partners to God came up with additional and contradictory lists of prohibitions (6:145-150; 16:115-116; 42:21).
People cannot make it to heaven without accepting or uttering Muhammad's messengership. Testifying of the oneness of God is not enough without adding Muhammad's name.	The only requirement to attain eternal salvation is to acknowledge one God, the hereafter, and live a righteous life. (2:62; 5:69). Oneness of God is repeated as " <i>lailahe illallah</i> " or " <i>lailahe illa hu</i> " (there is no god but the God" thirty times in the Quran, and not even a single time is used in conjunction with Muhammad's name (3:18; 37:35; 38:65; 39:45; 47:19). Furthermore, the only testimony (<i>shahada</i>) that includes Muhammad's name is attributed to hypocrites (63:1).
The black stone at the <i>Kaba</i> in Mecca has come from	The story about the black stone is a myth. Showing such a reverence to a stone or a tomb and asking for help from the dead is

heaven and it should be respected. Visiting Muhammad's tomb in Medina is also a recommended religious duty on pilgrims.	idolatry (1:5; 2:24; 10:106; 6:56; 7:194-197; 18:52; 22:73; 26:69-74; 28:88; 35:14,40; 39:38; 40:66; 46:5; 72:18; 2:149-150; 5:3; 16:120; 22:78; 66:6).
Muhammad's name and the names of his closest companions may be displayed next to God's name in mosques.	Muhammad did not come to replace his name with the names of previous idols. Putting Muhammad's name, or his close companions and relatives next to God is obviously an innovation of the hero-worshippers after the departure of Muhammad and his companions (17:110-111; 20:14; 72:18-19). Meccan polytheists did not have statues or concrete idols, as claimed in <i>hadith</i> books, rather they considered themselves followers of Abraham, the legendary monotheist. Thus, like today's Muslims and Christians they created more of an abstract idolization, through some holy names, intercession and man-made religious laws (53:23).
We should pray to God alone while we are standing in our daily <i>salat</i> prayers, but when we sit down we should call Muhammad as he is alive, omnipresent, and omniscient by addressing him " <i>essalamu alayKA ayyuha al-nabiyyu</i> " (o prophet, peace be upon YOU).	This is an obvious innovation, since Muhammad could not have uttered these words in his prayers; otherwise, he would be a schizophrenic (35:14, 40; 4:101-103; 29:45). In <i>salat</i> prayers, we should only commemorate God, declare our allegiance to Him and ask for His help. In prayer telling God the story of Moses and Pharaoh or the rules of inheritance, description of paradise and hell, etcetera, is not proper (17:110-111; 20:14; 72:18-19).
The consensus of religious scholars should be considered God's religion.	The number of votes does not determine the truth. The teaching of Islam was completed by the end of the revelation of the Quran. (5:3; 6:114; 9:31-34)
Muhammad is the last messenger.	Muhammad was the last prophet (<i>nabi</i>) who brought the last testament, but he was not the last messenger (<i>rasul</i>) (3:81; 7:35; 33:7; 33:40; 72:7). The Quran gives the example of unappreciative people in the past who deprived themselves from receiving God's message and mercy by claiming the same thing (40:28-44).
Muhammad was an illiterate man and remained illiterate until his death.	Muhammad was a literate gentile. (96:1-5; 68.1-10; 2:78; 3:20; 3:75; 7:157; 62:2; 2:44)
Muhammad advised	Muhammad was a kind, tolerant and

<p>some sick people to drink camel urine as a cure and then tortured a group of people accused of murdering his shepherd by gouging their eyes with hot nails, chopping off their arms and legs and leaving them in the desert dying from thirst.</p>	<p>caring leader, not a torturer (3:159; 6:54; 21:107; 68:4). His advising camel urine as a medicine is highly doubtful (7:157). Even if he did advise such a thing, it would only reflect his cultural upbringing and lack of knowledge in the field of medicine.</p>
<p>God initially required us to pray 50 times (not units; times) a day when Muhammad met God in the seventh heaven during his <i>Miraj</i> (ascension). But, thanks to Moses, who was residing in the sixth heaven, who repeatedly advised Muhammad to ask for more reduction. By oscillating between God in seventh heaven and Moses in the sixth heaven five times, Muhammad haggled for further discount of the numbers of prayers.</p>	<p>This is the longest story in <i>hadith</i> books, taking pages and pages, and it contains the fingerprints of Jewish storytellers. God never burdens a person beyond his or her capacity (2:286; 6:152; 7:42; 23:62). Claiming that God initially wished to impose on people 50 times a day, which means one prayer for every 28 minutes, day and night, is denial of God's compassion. This story also insults Muhammad's intelligence, yet turns him into someone like a union leader negotiating on behalf of his people against a cruel boss. Moses is the advisor. Moreover, <i>salat</i> prayer did not start with Muhammad; it started with Abraham (17:1,78; 53:1-182:83; 2:124-125; 2:238; 11:114; 24:58).</p>
<p>Muhammad has the power of intercession and will save us on the Day of Judgment. Muhammad has the "highest" rank above all messengers.</p>	<p>None has the power of saving criminals from God's judgment. The Quran considers the faith in intercession of someone to Shirk or polytheism. If there is any intercession it will be a testimony for the truth (2:48,123,254; 6:70,94; 7:53; 10:3; 20:109; 34:23; 39:44; 43:86; 74:48; 78:38). Ironically, the Quran informs us that Muhammad will complain about his people deserting the Quran, not "his <i>sunna</i>" as they claim (25:30). Mohammedans are so ignorant and arrogant, like their ancestors, they too are in denial of their associating partnership to God via attributing the power of intercession, or other false powers to God's servants (6:23-26; 16:35; 39:3,38; 19:81-82).</p> <p>Those who acknowledge Quran do not favor one messenger to another (2:285); all the messengers belong to the same community (21:92; 23:51-53)</p>

	<p>The Quran gives examples of many idolized concepts and objects. For instance, children (7: 90), religious leaders and scholars (9: 31), money and wealth (18: 42), angels, dead saints, messengers and prophets (16: 20, 21; 35: 14; 46: 5, 6; 53: 23), ego/wishful thinking (25: 43, 45: 23).</p> <p>In order to infect the human mind with the most dangerous disease called "<i>shirk</i>" (associating partners to God or polytheism), Satan infects the unappreciative minds with a virus to destroy the faculty of self-criticism by installing a faulty and defective recognition program. Therefore, most of those who associate partners to God in various ways do not recognize their polytheism (6: 23). Polytheists show all the symptoms of hypnosis, their master hypnotist being Satan (6: 22-24, 43, 110-113; 7: 17, 27-30, 64-65, 179; 10: 42-43; 15: 12-15, 42; 16: 35; 18: 21, 22, 57; 17: 45; 31: 21; 47: 16; 58: 18-19; 59: 16-19).</p>
<p>Uttering the name of Muhammad alone is disrespectful to Muhammad and deprives a person from his intercession. We should utter words of praise or distinguishing phrases, such as "<i>sallallahu alayhi wasallam</i>" or "Peace be Upon Him" whenever Muhammad's name is uttered. When with a congregation, we should show our respect to him by words or gestures whenever his name is mentioned.</p>	<p>We are instructed to glorify and praise God (3: 41; 3: 191; 33: 42; 73: 8; 76: 25; 4: 103), not His messengers, who are only human beings like us. We are instructed by the Gracious and Merciful God to utter the name of messengers with their first names, without glorifying them, and Muhammad is no different from other messengers (2: 136; 2: 285; 3: 144). Muhammad was a human being like us (18: 110; 41: 6), and his name is mentioned in the Quran as "Muhammad," similar to how other people are mentioned in the Quran (3: 144; 33: 40; 47: 2; 48: 29). Uttering an expression containing "<i>salli ala</i>" after Muhammad's name is based on distortion of the meaning of a verb demanding action of support and encouragement of a live messenger, rather than utterance of praise for a dead messenger (compare 33: 56 to 33: 43; 9: 103; and 2: 157).</p> <p>Despite these verses clarifying the meaning of the word; despite the fact that the Quran does not instruct us to say something, but to do something; despite the fact that the third person pronoun in the phrase indicates that it was an innovation after Muhammad's departure; despite these and many other facts, Sunni and Shiite clerics try hard to find an excuse to continue this form of Muhammad worship. Contradicting the intention and practice of masses, some clerics even claim this phrase to be a</p>

	<p>prayer for Muhammad rather than a phrase for his praise. Muhammad, especially the Muhammad in their imagination, should be the last person who would need constant prayers of millions. According to them, Muhammad has already received the highest rank in paradise, and again according to them he did not commit any sins. Therefore, the address of their prayers is terribly wrong. They should pray for themselves, for each other, not Muhammad. It is like homeless people donating their money, several times a day, to the richest person in the world. It is as absurd.</p>
<p>Muhammad did not commit any sin. He was always a monotheist, on the right path.</p>	<p>Muhammad was a fallible human being. Before receiving the revelation, he followed the tradition of his people and he associated partners to God (4:79; 9:117; 33:37; 40:66; 42:52; 66:1; 80:1-10; 93:7). If he were a monotheist, God would not depict him being ignorant of <i>iman</i> (acknowledgement/faith) before the revelation of the Quran. History books claiming his popularity before the revelation of the Quran supports this Quranic fact. Ignorant polytheists whose theocratic system run by fanatically religious leaders would not respect a monotheist.</p>
<p>God created the universe for the sake of Muhammad.</p>	<p>The universe was not created for a specific person (14:33; 16:12; 31:29; 51:56).</p>
<p>Muhammad showed many miracles, including splitting the moon. According to some narrations, half of the moon fell in Ali's backyard.</p>	<p>Muhammad did not demonstrate any miracle; except the Quran (29:50-51). The splitting of the moon mentioned in the Quran is a prophetic description of splitting the soil of the moon in 1969 (54:1-2; see 80:26 ad 50:44 for the range of the meaning of "<i>shaqqa</i>"). The year 1969 is the start of the computer study that led to the discovery of the mathematical miracle of the Quran based on the number 19 of chapter 74 in year 1974 (74:1-56).</p>
<p>Muhammad was not a human being like us; he was a superman. He had sexual intercourse with nine women in a single night. Muhammad had the sexual power of 30 males.</p>	<p>The <i>hadith</i> fabricators were in fact the enemies of the prophet, as those Pauline Christians were the enemies of Jesus (6:112-116). <i>Hadith</i> fabricators depicted Muhammad to justify their fantasies. Another motive was to fabricate as many "miracles" as possible for the idolized Muhammad, including sexual miracles, to help him win the "competition" with other messengers mentioned in the Quran. Muhammad was a human being like us; he was not a superman (33:21; 18:110; 41:6).</p>

<p>Muhammad was bewitched by a Jew, and he wandered in the streets of Medina in utter confusion for weeks.</p>	<p>Muhammad was not bewitched; this claim was made by the unappreciative people who rejected his message (17:47; 25:8-10).</p>
<p>Muhammad died poor, so poor that he pawned his personal belongings to a Jew for little barley</p>	<p>Once an orphan and poor, by God's blessing, Muhammad became a successful international wealthy merchant (93:8).</p>
<p>Each companion of Prophet Muhammad is like a star and their actions and fatwas have authority in religious guidance.</p>	<p>Centuries after Muhammad, he and his companions became idols. Muslims started considering the prophet's companions (<i>sahaba</i>) or anyone who met him as a Muslim to be almost infallible, though some considered the other as a hypocrite. There are collections of hearsay attributed to these people (<i>akhbar</i>) and their words, comments, and speculation are considered another authority after <i>hadith</i>.</p> <p>The word <i>sahib</i>, <i>sahaaba</i>, and its plural <i>ashaab</i> are usually used in a negative context. For instance, out of 77 occurrences of <i>ashaab</i>, and one occurrence of "<i>ashaabahum</i>" (their comrades), only 27 are used positively, such as, "<i>ashaab ul-Jannah</i>" (People of the Paradise) or "<i>ashaab ul-Yameen</i>" (People of the Right). Excluding the few neutral usages of the word, the word "<i>ashaab</i>" is usually used to denote disbelievers and hypocrites. None of these <i>ashaab</i>, the PLURAL of <i>sahaaba</i>, refers to Muslims who lived during time of Prophet Muhammad. In only one case, the plural <i>ashaab</i> refers to people with Moses (26:61), and we learn from the Quran that most of them were not true believers (7:138-178; 20:83-87).</p> <p>Among the 12 occurrences of the singular and dual form, <i>Sahib</i>, only five describe a relationship between a prophet and his friends. And, out of these five occurrences, only one of them has a positive connotation. Before quoting the verses, I want to remind you that the word <i>Sahib</i> (companion, friend) is about a mutual relationship; if someone is your companion you are their companion too, or vice versa. In the following four occurrences, the addressees are disbelievers or polytheists:</p> <p>". . . Your companion (<i>Sahib</i>) is not crazy. He is a profound Warner to you, just before the advent of a terrible</p>

	<p>retribution." (34: 46)</p> <p>"Your companion (Sahib) has neither strayed, nor is he deceived." (53:2)</p> <p>"Your companion (Sahib) is not crazy." (81:22)</p> <p>"O my prison companions (<i>sahibay</i> = two companions), are separate lords better than God Alone, the Irresistible?" (12:39)</p> <p>The only positive usage of the word Sahib, as a companion of a Prophet is:</p> <p>". . . Thus, when the disbelievers chased him, and he was one of two in the cave, he said to his friend, 'Do not worry, God is with us.' . . ." (9:40)</p> <p>In summary, according to the Quranic literature, the word <i>Sahib</i> (companion) or <i>ashaab</i> (companions) by themselves does not have any positive meaning. In three verses Muhammad is described as <i>sahib</i> (companion) of disbelievers and in one verse, he was companion of a believer.</p> <p>In numerous verses, however, the Quran informs us about the quality of Muhammad's comrades (48:29). What we see, is not a depiction of perfect holy people, but ordinary people, with all sorts of weaknesses and shortcomings.</p> <p>According to the books of <i>hadith</i>, Abdullah Ibn Masood was one of the top companions of the prophet Muhammad. His <i>hadith</i> narrations are among Sunni Muslim's most cherished sources of jurisprudence. Many <i>hadith</i> and narration books, including Bukhari and Ibn Hanbal, report that Ibn Masood had a personal copy of the Quran and he did not put the last two chapters in it. According to those books, he was claiming that those two chapters do not belong in the Quran.</p> <p>Apparently, another companion of the prophet, Ubayy Ibn Kaab, also had a different personal Quran. He added two chapters called "<i>Sura Al-Hafd</i>" and "<i>Sura Al-Khal</i>", and claimed that these were from the Quran. (These "chapters" are still being recited by Hanefites in the "<i>salat el witr</i>", after night prayers.)</p>
<p>Following <i>hadith</i> books is equal to following the messenger.</p>	<p>Muhammad was given the Quran alone, and God alone issues the tenants of Islam (6:19, 38,114; 7:3; 12:111; 17:46; 31:6; 45:6; 69:38-47).</p> <p><i>Hadith</i> books were compiled from</p>

hearsay sources two centuries after Muhammad. One of the major sources of *hadith* is of Jewish and Christian origin. Islamic scholars have written volumes of books to identify and expose, though with little success, the piles of stories imported from Jewish Mishna, Gemara and Old Testament, sources, which were called *Israiliyat*. For instance, many Jewish stories and practices were imported to "Islam" via "convert" Jewish and Christian scholars, such as the Coming Mahdi and practice of circumcision, etc. Kab bin al Akhbar was one of those influential converts. Sunni scholars list Abdullah bin Abbas, Abu Hurayra, Abdullah bin Amr Ibnul As, Abdullah bin Salam, Tamim al-Dari, and Vahb bin Munabbih as the major narrators of *Israiliyat*.

The *hadith* that should be the most authentic is the *hadith* about Muhammad's speech in *Hujjat al-Wada* (The Farewell Sermon) in which reportedly tens of thousands of his companions listened. The last statement of this sermon is reported in three different versions:

••••• I am leaving you the Quran and my *sunna*; you should follow both.

••••• I am leaving you the Quran and my relatives; you should follow both.

••••• I am leaving you the Quran; you should follow it.

Another interesting *hadith* reported by *hadith* books speaks volumes:

"When Muhammad was sick on his death bed, he asked his companions to bring him pen and paper so that he could write them something for their salvation. When one of his companions rushed out to bring pen and paper, he was stopped by Omar Ben Khattab. Reportedly, Omar told him: "The prophet has a high fever; he does not know what he is saying. God's book is sufficient for us (*hasbuna kitabullah!*)"

According to this "authentic" *hadith*, Muhammad dies without writing his last statement. The *hadith* above claims to be reporting the last words of prophet Muhammad and his companion's reaction. The alleged statements attributed to Omar b. Khattab and

	<p>acquiesced to by all other prominent companions shake and destroy the foundation of piles upon piles of <i>hadith</i>.</p> <p>In summary, <i>hadith</i> books contain many <i>hadith</i> rejecting <i>hadith</i> as a secondary source besides the Quran. They report the third version of the last statement in Muhammad's last sermon during pilgrimage, and they report the <i>hadith</i> about Omar not allowing any other writing from Muhammad since he and the other prominent companions thought God's book was sufficient for them. Yet despite these and many other "reported" negative remarks and prohibition about <i>hadith</i>, they collected thousands of them.</p>
<p>God gave Muhammad the Quran and other revelations <i>similar</i> to the Quran.</p>	<p>This claim is found in <i>hadith</i> books and is noteworthy that the Arabic text of the <i>hadith</i> uses exactly the same word, <i>mithl</i> (similar), thus defying God's challenge that there is no book <i>similar</i> to the Quran (52:34). The books they consider <i>similar</i> to the Quran are ALL hearsay reports, filled with superstitions, contradictory claims, bad grammar, various dialects, trivial and frivolous rules, scientific inaccuracies, sectarian agendas, misogynistic ideas and practices, cruelty, tribal and racist ideologies, hero-worship, silly stories, and even commercials.</p>
<p>Calling oneself with the word Muslim alone is not sufficient. One must follow blindly (<i>taqleed</i>) to a sect or order, such as Hanafi, Shafii, Hanbali, Maliki, Salafi, Naqshibendi, Jafari, Isna Ashari, Ahmadi, Qadiyani, Bahai, Rashadi, etc.</p> <p>We should follow the <i>fatwas</i> and <i>sharias</i> of <i>imams</i>, <i>mujtahids</i> and scholars of our sect without questioning. In other words we must be <i>muqallids</i> (followers).</p> <p>Reason is not sufficient to find the truth. We need faith, and faith is superior than reason.</p>	<p>God called us Muslims, that is, those who peacefully surrender themselves to God (22:78; 41:33). Dividing themselves into sects and factions are among the attributes of polytheists (6:159; 23:52-56).</p> <p>Following parents, religious leaders, or anyone blindly is wrong and a source of evil (2:170; 5:104; 10:78,100; 17:36; 26:74; 31:21; 34:43; 43:22,23). The Quran warns us not to be hypnotized by the charisma of leaders, or by the social conventions. A society comprised of individuals that value rational and empirical inquiry will never become the victim of religious fanaticism, tragedies brought by charismatic politicians and clergymen.</p> <p>A religion or sect that glorifies ignorance and gullibility can be very dangerous for its followers and others. As the Physicist Steven Weinberg once put profoundly, "With or without religion, you would have good people doing good things, and evil people</p>

doing evil things. But for good people to do evil things, that takes religion." We should add ideology to religion, since any dogmatic ideas can block rationality and turn humans to beasts. In last century communism and fascism inflicted too much pain on humanity.

The Quran categorically rejects blind faith or credulity (17:36). The Islam described by the Quran is not a "religion" in its common sense. Thus, we prefer calling Islam as system, rather religion. The word belief or faith is commonly used as a euphemism for wishful thinking or joining the bandwagon. Those who cannot justify their faith by deductive or inductive arguments, those who cannot provide compelling reason for why they believe certain dogmas and disbelieve others, yes those people are not *muminun* (those who acknowledge) in accordance to the definition of the word by the Quran. If the author of the scripture is also the creator of the nature, and if it is He who is rewarding us with scientific knowledge and technology when we rationally and empirically investigate its law, then why would He discourage us from using our mind and senses to investigate claims about Him and words attributed to Him? Otherwise, schizophrenia or inconsistency becomes divine attributes. God is not in the end of the dark tunnel of blind faith; but we can discover and get in touch with Him by tuning our mind and heart to get his message broadcast in frequency of wisdom and knowledge. Therefore, according to the contextual semantics of the Quran, faith or belief denotes the conviction as a result of reason and compelling evidences. Thus, to distinguish the Quranic terminology of belief and faith from its common usage, we prefer the word "acknowledge."

This does not mean that a person who acknowledges the Quran does not have mysteries, or unknowns. To the contrary. But, accepting mysteries and unknown should have compelling reasons. For instance, the idea of universe coming out of nothing, or an infinitely small and dense point called singularity, the idea of Big Bang is difficult to digest. We have no experience of such a thing. But, we have compelling evidence to accept Big Bang though we might have difficulty in comprehending it. Extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidences, and

most religions do not even provide ordinary evidences for their extraordinary claims often riddled with contradiction and utter nonsense.

Abraham was a rational monotheist. Before his messengership, Abraham, as a young philosopher, reached the idea of the "greatest" by a series of hypothetical questions. His method of proving the existence of the creator of all things was both empirical and rational. He invited people to observe the heavenly bodies and then deduce the existence of an absolute creator from their contingent characteristics. This empirical and rational methodology is supported by God.

Abraham, not only supported his monotheistic faith through rational arguments, he also falsified the claims of his opponents via rational arguments by breaking the little statutes of his pagan people and sparing the biggest one. When the polytheists inquired about the "disbeliever" who committed such a blasphemous act to their idols, Abraham stood up and pointed at the biggest statute, thereby forcing his people to reflect and examine their religious dogmas (21:51-67).

The Quran provides a rational argument for why God cannot have partners or equals. The argument in verse 21:21-22 is a logical argument called Denying Antecedent. Thus, it is no wonder that the Quran invites us not to be gullible. We should not follow anything without sufficient knowledge, including belief in God.

The Quran rejected the Christian metaphor of sheep and shepherd and instructed Muslims not to use any word that implies such subjugation (2:104). Despite the Quran's clear warnings against being a sheep in a flock, followers of hadith adopted the teachings of St. Paul and turned themselves to sheep, and rational monotheism into irrational polytheism.

The word *raina* (shepherd us) referred in verse 2:104 implies to be lead like sheep. Muslims do not and should not follow anyone, including prophets blindly, without using their intelligence, reasoning and senses. No wonder, obeying the leader is limited by the standard of *maruf*, that is known or knowledge (60:12). However, the Bible

	<p>uses the shepherd/sheep analogy to depict the relationship between people and their leaders. "And I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, even my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd." Ezekiel 34:23. Jesus Christ is likened to a good shepherd (John 10:14; Heb 13:20). Kings and leaders are too considered like shepherds (Isaiah 44:28; Jeremiah 6:3; 49:19). Ministers of the gospel too are likened to shepherds (Isaiah 56:11; Jeremiah 50:6; Jeremiah 23:4; Ezekiel 34:2,10). Also, see: Zechariah 10:2; Psalms 78:52; Psalms 119:176.</p> <p>This metaphor would be abused to its full capacity by St. Paul, the dubious figure who distorted the monotheistic message of Jesus after his departure. St. Paul fabricated many stories and practices, including justification of receiving money for preaching. When the true followers of the <i>Injeel</i>, that is, the Good News, criticized him, he defended his "milking" the congregation by resorting to the Biblical metaphor, and twisting the original purpose of metaphor. See: 1 Co 9:7.</p> <p>The Biblical, "Know the truth, and the truth will set you free!" (John 3:24), is a powerful statement against idolatry and ignorance. However, St. Paul and his followers turned the wisdom preached by Jesus to bigotry and dogmatism, which considered philosophy and philosophers as the enemy. Millions of religious people, who are capable and smart human beings in outside world, are so brainwashed by religious lies since their childhood, they feel proud of being called flock or sheep in their temples! Most faithful of religions nod positively at Bertrand Russell's depiction of the level of their understanding: "The truths of religion are never so well understood as by those who have lost the power of reasoning."</p> <p>If you really want to name yourself with suffixes such as an "ist", "ite", or "an", then you should call yourself Truthist, Truthite, or Truthian! Or, you might just call yourself, Godist, Godite, Godian!</p>
Some verses of the Quran abrogate/invalidate other verses of the	There is no abrogation in the Quran. (2:85; 4:82; 15:90-92; 12:110-111; 45:6). The blasphemous claim of abrogation is based on the distortion of

<p>Quran. For instance, 2:180 and 2:219 are invalid. Even some <i>hadith</i> abrogate verses of the Quran. For instance, a <i>hadith</i> adds another prohibition to 4:24 and thus abrogate its claim of exhaustive enumeration. Another example is that Muhammad forbade leaving a will for the relatives and thus abrogated the instruction of 4:23-24; 2:180, and 4:11-12.</p>	<p>the meaning of the word AYAT, in singular form, in 2:106, and lack of understanding of the context and connection of verses with each other. The idea of abrogation implies contradiction and disbelief in divinity of the Quran (4:82).</p>
<p>The Quran is not clear; it is ambiguous.</p>	<p>The Quran is clear and easy to understand for those who acknowledge the truth and use their God-given intelligence (5:15; 54:17,22,32,40; 11:1; 17:46; 18:57; 26:195).</p>
<p>The Quran is not detailed; it is general. For instance, the Quran does not inform us how to observe the <i>salat</i> Prayers.</p>	<p>The Quran is sufficiently detailed by God the Most Wise, and it reminds us of this aspect repeatedly (6:19,38,55,97,114-116,119,126; 7:32,52,174; 9:11; 10:5,24,37; 11:1; 12:111; 13:2; 17:12; 30:28; 41:3; 41:44; 79:19).</p> <p>The Quran mentions <i>salat</i> prayer in about seventy verses and provides the details God deemed sufficient, not the trivial details demanded by people and fabricated by clergymen. <i>Hadith</i> books do not contain better words than the Quran, and they do not have additional video clips of Muhammad showing us how to pray. To the contrary, they contain various verbal hearsay full of contradictions. For instance, according to some <i>hadith</i>, Muhammad did not recite anything else after reciting the first chapter of the Quran, contradicting other reports. Some <i>hadiths</i> report that Muhammad made ablution after touching his wife's hand, but you will find other <i>hadiths</i> on the next page denying that.</p> <p>Besides, no sane person would accept all the lies and harmful teachings of <i>hadith</i> and <i>sunna</i> for the sake of <i>salat</i> prayer. It is better not to observe <i>salat</i> prayer at all, which should lead to good deeds, than committing all the atrocities, ignorance, and idol-worship promoted by <i>hadith</i>, <i>sunna</i>, and Sharia. The followers of <i>hadith</i> and <i>sunna</i>, for the sake of being able to perform a fabricated <i>salat</i> with numerous trivial</p>

	details, have traded the message of the Quran with volumes of contradictory books. There cannot be a worse trade than this (10:15).
The Quran is not complete; it needs to be completed.	The Quran is God's word and it is complete (6:115; 19:64; 18:109). Asking trivial or irrelevant questions regarding practices and demanding more rules and instructions creates problems and confusion (2:67-70; 5:101).
The Quran alone does not guide; it needs many other books and teachings.	The Quran is sufficient to guide those who are appreciative and intelligent (5:48-49; 6:112-114,159; 7:3; 10:15; 17:39,45-46; 25:30; 31:6; 36:2; 39:23,38; 35:43).
The earth is standing on the horns of a giant bull.	That might explain why wearing red colored cloths is prohibited by <i>hadith and sunna!</i>

As we stated above these and many other religious instructions containing idol-worship, misogynistic attitudes and practices, superstitions, and numerous prohibitions that make life miserable for the religious people, replaced the message of the Quran. This was accomplished by claiming that the Quran is incomplete and lacks detail, by distorting several verses of the Quran, such as "obey God and his messenger," and by taking verses and even phrases out of their context, such as "whatever messenger gives you take it, and whatever he enjoins you leave it." To prove their point, they fabricated countless *hadiths* containing frivolous details, such as how to enter bathrooms, how many stones to use for cleaning yourself in the bathroom, how to hold one's hands or fingers during the prayers, how long one should grow his moustache and beard, what color is not proper for shirts, how to brush one's teeth, etc... When people did not find those frivolous or unnecessary details in the Quran, the propagandists of Hislam would present them with *hadith* and sectarian jurisprudence as, an explanation, complement, or supplement to the Quran. Thus, God's protected word was deemed to be in need of the unprotected lies and false claims fabricated by ignorant people. God's system was turned into a religion of limited partners.

Years ago, the Theology Faculty at the University of Istanbul held a panel discussion on "Understanding of Islam." The participants were prominent professors of theology. The professor of *fiqh* (sectarian jurisprudence) pontificated that the Quran could not be understood without studying and understanding the Sunni literature on *fiqh* and *usul ul- fiqh* (procedure of jurisprudence). The professor of mysticism softly argued that "the Quran could not be understood without studying and practicing mysticism." According to the professor of *hadith*, too "the Quran could not be understood without studying and understanding the *hadith* and its procedures." Finally, according to the professor of *Siyar*, history of Muhammad and his companions, "the Quran could not be understood without studying and understanding the history of the time."

All four participants of the panel were in agreement regarding how meaningless the Quran was. They even had a consensus on this. Their blind followers should just forget about studying the Quran, but they should start digging into hundreds of volumes of contradictory sectarian teachings. Instead of telling people that in order to understand *fiqh*, *hadith*, mysticism, and the history of islam, in order to separate hay from grain, they should first study and comprehend the Quran, they were arguing for a backward methodology. They were putting hundreds of volumes of contradictory mishmash literature between the individual and God's word. This led to the creation of a different discipline called the "the science of reconciling the contradictions among *hadiths*" where silly defenses developed to promote and maintain the authority of the fabrications. They knew well that none would be able to make it to the Quran, and even if they made it, they would be blind to perceive the light of the Quran through their filters, smoke and fog.

The Prophecy of the Quran Regarding the Quadrinity of *hadith*, *Sunna*, *Ijmah* and *Sharia*.

It is interesting that, God informs us that Muhammad's only complaint will be about his people's desertion of the Quran (25:30). He will not complain that we deserted his *Sunna*, as *hadith* books want us to believe. Those who are expecting that their idol Muhammad will save them in the hereafter through his exclusive power of intercession will be surprised to witness rejection by their idols.

Knowing that ignorant and unappreciative people would ignore the Quran and would trade its enlightening and progressive message with the dark teachings of *HADITH*, *SUNNA*, *IJMA* and *SHARIA*, God uses these words in a prophetic way:

It is noteworthy that the word *hadith* is always used in negative way when it is used to depict human utterances (12:111; 31:6; 33:53; 45:6; 52:34; 66:3).

The Quran never uses the word *Sunna* in connection with Muhammad. There is only one valid *Sunna* (law, mould, example) and it is *Sunnatullah* (God's law, mould, example), and God's *sunna* for previous generation is usually negative. (33:38,62; 35:43; 40:85; 48:23).

Similarly, the Quran does not use the word *Ijma* (consensus) in a positive sense when it is used to describe the actions of people (20:60; 70:18; 104:2; 3:173; 3:157; 10:58; 43:32; 26:38; 12:15; 10:71; 20:64; 17:88; 22:73; 54:45; 28:78; 7:48; 26:39; 26:56; 54:44...).

Interestingly, the sectarian teaching that reflects the opinion of the idolized imams is called *Sharia* (law; path) and it is too condemned when it refers to other than God's law (42:21). We must obey God's law (42:13; 5:48; 45:18).

Now let us get some details about the astonishing fulfillment of the Quranic prophecy regarding the first idol, *hadith*.

The following verses though describe the early enemies of the truth during the era of Muhammad, but its message did not expire with the passing of time. To the contrary, the language of the verses is prophetic and it describes the misguided people of all times. Here are the prophetic verses informing us about the enemies of Prophet Muhammad who would fabricate lies called ***hadith***:

"And they swore by God using their strongest oaths; that if a sign came to them they would appreciate it. Say, 'The signs are from God.' For all you know, once it comes **they will not appreciate!**' We divert their hearts and eyesight, as they did not believe in it the first time; and We leave them wandering in their transgression. Even if We sent down to them the angels, even if the dead spoke to them, and if We had gathered before them everything, they still would not believe except God wills it. But **most of them are ignorant**. We have permitted the enemies of every prophet, human and Jinn devils, to **inspire** in each other with **fancy hadith** in order to deceive. Had your Lord willed, they would not have done it. You shall disregard them and their **fabrications**. That is so the hearts of those who do not appreciate the Hereafter will listen to it, and they will accept it, and they will take of it what they will. 'Shall I seek **other than God as a judge** when He has sent down to you **this book sufficiently detailed?**' Those to whom We have given the book know that it is sent down from your Lord with truth; so do not be of those who have doubt. The **word of your Lord has been completed** with truth and justice; there is no changing His words. He is the Hearer, the Knower. If you obey the **majority** of those on Earth, they will lead you away from God's path; that is because **they follow conjecture**, and that is because they only guess. Your Lord is sufficiently aware of who strays from His path, and He is sufficiently aware of the guided ones." (6:109-116)

Knowing that the enemies of Jesus fabricated the doctrine of Trinity and associated him as a partner to the One God by creating multiple personalities for God, similarly Muslims too fabricated *hadith* books and associated Muhammad as a partner with God in His judgment. The Quran informs us about many ways of setting partners with God, or polytheism. A careful reader will notice that the verses quoted above reject all the major excuses used by the proponents of *hadith* and *Sunna*. These verses describe the followers of fancy *hadiths* with the following qualities:

Despite their lip service, they do not appreciate God's signs/miracles. (We have witnessed a modern example of this unappreciation regarding the prophetic fulfillment of chapter 74).

Most of them are ignorant, blind followers.

They tell each other fancy *hadiths* presenting them as divine inspiration or revelation.

The *hadiths* that they are narrating to each other are fabrications.

Despite their lip service, they do not appreciate the hereafter.

They seek Muhammad and other idols as partners with God's judgment regarding Islam.

They do not accept that the Quran is sufficiently detailed.

They do not accept that God's word is complete.

They put too much confidence in the numbers of those who follow their sect; they follow the crowd.

They follow conjecture.

The Quran does not use the word "*hadith*" negatively in a haphazard manner. The language of the Quran and its choice of words are very precise. God knew that the idol worshipers would call those fabrications "*hadith*". It is interesting that they did not call their lies "*aqwal* = sayings", "*akhbar* = narrations", "*hikam* = Aphorisms", "*athaar* = teaching/tradition" or any other word from the rich Arabic language. They unwittingly termed their inventions "*hadith*" (narrative, discourse, story, or recent event). This is a fulfillment of the Quranic projection. Whenever the Quran uses *hadith* for other than the Quran, it attaches a negative meaning to it. Since the followers of the fabricated narrations and hearsays are not translating the name of those fabrications into English or other languages, to expose the true nature of their teachings, and to unveil the clear Quranic connection, we will also keep the word *HADITH* untranslated:

"This is not a fabricated hadith. It is a confirmation of previous scriptures, detailing everything, and a guide and mercy for those who appreciate (12:111)."

The followers of fabricated *hadiths* claim that the Quran is not sufficiently detailed! They thus reject God's repeated assertion that the Quran is "complete, perfect, and sufficiently detailed" (6:19,38,114), and thus they justify the creation of 60 volumes of *hadith*, and a library full of contradictory teachings that are supposed to complete the Quran. By reflecting on 12:111 above, one can see God's answer to those fabricators and their followers. God informs us that we do not need fabricated *hadith*; that the Quran as a sufficiently detailed guide, is all we need. The Quran is the only "*ahsan al-hadith*" (best statement) to be followed (39:23).

In 12:111, God the Most Wise, rejects both the "*hadith*" and the basic excuse for accepting it as a source of Islam. No excuse is accepted from the followers of *hadith* in this world, nor on the Day of Judgment. God asks them:

"In which hadith, besides God and His revelations do they believe?" (45:6)

They reply, "We believe in Bukhari, Muslim, Tirmizi, Ibn Hanbal, Kafi, Nahjul Balaga, and more besides God's revelations."

God challenges the idol worshipers:

"Let them produce a hadith like this, if they are truthful" (52:34).

As a response, they slander the prophet in one of their holy *hadith* books (Abu Dawood):

"The prophet, peace be upon him, said, 'I was given the Quran and a ***hadith*** like it'."

Does the Quran use the word *hadith* in connection to Muhammad? Yes, the word *hadith* has been attributed to Muhammad twice. But, not the way Sunnites and Shiites like to be. These two occurrences have clear implications. First, the Omniscient God uses them for prophet's personal statements, not for his religious teachings, which is limited with the Quran alone. Second, in both occasions, God Almighty uses the word *hadith* with injunctions. Here are the verses:

". . . When you finish eating, you shall leave; without lingering to hadith (converse). . ." (33:53).

"The prophet had confided some of his wives with a hadith (statement/story/event), then one of them spread it. . ." (66:3).

As you see in the verses above, when the word "*hadith*" is attributed to Prophet Muhammad in the Quran, several interesting points are made. *Hadith* is prophet's personal statements, and we should not seek them (33:53) and we should not transmit them to others (66:3). Unfortunately, those who did not respect the Quran and prophet Muhammad, fabricated many *hadiths* about Muhammad's private and sexual life with his wives. Ironically, they attributed the worst insults to Muhammad while they were declaring their love and allegiance to him.

(For an argument titled, "Why Trash All the Hadith?" see the Articles section of www.IslamicReform.org)

A Sample From *Hadith* Books:

Below is a sample from various *hadith* books, collections of hearsay and false teachings:

"A group from the Uraynah and Uqaylah tribes came to the prophet and the prophet advised them to drink urine of camels. Later on, when they killed the prophet's shepherd, the prophet seized them, gouged out their eyes, cut their hands and legs, and left them thirsty in the desert" (Bukhari 56/152, Hanbal 3/107,163).

"I am the most honorable messenger, on the day of the judgment only I will think of my people" (Bukhari 97/36).

"Do not make any distinction among the messengers; I am not even better than Jonah" (Bukhari 65/4,5; Hanbal 1/205,242,440).

"Bad luck is in the woman, the horse, and the home" (Bukhari 76/53).

"If a monkey, a black dog or a woman passes in front of a praying person, his prayer is nullified." (Bukhari 8/102; Hanbal 4/86).

The hell will be filled with mostly women; women are deficient in intelligence and religion. (Muslim, Iman 34/132; Muslim, Iydayn 4; Tirmizi, Iman 6/2613; Ibn Majah, Fitan 19/4003; Ahmad b. Hanbal, Musnad, II/373-374, II/318; Abu Dawud, *Sunna* 15/4679; Nasai, Iydayn 19).

"The prophet gave permission to kill children and women in war." (Bukhari, Jihad/146; Abu Dawud 113).

"The earth is carried on a giant bull; when it shakes its head an earthquake occurs" (Ibn Kathir 2/29; 50/1).

"Leaders have to be from the Quraish tribe" (Bukhari 3/129,183; 4/121; 86/31).

"You shall kill all black dogs; because they are devils" (Hanbal 4/85; 5/54).

"God is the time" (Muwatta 56/3).

"To prove His identity, God opened his legs and showed the prophet His thigh." (Bukhari 97/24, 10/129 and the comment on the Sura 68).

"The parchment that the verse about stoning to death for adultery was written on was eaten and abrogated by a goat." (Ibn Majah 36/1944; Ibn Hanbal 3/61; 5/131,132,183; 6/269).

"A man from the tribe of Banu Aslam came to the Prophet and informed him that he had committed illegal sexual intercourse and he bore witness four times against himself. The Prophet ordered him to be stoned to death as he was married." (Bukhari, *hadith* 6814)

"A tribe of monkeys arrested an adulterous monkey and stoned it to death, and I helped them" (Bukhari 63/27).

"When the prophet died his armor had been pawned to a Jew for several pounds of barley." (Bukhari 34/14,33,88; Hanbal 1/ 300; 6/42,160,230).

"The punishment for cutting the fingers of a woman is to pay her: 10 camels for one finger, 20 camels for two fingers, 30 camels for three fingers, and 20 (twenty) camels for four fingers" (Hanbal 2/182; Muvatta 43/11).

"The prophet had been bewitched by a Jew, and for several days he did not know what he was doing" (Bukhari 59/11; 76/47; Hanbal 6/57; 4/367).

"Muhammad possessed sexual power of 30 men" (Bukhari).

"Do not eat and drink with your left hand, because Satan eats and drinks with the left hand" (Hanbal 2/8,33).

"The prophet eats odd number of dates on Id-ul-Fitr" (Bukhari 2/73).

"The Prophet said, 'Whoever performs ablution should clean his nose with water by putting the water in it and then blowing it out, and whoever cleans his private parts with stones should do it with odd number of stones.'" (Bukhari 1/162, 1/163)

"The prophet said: 'Do not write anything from me except the Quran. Whoever wrote, must destroy it'" (Muslim, Zuhd 72; Hanbal 3/12,21,39).

"The prophet ordered Amr Ibn As to write everything that he speaks" (Hanbal 2/162).

"Omar said: Quran is enough for us, do not write anything from the prophet. Everyone in the room accepted what Omar said." (Bukhari, Jihad 176, Jizya 6, Ilim 49, Marza 17, Magazi 83, Itisam 26; Muslim, Wasiyya 20,21,22).

A Sample From Sharia And Fatwas Of Scholars: Muhammad As Their Potty Trainer

While surfing the internet, we encountered a *fatwa* from a renowned cleric who is falsely called *alim* (knowledgeable person). The field of his expertise, his audience, the extent of his "knowledge," the relevancy of the information to human life, the number of citations from *hadith* books, his ignorance of the Quran, and his blind followers, all provide many reasons why Muslims are in such a miserable shape in contemporary world. Those who think they need holy *hadiths* as a manual how to go to bathroom, those who think that potty-training adults was among one of the many missions of prophet Muhammad, those who follow these and many more frivolous rules, will not have brains left to deal with "more important issues." The Saudi cleric, Sheikh Muhammad Saleh Al-munajjid, who derived 13 holy rules for bathroom etiquette from *hadith* books, leaves no hope for cure with his closing statement. (for the entire *fatwa*, visit islamicreform.org). Instead of being embarrassed about his indulgence in odd bathroom manners and odd numbers of stones, he shows the audacity to brag about these silly instructions:

"If the Shari`ah has paid such minute attention to the details of such a mundane matter, what do you think it has to say about more important issues? Do you know of any other religion or system in the world that has brought laws like these? This is enough, by Allah, to prove its perfection and beauty, and the necessity of following it."

If this is an example and beauty of *Sharia* about minute issues, may Allah save humanity from its verdict on important issues! We do not know how many Muslims feel guilty of not being able to follow all these rules. We do not know how many Sunnis pissed in their pants while trying to follow all these holy bathroom rules. Though this particular cleric generously interpreted the *hadith* to save his flock from this hassle in buildings, we do not know how many scrupulous followers sit backward on the bathroom seats in order not to face *qibla*, or how many of them employ high tech gadgets such as GPS made by the "infidels" to find their direction in the bathrooms. However, we

know for sure, that any group of people following these and many other piles and piles of fabricated rules have lost their chance for progress and prosperity. No wonder, the Quran reminds us the importance of reasoning and importance of staying away from religious clerics who make up *Sharia* in the name of God:

"No person may acknowledge except by God's leave. And He afflicts the filth upon those who do not reason." (10:100).

"Or do they have partners who decree for them a law (Sharia) which has not been authorized by God? And if it were not for the word already given, they would have been judged immediately. Indeed, the transgressors will have a painful retribution." (42:21)

The mindset of Sunni and Shiite imams, their sectarian teachings, and their fatwas will not allow muslims to progress. It is evident from the thousands of people asking for their *fatwa*. Here is one published at www.ask-imam.com:

Question 14617 from Pakistan:

I Want To Sell All My DVDs. Is It Haram or Halal? Please Answer as it is very important to me.

Assalam-u-alekum.. I have quite a lot of movies on dvds (around 300 & altogether worth around Rs.20,000) which i want to get rid of because finally i am convinced that movies are not allowed in Islam and i have been wasting my money on them. I bought these dvds with halal money.. so actually my question is 'Can i sell these dvds? The money that i am going to earn from this will be haram or halal? Because i just cant throw these DVDs away, i cant bear such a loss. I am thinking of selling them instead. I promised myself that i am gonna spend a good portion of that money on Zakat and i'm also planning to buy a Quran from the money too. Please help me out here. Should i throw the dvds out? Sell them? or maybe even give them to my friends as 'presents' ? Thank you for time. May Allah reward you for your commendable services. Ameen.

Answer 14617:

Alhamdulillah, you are convinced that dvds are Haraam. The dvds are like any other Haraam item, wine, pork, etc. If any one had wine or pork and then realized it to be Haraam, what is expected to be done? It is not permissible to give the wine or pork to anyone. It must be disposed off.

Dvd movies are worse off than pork and wine. Dvd movies destroy one's Islamic values and morals. It is not confined to the physical harms like wine and pork. If you could dispose of the monies from the sales of the dvds by giving Zakaat from its proceeds or giving the dvds as presents, then you can also dispose of the dvds by destroying them. You will be rewarded for this courage and Allah will grant you barakah. I urge the viewers to also take a bold step like yourself to destroy evils and Shaytaani elements from one's home.

and Allah Ta'ala Knows Best

Mufti Ebrahim Desai

The fatwa above is based on numerous *hadith* prohibiting the drawing of animated objects. As you noticed, the *fatwa* on DVD is not necessarily limited to the content of DVDs but to all DVDs. If his only concern was the content of DVD's then we too would share similar concerns, since many movies promote violence, sexual promiscuity, alcohol use, waste, unappreciation of God's blessings, arrogance. According to the Mufti (the one who issues *fatwas*, that is religious decrees), however, there cannot be a good movie or an educational DVD, as long as they contain the pictures of animated creatures, including humans. That is the reason why he does not investigate their content. Those who are looking up at the mouth of this Mufti would lose forever the chance of using modern technology to educate themselves. Interestingly, this is exactly the audience *mufties* wish to have for their job security. From the numbers of the questions and *fatwas*, it is evident that this particular Mufti is doing a great job in messing up the lives and minds of the tens of thousands of his followers.

Abusing the verses of the Quran

Many verses of the Quran has been distorted or taken out of context to promote the volumes of hearsay fabrication. Here are the most frequently abused Quranic verses:

The Quran instructs us to follow the messenger (4:59); so we must follow Bukhari, Muslim, Tirmizi, Ibn Hanbal, Ibn Maja, Abu Dawud, Kafi, Nahj al-Balaga, and many other books.

The Quran informs us that the messenger explains the Quran (16:44); so we must follow Bukhari, Muslim, Tirmizi, Ibn Hanbal, Ibn Maja, Abu Dawud, Kafi, Nahj al-Balaga, and many other books.

The Quran informs us that the messenger does not speak on his own (53:3-4); so we must follow Bukhari, Muslim, Tirmizi, Ibn Hanbal, Ibn Maja, Abu Dawud, Kafi, Nahj al-Balaga, and many other books.

The Quran advises us to take whatever the messenger gives us and abstain from what he forbid us (59:7); so we must follow Bukhari, Muslim, Tirmizi, Ibn Hanbal, Ibn Maja, Abu Dawud, Kafi, Nahj al-Balaga, and many other books.

The Quran warns us not to put our opinion before that of the messenger (49:1). Thus, we must follow Bukhari, Muslim, Tirmizi, Ibn Hanbal, Ibn Maja, Abu Dawud, Kafi, Nahj al-Balaga, and many other books.

The Quran tells us that there is good example in the messenger of God (33:21), so we must follow Bukhari, Muslim, Tirmizi, Ibn Hanbal, Ibn Maja, Abu Dawud, Kafi, Nahj al-Balaga, and many other books.

A careful reader of the Quran would notice that the verses referred to above were subjected to a cunning distortion and abuse to transform Muhammad from being the deliverer of God's message, from being a mailman of God, to another authority besides God, to God's partner in authoring God's system. Not only that they turned the system of islam or surrendering to a religion designed by multiple partners, they also promoted various hearsay sources collected centuries after Muhammad, according to their sectarian and tribal preferences.

Here, as an example, we will discuss briefly one of the oft-quoted verses, "A good example has been set for you by the messenger of God" (33:21). Those who wish to produce volumes of *hadith* books out of this verse ignore the fact that a similar statement is also made about Abraham: "A good example has been set for you by Abraham and those with him" (60:4, 6). If verse 33:21 requires Muhammad's *hadith*, then why would not the verses 60:4,6 require Abraham's *hadith*? Which books narrate *hadiths* from Abraham? Obviously, the only reliable source for both examples is the Book of God, which narrates the relevant exemplary actions. It also warns us not to repeat the mistakes committed by Muhammad (33:37; 80: 1-10).

Let us briefly discuss the second example to see better the nature of abuse, and how thousands of *hadith* rabbits are produced from empty hats. One of the most frequently cited Quranic instruction is "obey God and His Messenger" (4:59). Obeying Bukhari, a narrator of hearsay, is not obeying the messenger. Obeying the messenger is obeying the complete, perfect and fully detailed Quran. Verse 25:73 describes the attitude of believers towards God's revelations. But the followers of *hadith* and *sunna* are very good in ignoring them. They do not see 6:19, 7:3, and 50:45, which say that the only teaching delivered by God's messenger was the Quran. They do not think that Muhammad practiced the Quran, and the Quran alone (5:48, 49). They do not hear Muhammad's only complaint about his people (25:30). They do not understand that Muhammad disowns those who do not understand that the Quran is enough and fully detailed (6:114). The first verse of Chapter 9 states that an ultimatum is issued from God and His messenger. Muslims acknowledge that verses about the ultimatum are entirely from God. God did not consult Muhammad about the ultimatum. Muhammad's only mission was to deliver God's message (16:35; 24:54). Thus, the reason that God included the messenger in 9:1 is not because he was another authority in issuing it, but because he participated as the deliverer of the ultimatum. Similarly, because people receive God's message through messengers, we are ordered to obey the messengers. We also know that the Quran is a permanent messenger (65:11), and the Quran is a reminder and deliverer of good news (41:4; 11:2).

In Which Flavor and Shape do You Want Your Muhammad to be?

The falsifiers have presented a concoction of medieval Arab, Pagan, Jewish and Christian culture as good examples of the messenger. However, if you look at the context of the verse 33:21, the good example has been described as the messenger's courage and his constant remembrance of God. They extended this good example to irrelevant individual or cultural behaviors. For instance, they sanctified the beard and turban, ignoring the fact that the Meccan idol worshippers, such as Amr bin Hisham (aka, Abu Jahl) and Walid b. Mugiyrā also had long beards and big turbans.

What is worse, the actions and words ascribed to Prophet Muhammad have depicted him with a character that is far from being exemplary. The *hadith* books portray the prophet as a phantasmagoric character with multiple personalities. That character is more fictitious than mythological gods and goddesses, such as Hermes, Pan, Poseidon and Aphrodite. He is a pendulous character, both bouncing up to deity, and down to the lowest degree. He is both wise and moronic. He is sometimes more merciful than God and sometimes a cruel torturer. He is both perfect and criminal, humble and arrogant, chaste and a sex maniac, trustworthy and a cheater, illiterate and educator, rich and poor, a nepotistic and a democratic leader, caring and a male chauvinist, a believer and a disbeliever, prohibiting *hadith* and promoting *hadith*. You can find numerous conflicting personalities presented as an exemplary figure. Choose whichever composite character you like out of thousands of different examples. Those with preconceived ideas may go fish out *hadith* to support any personality or role model they want to carve out of the hero called Muhammad. Want a terrorist? You will find a few *hadiths* to justify it. He did after all, according to Bukhari justify killing women and children in battle. Want a lamb, you will again find a few *hadiths* to depict him that way. When the children of Taif stoned him, he prayed for them. *Hadith* books contain almost anything you wish, especially about Muhammad. You may find an extremely kind and nice Muhammad besides a cruel torturer one. You may find Muhammad to be a person with great morals and on the other page, you will see him a pedophile. You will find Muhammad pointing at the moon and splitting it into two pieces letting one piece fall into Ali's backyard, and on the other page, you will find a Muhammad incapable of reading a simple letter.

Hadith books, by their very nature, are perfect sources for such abuse. They contain fragments of hearsay that were produced within several centuries with multiple authors, numerous agendas, inconsistent language/terminology, unreliable and fragmented context, and divisible or severally liable authorities. An "expert" can subject almost any *hadith* he dislikes to one of the rules of procedure called *usul ul-hadith* with multiple standards. The evaluation of the narrator by using another hearsay, partisanship, tribalism, racism, or personal scrupulousness, is called "*jarh*" and "*tadeel*" simply meaning, "trash" and "save". For instance, the most prominent Sunni *hadith* collector Bukhari who rose in Bukhara, and collected *hadiths* two hundred and so years after the departure of Muhammad in three continents. This story collector, while bragging about how meticulous he was, claims that once he traveled for about a month to hear a particular *hadith* from a narrator. When he visited him, he saw him deceiving his horse to the barn with an empty bag. And our meticulous Bukhari gives up from collecting the story he was going to report! In other words, he used the tool of "*jarh*" (trash) to cross over that particular narrator. Looking at the quality of the 7275 *hadiths* allegedly he picked out of 600,000 reported *hadiths* (99% defective material!), we can easily infer that he was not very lucky or did not have very good eyes in witnessing thousands of more deceivers with their horses. Ironically, this Bukhari narrates *hadith* from drunkard and oppressive Umayyad governors, and hundreds of *hadith* from Abu Hurayra who according to Bukhari himself was considered a congenial liar and fabricator by his prominent peers such as Omar, Ibn Abbas and Aisha. Either Bukhari was himself a deceived horse or another deceiver.

Let's sidetrack here and do a simple calculation. Bukhari, in his introduction, uses a first-class sales pitch according to the standards of the medieval era. He, or the later editors and promoters of his collection, try hard to depict the portrait of a devout, genius, scrupulous, and steadfast scholar. Although his Christian counterpart, St. Paul, was more articulate and more cunning in his self-promotion; but history is a witness that Bukhari has done a similarly good job in another market. In the introduction of the collection called Bukhari, we learn that this celebrated *hadith* collector endures long trips, occasionally from one country to another, just to collect one *hadith*. We also learn that he was very careful in his evaluation of the chain of narrators; he was so pious, he took ablution and prayed before recording each of his *hadiths*. We might be surprised to see, in the same section of this solemn promotional introduction, some funny animated clips too. We learn that some of the prophet's companions witnessed a group of monkeys stoning an adulterer monkey in the jungle (perhaps that provided some inspiration and imagination for later *hadiths* narrations involving the story of the holy hungry goat). Well, we were going to do some calculations! Let's assume that Bukhari told us the truth regarding the 600,000 *hadiths* he listened to and evaluated.

Let's also be extremely generous to Bukhari and assume that on average it took him only one hour to go, interview, and evaluate each of the 600,000 *hadiths* which he would later trash 99% of them. Let's assume that he started wondering around, seeking for *hadith* narrators, listening to them, and evaluating the chain of narrators from dawn until the dark of the night. Let's assume that all his days were summer days, so that he worked ten hours a day without a break. Since we do not have any claim by Bukhari or another "holy" person regarding Bukhari's ability to inflate time, create time within time, or slow down the time, we assume he worked like a super human being limited by the natural law. With these assumptions, Bukhari who lived 60 years, between 810-870 AC, would need 60,000 days, or 164 years. In other words, he would need more than a hundred years to be able to do what he was bragging about.

Yes, it is that this Bukhari and his ilk have hijacked Muhammad, and have replaced the light of the Quran, with the darkness of ignorance.

Arabic fancy jargons are frequently used to impress non-Arabs to overwhelm them to believe that the "experts" indeed have incredible amount of special knowledge; perhaps specially granted by God. The "expert" might evaluate the trustworthiness of one of the narrators listed in the chain, by various contradictory rules already established by previous *hadith* scholars. The *hadith* can then be classified in one of the numerous ranks of authenticity and thus discarded in favor of another one. Only a handful *hadiths*, which are called *mutawatir* (allegedly narrated by many people), may escape ending up in the trash via an arbitrary scrutiny of a determined scholar. Ironically, there is not even consensus on the *mutawatir hadiths*. They do not call it "trash can" but they have invented fancy names to label how deep and stinky their cans are Mursal, Hasan, Daif, Mawdu, etc. If you are a *muqallid*, that is a blind follower of a particular sect or order, then you pick what they have already picked for you. Your choice might be more limited with the leftover *hadiths* evaluated by the scholars, but you can be sure that by even staying as a *muqallid* in a particular sect, you will find plenty of room for wriggling around to make up your own religion. But, you can be sure that your choices will be limited with medieval Arab, Jewish and Christian culture. If you are living in a modern metropolitan city, you may not be able to escape developing multiple personalities apart from each other by two millenniums.

Considering that most of the *hadith* narrations are *ahad*, that is allegedly narrated by only one person from Muhammad, their authenticity can always be challenged by how you may personally deem the chain of narrators and the *hadith* books. This provides many opportunities to hatch and mutate numerous custom-made religions, sects, sub-sects, orders, or sub-orders out of the mishmash collection of medieval culture. This peculiar aspect of *hadith* collection is well described by the prophetic verses of the Quran:

"Shall we treat the Muslims (Submitters/Surrenderers) like the criminals? What is wrong with your judgment? Do you have a book where you can find anything you wish?" (68:35-38).

Unappreciative and Arrogant people Do Not Have Access to the Quran

The Quran is a miraculous book. The author of the Quran has put a barrier between the Quran and those who dogmatically and fanatically consider it insufficient for salvation (17:45; 18:57). It is ironic and curious that those who claim that the Quran is difficult to understand, do not understand the very verses about the understanding of the Quran. Verses 7:3; 17:46; 41:44; 56:79 are extraordinary works of linguistic art containing both the thesis and its proof simultaneously, since their multi-meaning language contains a guide to understand the Quran and an excuse for not to understand the Quran. Those who understand the language of these verses experience the fulfillment of a miracle when they witness people unable to understand and glorify their lack of understanding the very verses that condemn those who lack understanding.

You will find on the cover of almost all published Quranic manuscripts a few verses. If you check, you will probably find 56:77-79 written in Arabic calligraphy. Why among hundreds of verses describing the Quran, the convention decided on these verses? Out of more than 50 descriptive noun-adjectives used for the Quran, why would they pick "*Karym*" (Honorable)? *Al-Quran il-Karym*? Why not more frequently used words such as *Zikr* (Message), *Hakym* (Wise), *Mubyn* (Clear), *Nur* (Light), but the *Karym* mentioned in that verse? Why this verse is highlighted in connection to the Quran? Why not, for instance, the verses repeatedly reminds us the easy-to-understand language of the Quran (54:17,22,32,40)? Or, why not one of these verses 12:111; 15:1; 17:9; 17:88; 17:89; 30:58; 41:3; 55:2 . . . ?

We have all the reasons to suspect the intention of those who dedicated Chapter 36 (Ya Sin) to be recited in funerals for the DEAD, the chapter that contains the only verse declaring that the Quran is sent to remind the LIVING beings (36:70)! We have all the reasons to suspect the intention of those who picked the name *hadith*, a negative word when used for hearsay narrations and teachings other than the Quran, to depict another source besides the Quran! So, why did they pick the word "*Karym*" as the most common adjective for the Quran and verses 56:77-79 as the most common subtitle for the covers of manuscripts?

Those who appreciate the Quran know the answer of the question very well: The polytheistic clergymen and scholars who betrayed the Quran, reached a consensus in not understanding or misunderstanding 56:77-79, and they thought they could repel others from the Quran according to their misunderstanding. They distorted the meaning of these verses by claiming that those who do not have ablution, including the women who they considered "dirty" because of menstruation, "should not touch" the Quran. Now we may infer why the verse whose meaning has been distorted by consensus is picked for the cover of the Quran manuscripts. Now we may infer why the adjective mentioned in that verse was made the most popular adjective of the Quran. We believe that this is a part of a diabolic conspiracy to prevent the Quran from becoming a pocket book, a book of quick reference; they keep the Quran on high shelves or nail it on high walls far away from people to reach. Unfortunately, this plan has worked successfully. The Quran has been transformed from being a guide, a reference book, a map, a compass, to a dangerous object, like a train, like a high-voltage transformer station! When the Quran becomes a book too-difficult-to-understand, impossible to reach its "high" meanings, and dangerous to touch, then welcome volumes of *hadiths*, loads of *sunna*, barrels of hearsay, mishmash heaps of sectarian teachings, piles of nonsense, tons of superstitions, hordes of holy men, and troops of holy merchants. This explains the misery, backwardness, oppression, repression, division, and corruption rampant in the so-called "Muslim countries."

The religion that "Muslims" inherited from their parents and try hard to practice today, has little to do with the system of surrendering to God alone, which was delivered by Muhammad through the Quran. These clergymen who arrogated themselves and falsely claimed to be the "*ulama*" (people of knowledge), polluted the message of Islam with ignorance. They fabricated numerous *sharias* (laws), prohibitions, veils, beards, turbans, rules for how to clean one's bottom, rules how to pee in the bathroom, toothbrushes, right hands, left hands, right feet, left feet, *hadiths*, *sunnas*, intercession, holy hair, holy cloths, holy teeth, holy feet traces, *hazrats*, lords, saints, *mawlas*, *mahdies*, innocent *emams*, orders, sects, rosaries, amulets, dreams, holy loopholes, prayer caps, circumcisions, shrines, extra prayers, extra prohibitions, and numerous Arabic jargons such as *mandup*, *mustahap*, *makruh*, *sharif*, *sayyid* and more nonsense. Thus, the religion of Sunnis and Shiites contradict the divine laws in nature and scripture, and condemns its sincere followers to misery and backwardness. The religious leaders and their political allies contribute greatly to the backwardness of the Muslim world. God Almighty now wants to reform us and open the path of progress with the message described as "one of the greatest" (74:30-37).

Majority of Muslims, hypnotized by their religious leaders, are unaware that the religion they are so passionately trying to follow is no different than the religion which was so passionately upheld by Abu Jahl (the father of ignorance) and Abu Lahab (the father of furious fire) during Muhammad's era. However, the message of the Quran is again shining and removing the darkness of ignorance and polytheism.

Witnessing that their spider webs and walls of ignorance are at risk, the professional religious men and their blind followers might create loud noise and stir clouds of dust. They might do everything in their power to prevent the masses from reading this translation and the arguments contained in it. They might use all kinds of slander, insults, false accusations, threats, and noise to prevent people from hearing its message.

Their effort will be in vain. For, the universal light of the Quran is shining again with all its wonders. Neither the borders of states can prevent this light, nor the judges and laws of oppressive regimes; neither the fatwas of those with inquisition mentality, nor the plots and bloody wars of crusaders. The Islamic reform, by God's will, will occur and the system will once again be dedicated to God alone. Praise be to God.

"And We made the Quran easy to learn. Do any of you wish to learn?" (54:17)

An Invitation to Jews, Christians, Muslims, and all Humanity

In this foreword, we focused on the incredible amount of distortions made in the message delivered by Muhammad. Christianity and Judaism are no different. Today's Christianity, with its dogmas and practices, is far way from the monotheistic teachings of Jesus, the son of Mary.

If Moses, Jesus, and Muhammad were back today, Jews would condemn the first as Anti-Semite, Christians would denounce the second as Anti-Christ, and Muslims would revile the third as the Dajjal (The imposter).

Imagine a religion that its members worship the murder weapon, perform rituals to pretend that they are drinking the blood and flesh of their heroic victim, claim that $1+1+1$ equals to 1, adopt a word as their name which was used by none of the early followers, misspell and mispronounce the name of their hero, follow someone's teaching who was prophetically condemned by their hero, accept a formula that was coined by a self-appointed commission 325 years after the founder, sing love and peace yet be responsible for most of the blood-shed and weaponry in the world, mobilize even children for centuries of barbarism called Crusades, sell parcels of heaven, excommunicate scientists, burn the first translator of their holy book, burn women in witch-hunt craze, invent ingenious torture devises and torture many in their holy courts, declare the earth as the flat center of the world for more than a millennium, lead and pray for colonialists, defend and practice slavery and racism until the cause was lost, mostly side with kings and the wealthy, deny women from many of their rights, condemn the theory of evolution, support occupations and wars with jingoistic slogans! Yes, how can such a religion, with a fake name, with a fabricated doctrine, with bizarre pagan practices, and with such a miserable historical record and bitter fruits belong to God? How can it be attributed to a philosopher, to a peacemaker, to an advocate of the rights of the weak, to a human messenger of God?[\[3\]](#)

Idolization of human beings is the epidemic of all religions, and it is the most common tragedy of human history. According to the original teachings of all God's messengers, idol worship or setting up partners to God, is the biggest offense against God. Besides, the idolization of prophets, messengers, saints and the faith of human intercession creates religious abuse, oppression, conflict and fighting between children of Adam, who are servants of God.

When believers start idolizing their previous religious leaders, they develop the tendency to idolize their living religious leaders too. Instead of seeking the truth, they are attracted to names and titles. The clergymen, in order to take advantage of that weakness and gain more power over their subjects, focus their preaching on praising the departed heroes, instead of God.

These clergymen and their fanatic followers killed many people, destroyed many homes in the name of their incarnated gods. They fabricated many rules and prohibitions in the name of God, and with such a complicated religion, they secured their jobs as professional holy men. They made money and fame in the name of those human gods. And they claimed to have the power of intercession in their names--so much so that they sold keys to the heavens, turned temples and churches to big businesses.

If we want to follow the basic principles common among the Old, the New and the Final Testaments, if we want to stop religious exploitations, if we don't want to use our God-given reasoning faculties to its maximum capacity, if we want the unity of all the believers of all religions, freedom for everyone, including for non-religious people, and if we want to attain eternal salvation, we must start a "Copernican revolution" in theology. Instead of Krishna-centered, Jesus-centered, Mohammed-centered religions, we must turn to the original center, to the God-centered model. To achieve this revolution, each of us must start questioning the formulas and teachings that have created gods out of humans like us.

In a time where religious fanatics are pushing the world for another Crusade or Holy War, in a time where the words Messiah, Rapture, Armageddon, Mahdi invite hostile masses to shed more and more of each other's blood, in a time when those in power and in positions of making profit from curtailing civil liberties, in a time when wars and occupations are playing on jingoistic and religious emotions, yes in such a time, people of intelligence and good intentions should come together and plant the seeds of tolerance, peace, reason, human rights, and unity of humanity.

On Israel, Palestine, Suicide Bombers, and Terror

Compared to their small population, the Jewish influence is immense in the global arena, financially, politically and culturally. Disproportionate to their population, Jews have exhibited

astonishing examples in both good and bad, in both success and blunder, and they have enjoyed vivid presence in world politics for millenniums. This explains why the Quran mentions them so frequently. Well, may be it is also true the other way around.

After being subjected to genocide and atrocious tortures by fascist forces, Jews were scattered around the world as immigrants. Yet, they did not disappear from the global scene or take centuries to recover, as many other nations would do. Not surprisingly, with the help of major powers of the time they were able to establish their own independent state in 1948, soon after their almost utter annihilation; a state not in Germany, but in their historical land, which has once again become the focal point of a global conflict; stirring the world by showcasing human aggression, greed, hatred, cruelty, racism, and terror.

As it seems, victim nations too might repeat the crimes of their predators. One would expect Israel to be the first against racism and colonialism, yet Israel was the last government to cut its relationship with the racist apartheid regime in South Africa, reflecting the depth of its racist policy against Palestinians. One would expect Israel to be the first nation against the weapons industry, yet Israel is one of top weapon manufacturers and exporters in the world. The racist and colonial policy of Israel by no means should be generalized to all Jews. There are more Jews in the world who condemn this policy than those who perpetrate it, and many are ashamed of what is being done in their name. While we should condemn terrorism as a method to get back one's land and independence, we should also mention that there are many Arabs who are hoping for a just solution and a peaceful co-existence with their Jewish cousins.

Jews and Muslims lived together in peace for centuries, and their current conflict is partially due to the early terrorist tactics used by Zionist guerillas, and partially due to a myriad of external forces who are trying to keep the fires burning. These external forces include the ambitions of UK-Inc and USA-Inc, the racist Zionist zealots, corrupt Mullahs, racist Sunni and Shiite zealots, Evangelical Crusaders, Weapon and Oil industries, who make massive amounts of money from the tension in the region. Unfortunately, super powers who mediated the negotiations have not honestly sought justice in this conflict. Perhaps, they deliberately wanted a continuous, yet controlled conflict in the region so that they could exploit its rich resources through puppet regimes.

In their pre-emptive war in 1967, the Israeli soldiers carried the verse 2:249 of the Quran over their tanks when they entered Sinai after defeating the Arabs, and their misguided Arab nationalism. Ironically, the evildoers among them pushed for further land-grab in the East, thereby subjecting Palestinian natives to racial discrimination, dislocation, humiliation, massacres, destruction of property/infrastructure, legalized torture, and assassinations. Israel deliberately did not set a border, rather it kept its borders flexible seeking excuses and occasionally provoking its dehumanized subjects so that it could invade new territories and create more settlements. Decades of suffering under the brutal and humiliating fascist occupation destroyed the hopes and aspiration of a Palestinian population and it gave birth to suicide bombers, which in turn provided more excuses for the occupational force to continue its invasion and barbarism. The West's propaganda machine distorts the real picture of the conflict and deceives Christendom by depicting the victimized Palestinians as the aggressor. The numbers speak clearly. The number of Palestinian civilians and children killed by Israeli occupying forces far outweigh the number of Israeli civilians and children killed by suicide bombers. Palestinians gave up continuing a hopeless fight with slings and rocks against tanks. The world's indifference against injustice in the region, and on top of that the support of the super powers of the brutal racist occupation, gave birth to global resentment and hatred among Muslims, triggering a global gang-terrorism challenging the legalized and glorified state-terrorism.

Islam (more accurately, Hislam) has been around for centuries, and compared to other religious groups Muslims do not fare more violent. An objective study of suicide terrorism will inform us that it has more to do with brutal occupations than religions or ideologies. Religion and ideologies are mostly used for justification and propaganda of the political cause. Robert Pape, of the University of Chicago, in his book [Dying to Win: The Logic of Suicide Terrorism](#), rightly argues that suicide terrorism is not driven by religion but by occupations. He provides many examples, such as the suicide attacks of Marxist Tamil Tigers organization in Sri Lanka in 1990's that inspired Palestinians who were using slings, rocks and rifles against occupying Israeli soldiers and tanks before the Intifada of 2000. In fact, a great majority of suicide-terrorist campaigns carried out in Lebanon, Sri Lanka, Chechnya, Kashmir, and Palestine aimed to compel occupation forces to withdraw. No wonder, Ayman al-Zawahiri and his terrorist organization Islamic Jihad was born after Israel's occupation during the 1967 pre-emptive war. No wonder, Russian invasion and occupation of

Afghanistan, together with the legalized US occupation of Middle East through puppet and oppressive kings and emirs gave birth to Osama bin Laden and al-Qaida. No wonder, Russian brutal occupation of Chechnya gave birth to Shamil Basayev and his terrorist organization. Again, it is no wonder that US occupation of Iraq gave birth to Abu Musab al-Zarqawi and hundreds of other suicide bombers. Though compared to rebels or insurgents, occupiers commit much worse acts of barbarism and terrorism on the population of lands they occupy, those state terrorism is cleverly hidden from the world. Ironically, occupiers who create these terrorist insurgents or contribute substantially to their growth, use the terrorist attacks to justify and continue their occupation. Occupying forces cleverly use fear, xenophobia, and patriotic emotions of the taxpayers and take advantage of their ignorance about foreign affairs. Government agencies work cleverly to depict their brutal and bloody occupation as a justified act against evil and barbarism. Secret agencies are showered with money to stage covert operations, flood the world with misinformation and disinformation campaigns. Talking heads in media and academics are secretly hired to promote the policy of occupations. No wonder, despite all the obvious fraud, deception, and lies, the mainstream American media gave green card to the Neocon-Zionist-Crusader coalition to justify their pre-emptive war against Iraq. The pictures of Rumsfeld shaking hands with Saddam at the time Saddam was committing his horrendous atrocities against Kurds and Iran as a puppet of US-Inc, somehow became a footnote, rather than an incriminating headline, demonstrating the hypocrisy of warmongers.

The cycle of violence has since been accelerated by religious fanatics on all sides. The Zionist-Crusader-Capitalist coalition on one side, and the Salafi-Mullah-Taliban coalition on the other side, each adding more fuel to the fire. Each with their own agendas. Zionists hope to grab more land, Crusaders pray for a bloody Armageddon followed by Rapture, the capitalist salivates for more profit from wars; and the other gang weep for the Mahdi to come with its sword to seek out Jews hiding behind rocks. Another aspect of recent conflict between Christendom and Muslims is the empty shoes of "evil" after the demise of communism. Global oligarchs, who strengthen their political and financial capital during conflicts and mass paranoia, were looking for a substitute to communism. With a mixture of covert operations, provocations, unjustified wars, tyrant puppets, the lesser-of-two-evil policy, and training future terrorists, the mission is almost accomplished.

Now, Muslims in general, and Arabs in particular will be christened as the new face of evil. Knowing the history, we should not be surprised to witness another genocide and another use of nuclear weapons, followed by tears of regret, confession sessions, and cry of "Never again!" So long as people do not use their God-given reasoning and follow their clergymen and politicians blindly, Satan will use every tool at his disposal to create artificial divisions, hostility and hatred among the children of Adam. And Satan, who has a successful record of enticing since Cain & Abel, has always found religious clergymen and jingoistic politicians to be his best allies in his acts of corruption, destruction, and blood-shed on earth.

To the East, Muslims, and the Middle East:

The following words are not from an enemy of yours, but from someone who shares the same book and the same history. These are the words of someone who cares a great deal about you. Someone who cries at night for your plight, for the tragedies which have befallen you. This is someone who knows your generosity, your sincerity, your unfulfilled dreams, your aspirations, your tragedies, your fears, your follies and delusions. You should listen, at least once. Enough prejudice and bigotry. Enough paranoia and hatred.

We must acknowledge the truth so that the truth will set us free.

Before looking around to point fingers at the cause of your problems, first look at the mirror. I do not mean that you should ignore the imperialistic ambitions of other nations and their open or clandestine interferences with the politics, economy and culture of your people. But, you cannot change your condition unless you change yourself. You cannot glorify the invasions, aggressions, massacres, and imperialistic policy of corrupt Umayyad, Abbasid, and Ottoman caliphs in your history and at the same time morally be critical of others for doing the same. Had God given you the same superiority, perhaps you would inflict the earth with more corruption and destruction than your current powerful enemies. You cannot kick them out from your home unless you reform yourself and your home. You cannot demand mercy from others if you do not have mercy on yourself.

We must acknowledge the truth so that the truth will set us free from self-righteousness.

Go check the list of patents issued last year. Check and see how many of them belong to a group, nation, religion you identify with. It should tell you a lot about your position in a world where information and technological progress is so crucial. Go check the list of prosperous countries. Check see how many of them belong to a group, nation, religion you identify with. Centuries ago, you were a role model for civilization, justice, democracy, and freedom; once you were a pioneer in mathematics, astronomy, medicine, and philosophy. Now look around and look at the mirror; who are you? You followed the religious *fatwa* of a *sheikh ul-islam* (highest cleric within the Ottoman Empire) who prohibited the use of printing machine from 1455 to 1727 for 272 years, for 100,000 precious days, in a vast land stretching from North Africa to Iran, from today's Turkey to Arabian Peninsula. While Europe indulged in learning God's signs in nature, shared the knowledge via printing machines, and was rewarded by God with renaissance, reform, technology, and prosperity; you devolved and sunk further in your ignorance. While Europeans engaged in philosophical arguments, you recited the holy book no better than a parrot, the book that highlighted the importance of learning, questioning, discovery, and pursuit of knowledge. You marveled at handwritten books of hearsay and superstition, at the lousy arguments developed by Gazzali who with the full support of a king aimed to banish philosophy. While Europe sought for a better system to save themselves from the tyranny of kings and church, you recited handwritten poems to praise your corrupt kings and idols. No wonder why, your land, your name, your face, your religion is now associated with backwardness, ignorance, oppression, violence, and poverty. You have become the bum of the world.

We must acknowledge the truth so that the truth will set us free from our ignorance.

Once the religious among you hoped that the theocracy of mullahs would fulfill your dream, would bring back the glorious days of your past. They promised "*istiqlal, azadi, hukumet-i islam*" (independence, freedom, Islamic government); yet what you ended up with a swarm of leaches with turbans, repression, and a satanic government. Some of you hoped that a Sunni Taliban in Afghanistan would bring dignity and glory to you. What they brought was worse than the Saudi regime: they put women in black sacks, revived the barbaric stoning practice, regressed to the times of tribalism, denied women education, exponentially increased ignorance, and turned Afghanistan into an international farm for opium. You did not question the religion and sect you inherited from your parents or the teachings of the mullah, the sheikh, or the imam. You little examined the nightmare sold to you as dreams.

We must acknowledge the truth so that the truth will set us free from our own transgression.

God blessed you with crucial natural resources, so that you could utilize it for your prosperity. Yet, their proceeds are wasted by corrupt, hedonistic, shortsighted, backward and oppressive kings, emirs, tribal leaders, and mullahs. Instead of gaining your freedom, instead of establishing the democratic system instructed by the holy book you claim allegiance, you are wasting your time in cafeterias, on the streets, and in rotten offices of antiquity, which produces nothing but zeros.

We must acknowledge the truth so that the truth will set us free from apathy and slavery.

Look at half of your population, your wives, mothers, sisters, daughters. What have you done to them? How can you hope to progress and attain peace, prosperity and God's mercy, while you have buried many of them alive? You cannot expect happiness, while you despise half of God's creation, your wives, mothers, sisters, and daughters; while you deprive them from their human rights given by their Creator, turn them to fractionally humans. You cannot tell God that you did all those evil things to please the idols called Bukhari, Muslim, Tirmizi, Ibn Hanbal, Ibn Maja, Abu Dawud, Malik, Kafi, and a herd of other imams, mullahs and clergymen. None of those idols will save you from God's justice. You are already paying dearly for your misogynistic beliefs and practices. You must apologize to your mothers, wives, sisters, and daughters for treating them like your slaves; you must repent for acting like Pharaohs against them.

We must acknowledge the truth so that the truth will set us free from the dark holes of our deception.

The world knows that Israel has transformed from a victim nation to a racist colonial power. Many progressive Jews too are painfully accepting this fact and they are fighting against it. The world sees and most people acknowledge the fascist policy, occupation, atrocities, massacres, and humiliation committed against the Palestinian people since 1948. The world knows that Israel has killed many more Palestinian children than the Palestinian suicide bombers have done. The

numbers and events are out there recorded to prove that Israel has used state terrorism against Palestinian people. The world knows that a coalition of Crusaders, Zionists, and weapon/oil and other interest groups, nested in towers of power are using American tax money, military, and political power to perpetuate this tragedy, hoping for the Armageddon, more land, or bloody profits from wars. Nevertheless, again you must look in the mirror. What have you done, what have you become? You have become as racist as the Zionist you condemn. You condemn Jews without discrimination, Jews that raised many great prophets, philosophers, scientists, and inventors whom you revere and admire. You have become a suicidal nation. Though there were more than mere pacifism into Gandhi's resistance against British colonialism, Gandhi's struggle provided a great example for you. Instead, you followed ignorant leaders, racist and manipulative politicians, terror organizations, misguided religious clerics, and your hormones. If you had taken lessons from modern history and you had used your mind more than your animalistic instincts, if you had followed the Quran rather than the religious teachings that promote violence and racism, by now you would be living next to Israel sharing Jerusalem peacefully as brothers and sisters. You cannot have God's mercy if you respond to hatred with hatred, racism with racism, atrocities with atrocities. You cannot attain freedom and peace without sincerely asking the same thing for your enemies. How can you claim to be muSLiMs, while you have taken SiLM (peace), out of it?

We must acknowledge the truth so that the truth will set us free from violence that has surrounded us.

By continuing along the path of denial and sectarianism, you are risking more than just happiness and dignity in this world, but you also risk shame and retribution in the Hereafter!

"Those who had rejected will be told: "God's abhorrence towards you is greater than your abhorrence towards yourselves, for you were invited to acknowledge, but you chose to reject." They will Say, "Our Lord, You have made us die twice, and You have given us life twice. Now we have confessed our sins. Is there any way out of this path?" This is because when God Alone was mentioned, you rejected, but when partners were associated with Him, you believed. Therefore, the judgment is for God, the Most High, the Most Great." (40: 10-12)

Unless you are willing to take the necessary and painful steps of reform through self-examination and research, you will be led by the mold of complacency and blind followings into the abyss that is becoming your fate. You must turn to the true system of Islam, as revealed by God through His messenger, and stop blindly following your scholars and leaders into distortions and unauthorized teachings. You have been losing continuously because you have abandoned the word of God and replaced it with other religious laws and teachings which in-turn has caused God to abandon you and leave you to your folly.

This life is not just about fun and games; it is about fulfilling our part of the pledge with God and proving that we can serve Him Alone.

"And when God Alone is mentioned, the hearts of those who do not believe in the Hereafter are filled with aversion; and when others are mentioned beside Him, they rejoice!" (39: 45)

Are you ready to embrace the path of God Alone and abandon all your idolatry? Or, will you continue to lose? We must acknowledge the truth so that the truth will set us free.

To the West, Christians, and Americans:

The following words are not from an enemy of yours, but from someone who is a member of your society and cares about your interest as much as you care. These are not the words of a politician either, who is ready to break a world record in somersault to appease you; neither the words of a religious leader who lives in a parallel universe of deception and hallucination. These are the words of a common man who left his country behind to seek peace, justice, and liberty. These are the words of a grateful person who found such a refuge in your midst. So, do not treat these words of advice with prejudice, but with care. Do not be scared to hear the truth about your "way of life" which always highlighted the freedom of expression and justice for all. Do not expect me to count the list of the many good things you have accomplished; you hear them frequently from speeches and news in your media, and you celebrate them in your holidays. Sure, you should remember the good things in your past, present, and remember them, so that you can continue repeating those good things. However, you need to hear the other voice too; the voice that you have not yet allocated a holiday to hear. You should open your ears to what you do not hear from those who

have invested interest in caressing your ego, nationalism, patriotism, and feelings. I think you do not wish to be aloof to the facts around you and repeat the pattern of all fallen civilizations in history. Do not be arrogant, aloof, self-righteous, and selfish, since they will only inflict you further harm.

We must acknowledge the truth so that the truth will set us free.

Since you have separated the church from state, since you have appreciated the importance of freedom, God has blessed you with progress, abundance and prosperity. Though your history is tainted with wars, oppression, superstitions, and injustices, such as crusades, inquisition, indulgences, sectarian wars, witch-hunt, holocaust, slavery, racism, colonialism, misogynistic practices, sexual abuse, you seem to have learned from the past mistakes and have come up with a better functioning society that tolerates diversity and respects science. Though your society suffers from a myriad of problems such as promiscuous lifestyle, sexually transmitted diseases, high divorce rate, high crimes, videogames teaching violence, addiction with drugs and alcohol, gambling, greed, big gap between rich and poor, children abused by priests, high number of prisoners per capita, homelessness, waste, pollution, jingoism, apathy, etc., your constitutions, courts, congresses, and academic institutions are still functioning. Freedom has its own side effects, and having the freedom of living one's life according to their own choice, without the fear of government repression is by far the greatest value. The greatest danger to your society is the corruption of the democratic process through the influence of money and lobbies. When big corporations control your finance, media, and congress, your democracy and freedom will be only an illusion. However, there is hope, since you frequently demonstrate the confidence to be self-critical and you are able to acknowledge your weaknesses and shortcomings. You have also demonstrated times and again that you have the ability to find novel solutions for social, economic, and political problems. You have shown grace and generosity against your former enemies.

We must acknowledge the truth so that the truth will set us free from self-righteousness.

The world has shrunk due to increase in population, pollution, economic interdependence, mass transportation, and speed and ease in communication; thus, you can no more have a world with half of it eating themselves to obesity while the other half starving to death. You can no more spend billions of dollars on pets, millions of dollars for cosmetic surgeries (including on your pets), gulp world's limited resources to feed your ever-increasing appetite for consuming, and yet expect love and admiration from the rest of the world to your capitalism, the system you adhere to like a religion. How can you convince the world that you are the bastion of liberty while your prison industry is booming and you have the highest number of prisoners per capita in the world? You can no more support cruel, corrupt, regressive puppet regimes and occupying military forces, and expect not being hurt by those who you have deprived directly or indirectly from freedom, education, progress, prosperity and hope. You can no more self-righteously claim to be a free and civilized nation while spending a great portion of your national production on conventional and unconventional weapons, which transforms you into arrogant beasts running from one war to another, from one occupation to another. You can no more fool yourselves to be a peaceful nation while you have been shedding the blood of millions of people around the globe in more than hundred wars, covert operations and occupations in less than a century! You cannot condemn terrorism without apologizing to humanity for destroying not one, but two cities in its entirety as retaliation to an attack of your enemy to your military base. If terrorism means to intimidate the enemy by aiming at civilians, then you should look in the mirror without trying to find justification for your own aggression and acts of terrorism. You cannot talk about a free and better world while you reject banning landmines that kill and maim so many innocent people every day.

We must acknowledge the truth so that the truth will set us free from our own transgression.

Watch out for the right (wrong) wing religious organizations; when they are passionate about a social or political issue think thrice. If their historical record is a measure, they occasionally get it right, but usually they are wrong, very wrong. You cannot let the left-behind fiction fans lead your global policy. However, pay more attention to the other wing, to the other groups, such as Quakers. Their record, their conscience, their heart, their stand for peace and justice, is what you need. We are not telling you to turn your left cheek when you are slapped; but beware of getting intoxicated with power. While you might be pretending to be David, without knowing, your arrogance and transgression might transform you into a Goliath. The change might be slow, so you might not be able to notice it by looking at yourself through the mirror; especially when there are

some politician magicians and their entourage whose job is to distort and contort the mirror so that you cannot see yourself as you should.

We must acknowledge the truth so that the truth will set us free from our sins.

You can no more give lip service to the Biblical advice regarding the speck and plank in the eyes. You can no more ignore the fact that those who live by sword are destined to die by the sword. You can no more preach, "Love your enemy" while you are out there trying every means possible to hurt your friends, half-friends, and potential friends. You can no more talk about "the golden rule" while you are working hard to justify the "iron rule" under the euphemistic expression, "preemptory strike." You can no more talk about human rights and freedom while at the same time, you have turned little islands and navy ships into torture centers and you have become the inventors of a diabolic scheme called "offshore interrogation." How come America that once led the establishment of the United Nations and promotion of Human Rights, now has turned torture into an international enterprise and high tech affair? How can you allow the gulags such as, Abu Gharib and Gitmo happen? Yes, you have not broken the records of Stalin, Mao, Hitler, Pol Pot; but you should not be competing with them. Your founding fathers did not fight for independence and did not draft one of the best legal documents in human history so that you become a super war machine and be the cowboy of the world. You carpet bombed dozens of countries in your short history, destroying hundreds of cities and killing millions of them. You destroyed two big cities with its civilian population as retaliation to losing less than three thousands of your soldiers in Pearl Harbor. As a retaliation to losing less than three thousand civilians by a terrorist organization, which once you trained and financed, you started two wars, killed hundreds of thousands, destroyed many cities, and are still looking for more countries to destroy. How can you label your revenge, your aggression, your disrespect to the lives of other people, as "freedom" or "civilization"? You cannot change the reality by fabricating fancy names in your PR rooms and spinning them as the corporate media your accomplice. You cannot fool the world by replacing one puppet regime with another, by supporting oppressive and cruel tyrants in Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Pakistan, Israel, and then congratulate yourselves for being the champion of "freedom" and "democracy." You cannot preach about morality, rights, and God, as long as you do not value the lives of each innocent human being equally, regardless of their religion, nationality and color. You have been taking wars, destruction, death, horror and terror to many nations around the world without even changing your fancy lifestyle at home. Now, you are enraged and you demand justice from the world because you have tasted a small fraction of what others have tasted.

We must acknowledge the truth so that the truth will set us free from the dark holes of our deception.

Why should we treat terrorizing an entire nation, destroying their cities, killing, torturing, and humiliating their children and youth in the name of "democracy and liberty" lightly? Why killing tens of thousands of civilians should be forgiven if the murderers, who are also proven congenial liars, use the magic word "collateral damage?" Why smashing the brains of children with bombs or severing their legs and arms should be considered civilized and treated differently than beheadings? Why destroying an entire neighborhood or city and massacring its population by the push of a button from the sky should not be considered equally or more evil than the individual suicide bomber blowing himself or herself up among his powerful enemies who snuffed out all their hope? Why surviving to push another button to kill more people should be considered a civilized action not the action of those who gave their own lives while doing the killing? Why should the smile of a well-fed and well-armed mass murderer be deemed more sympathetic than the pain and anger of a poor person? How can one honestly call an occupying foreign military force to be freedom fighters? How can one call the native population to be terrorists just because they are fighting against an arrogant and lethal occupation army, which was mobilized against them through lies and deception? Why are the children of poor Americans used to kill the children of poor countries?

We must acknowledge the truth so that the truth will set us free from violence that has surrounded us.

You should not favor one criminal over another because of their religion or nationality. Your media did not depict the Serbian rapists and murderers as Christian Murderers, nor they labeled IRA terrorists who engaged in a long sectarian terror campaign that took the lives of thousands, as Christian terrorists. The right wing Christian militia that massacred thousands of Palestinian refugees in Sabra and Shatilla camps somehow lost their religion when they became news on your

media. The same with terrorist groups who claimed the cause of Zionism. Furthermore, you should know that state terrorism, regardless of the nationality and religion of the population, is much more cruel, dangerous, and sinister than the group or individual terrorism. In your stand against war, violence, and terrorism, you must be consistent and fair. Peacemakers and promoters must protest and condemn the atrocities regardless as to whether those engaged in atrocities have a uniform on them or not. If military uniform justifies the acts of terror, destruction, or genocide, then Nazi soldiers should receive your sympathy.

We must acknowledge the truth so that the truth will set us free.

One world, one nation

We must eliminate the nationalistic virus that alienates the children of Adam and turns them into monsters against each other. We must consider the entire world as a one community and work hard to break the artificial borders and walls erected between humanity. This is not only morally right, it is the only way we can survive on this little planet. We can no more be reckless in treating this planet, this precious earth, and can no more be myopically selfish in our dealing with other nations. Otherwise, we will inhale and poison ourselves with each other's pollution, we will suffer calamities caused by global warming, we will spend a great portion of our national production, shed the blood of many innocent people, and lose our individual freedoms for security because of the economic and political problems on the other side of the world. The world has become smaller and troubles are shared more than ever before. We must act now as a world, we must revive the spirit of the United Nation with a new vision. We can no more afford jingoism, macho attitude, another world war, always looking for an "evil" outside us, retaliating violence and terror with our own version of violence and terror. We should not let terrorists or warmongers define our vision, our destiny, since they will only bring more disasters for humanity. We should not allow evil whisperers to dupe us into inflicting another holocaust against another race; we should have learned our lesson. We should not tolerate authoritarian regimes, corrupt leaders, kings, and emirs in our countries; we must be braver than the corrupt bullies. We should be vigilant against the myopic and greedy interest groups that have grown like cancer tumors in our democracies, infecting legislation, judiciary, executive branches and the mass media.

Hopefully, this century will be the century of unity under the banner of "God Alone," so that the children of Adam will greet each other with peace by saying, "your system/religion is for you and my system/religion is for me." So that, all humanity, including atheists and polytheists, share this planet in peace and justice.

"The Lord your God is One God.

You shall worship the Lord your God
with all your heart,
with all your soul,
with all your mind,
with all your strength."

(Old Testament, Deuteronomy 6:4; New Testament, Mark 12:29-30)

"God bears witness that there is no god but He, as do the Angels, and those with knowledge, He is standing with justice. There is no god but Him, the Noble, the Wise." (The Quran, 3:18)

"Say, 'O followers of the scripture, let us come to a logical agreement between us and you: that we do not worship except God, that we never set up any idols besides Him, and never set up each other as gods beside God.' If they reject such an agreement, then say, 'Bear witness that we are Submitters.'" (The Quran 3:64)

The truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

Therefore:

Let's reject all other religious teachings besides the Quran, and let's dedicate the system to God alone.

Let's stop the plans of Crusader-Zionist coalition to depict Islam and Muslims evil by provoking marginal elements among us through planting oppressive puppet regimes, brutal wars, occupations, and clandestine operations.

Let's topple the oppressive monarchs, and elect our own leaders so that we can have peace, liberty and justice. So that we can eliminate the excuse of the Crusader-Zionist coalition that uses "liberty" as a pretext to bomb our cities, occupy our lands, plunder our natural resources, and deceive their own people.

Let's fight not with bullets or bombs, but with intelligence and wisdom.

Let's give up superstitions and medieval culture, and start engaging in scientific enterprise.

Let's stop subjugating our mothers, sisters, daughters and wives; let's give them back their dignity, equal rights, liberty, and identity.

Let's unite our voice and prayers with Christians, Buddhists, Jews, Agnostics, anyone who seek justice and peace, rather than injustice and war.

Let's organize local and international conferences to discuss this issue. We may invite religious scholars of every sect or cult, but we should not let them run them, since our experience shows that they have not done a good job in leading Muslims.

Edip Yuksel

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[1] There are hundreds of books written on this subject. Mahmud Abu Rayya's book, *Adwa' 'ala al-Sunna al-Muhammadiya*, is an outstanding book since Abu Rayya was a contemporary Sunni scholar and he used the so-called "authentic" sources to demonstrate the manifold problems inflicting *hadith* and *sunna*. It can be considered an honest confession of a Sunni scholar regarding the amount of the dirt seeped into the so-called "authentic *hadith* books". We highly recommend Rashad Khalifa's groundbreaking book, *Quran, hadith and Islam*. This book breaks the spell of diabolic teachings by reminding us the relevant Quranic verses; results show that it provides one of the fastest detoxification programs. Ahmad Kassim's *hadith: a Reevaluation* is another good book. My book, "19 Questions For Muslim Scholars," though originally a thin book, contains nineteen selected critical analysis and discussions on selected issues. A recent book by Dr. Caner Taslaman, "Fabricated Religion versus Quranic Religion," is noteworthy for its comprehensive evaluation of sectarian teachings and the powerful arguments against them. For the Jewish influence on Islam, I recommend a Turkish book, *Tefsirde Israiliyat (Jewish Stories on Quranic Commentaries)* by Abdullah Aymaz.

[2] Every sect does not necessarily subscribe to all of the following theological statements, but most are common belief catechism among the major sects who have abandoned the Quran).

[3] For a more detailed critical evaluation of modern Christianity, you may read Edip Yuksel's "19 Questions For Christian Clergy"