

# Islam:

## The Secret of Success

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## **ISLAM: The Secret of Success**

**T**he late Harold Levy, who, in his time, was probably the most distinguished Jewish educator in Britain, once suggested to me that studying the vast sea of Jewish traditional writings was like walking through a beautiful garden and picking flowers. I would certainly not use the same comparison when talking about Islam; nor would I compare the process to picking flowers. But the subject of Islam is so vast that this afternoon I can only lift a corner of the curtain.

I want to read you part of a lecture delivered some years ago by a person I shall identify later. After I have done so, I shall ask whether your reaction is positive or negative.

*Despite the dazzling advancements of human society in the fields of science, technology, culture and art, man is still a victim to misery and suffering everywhere. We see examples of hunger and homelessness in the most advanced nations where many live below the poverty level. We see examples of this all over the world today in every nation, including the industrialized nations of Europe, Asia and*

*the Americas.*

*We see oppression and persecution in the form of regional wars motivated by outdated norms of fanaticism, of which true divine religion is absolutely innocent. As major world organizations formed to promote peace and safeguard the world community, the United Nations, the United Nations Security Council and the European Community stand powerless. This brings into question the real value of these agencies and, specifically, whether they are really working for world peace, or for the sole interests of the powerful.*

*We see the ease and speed with which these organizations implement some resolutions, while on the other hand we see their procrastination in the execution of other resolutions which remain on paper only, as though they have two sets of values. On occasion, the Big Powers resort to the veto on important measures in the Security Council, which makes us ask if it really is for the sake of international peace.*

*My dear audience, the man of the twentieth century faces serious dangers from epidemics such as AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases, ethnic disruptions and misuse of the environment. In so far as the latter is concerned, the earth's atmosphere, water, and soil have become so polluted, that man is facing the very real threats of desertification and global warming, as a result of the emission of greenhouse gases and the depletion of the ozone layer.*

*There is, however, an even greater danger that confronts man, which is the loss of love and compassion in the hearts of most people. The disintegration of the family structure, the intrinsic unit of any society, is due to the lack of emotion which creates the sense of responsibility of the individual towards his family. As a result, we find in our time an increase in the divorce rate, children running away from homes, brothers fighting with each other, the misuse of intoxicants and drug addiction. This disintegration is not limited only to the family, but is seen in the general distancing of man from his fellow man.*

*If we ask ourselves the reason for this deterioration which has befallen*

*modern man and threatens his very existence, we must acknowledge its origins in individual, nationalistic, or religious egotism, which have weakened mankind's link with the divine law. This situation has allowed man's baser self to dominate his rationality, crippling his very humanity. We see him uttering the wisdom of the prophets and sages without putting it into action.....”.*

What is your opinion of this address? Could it not be described as a cry from the heart of a civilized human being, appalled at the state of the world today?

Now, I shall read the parts I left out of this inspiring analysis of what ails the world today, which was delivered by the late Grand Mufti of Syria, Sheikh Ahmad Kuffaro in April 1993, to the Global Forum on Changing Values for Human Survival in Kyoto, Japan:

*“There is a group of people in the world today who consider themselves superior to the rest of mankind. They believe this gives the license to commit such atrocities as rape, enforced migration of peoples from their homeland and persecution to the point of genocide in the name of ethnic cleansing. Thus, in the struggle for dominance man has adopted for himself a new set of values that have spread in the form of aggression, terrorism and organized crime, which controls arms, sex and drugs. Is this the New World Order with its global justice that humanity aspires for?”*

Who he was referring to?

**The Jews!**

Now he gets to the point:

**I**n order to rescue the ship of humanity from sinking and thus save mankind, it is necessary to resort to the heavenly laws which have no bias towards anyone, be he a prophet, or a man of power,

*except to the truth whatever it may be. Furthermore, it is necessary to liberate man from ignorance and immorality. Such noble values, however, require from us a complete and total dedication, self-sacrifice, and coordinated willing efforts for the good of all mankind. There is no peace so long as there is the oppressor and the oppressed, the over-fed and the hungry. We must return to the essence of religious values, which were perfected by the teachings of Muhammad, the messenger of Islam, who described himself in the following words: The likeness of me and the Prophets before me is that of a building which they completed except for the last stone, and I am that last stone.*

*It is the values adopted by a man of reason, knowledge, wisdom and the purification of the soul, that instils in him the love for his fellow man, a love so comprehensive and sincere that he prefers his fellow being over himself. As Muhammad, in concert with all the Prophets, says: None of you is a believer until he loves for his brother (man) that which he loves for himself.*

*It is these values that liberate man, freeing him from the worship of his fellow being, from ignorance, superstition, and from sectarianism and religious fanaticism. They liberate him from the worship of his baser self to the worship of God, the Creator, Whose justice does not discriminate between white and the black, strong and the weak, or rich and the poor.*

*Muhammad, the messenger of Islam, describes the justice of the Creator in the following terms:*

*Should you not side with those who have rights! Verily they have the right to proclaim them.*

*The Quran of Islam says: 'Be just and fair and witnesses for God even against yourselves, parents, or next of kin.' T.Q., Sura 4, The Women, verse 135.*

*It also says: 'God enjoins and commands justice, benevolence and the help of relatives and forbids inequity wrong doing and transgression.'*

*T.Q., Sura 16, The Bee, verse 90.*

*Muhammad further emphasizes this by saying: 'God does not regard a people who do not do justice by taking the rights of the weak from the powerful among them.'*

*In this we see Muhammad calling for high moral values and standards, applying them first to himself, perfecting them to the point that if he wronged someone he hurried to compensate him, and if he distributed charity he did so unbiasedly.*

*He condemned the maltreatment of any person on the grounds of color, race or religion. He called people to regard the revealed religions with respect and commanded adherence to them by their respective followers. All this was done in order to create a productive human society in which the individual was favored on the basis of his piety, the observance of duty, the protection of rights, and the shunning of evil.*

*Man now fears his fellow man and is more at home with the beast of the jungle, which only attacks its prey when hungry. As for man today he devours his prey despite his satiety. He has infected himself with the viruses of lust and greed. Through the bitterness of his plight, he spreads his disease broadcasting promiscuity and pornography throughout the world by use of satellites, as if he aims to eradicate any remnants of purity and virtue left in mankind.....*

*All of us know that our world is now but one global village, or a ship that ploughs the seas of the universe. In order to avoid the wreckage of this ship upon the rocks of egotism, corruption, and oppression, it is necessary for men of wisdom, heralders of justice and those who dedicate themselves to the cause of high ideals and values, to join together with the men of religion and lay down a blue-print for a building furnished with the best values of all the revealed religions. Thus, they will create a building which welcomes men of all nations to enter, live under its security, and roam freely through its rooms.*

*Hence, I call for the use of a book, each chapter of which specializes in each religion, to be taught by qualified and sincere teachers in schools*

*throughout the world. It should express the brotherhood of mankind, the importance of knowledge, wisdom and self purification. It must be an advocate of justice, equality and instill in the reader compassion towards the creation of God. Muhammad says: All creatures are God's dependents, the most loved by God are those who are most helpful to them. In short, this book must represent the mission of the Prophets of all revealed religions. God defines this mission addressing Muhammad in the Quran"*



I shall now compare the learned Sheikh's fulsome praise of Mohammed, and his quotations from the Koran, with a few others he did not quote: But first – a brief historical sketch.

Born in 610, Mohammed told his wife when he was 40 years old that he had been visited by a majestic being whom he later identified as the archangel Gabriel, who told him "You are the messenger of God." Said to receive frequent revelations. Mohammed and his followers memorized them and sometimes wrote them down. About 650 supposedly collected and written down in the Koran, the sacred scriptures of Islam. Muslims believe the Koran is divine revelation written in the very words of God himself. In 619 his "journey to heaven" took place, when one night the archangel Gabriel supposedly took him from Mecca to "the farthest mosque," on the back of a mule-like beast with a human head, before making a trip through the "seven heavens." There he met all the previous prophets, including Adam, Jesus, Moses and Abraham before being taken into the presence of God to be instructed in proper worship.

And now – a few other quotations from the Quran:

*'Slay the idolaters wherever you find them. Arrest them, besiege*

*them, and lie in ambush for them everywhere.’ (Sura 9:5.)*

*‘Fight those who do not believe in Allah or the Last Day, nor hold that forbidden which hath been forbidden by Allah and his apostle, nor acknowledge the Religion of Truth (i.e., Islam), even if they are people of the Book, until they pay the tax with willing submission and feel themselves subdued.’ (Sura 9:29.)*

*‘Seize them and slay them wherever you find them.’ (Sura 4, 89,91.)*

*‘Do not falter or sue for peace; you will be the upper ones.’ (Sura 47:35.)*

*‘Religion with God means Islam.’ (Sura 3:19.)*

*‘Sedition is more serious than killing..’ (Sura 2:191.)*

*‘As for the unbelievers, it is the same whether or not you forewarn them; they will not have faith. God has set a seal upon their hearts and ears; their sight is dimmed and grievous punishment awaits them.’ (Sura 2:5.)*

*‘He that chooses a religion other than Islam, it will not be accepted from him and in the world to come he will surely be among the losers.’ (Sura 3:86.)*

*‘Those that deny our revelations we will burn in fire. No sooner will their skins be consumed than we shall give them other skins, so that they may truly taste the scourge. Surely God is mighty and wise.’ (Sura 4:56.)*

Note that these are quotations from the Quran itself. They are not modern outpourings from the mouths of ‘Islamists’, ‘Islamofascists’, ‘Radicals’, ‘Extremists’, ‘Fanatics’ or other euphemisms spouted by those who prefer to believe that there is a ‘moderate Islam’ or a ‘mainstream Islam’. It is less threatening to believe that only a hijacked small segment of Islam is radically or politically driven and that the main body of Islam is indeed moderate and non-political. Islam is both religious and political to the core. In Islam mosque and state are one and the same. This goes back to Mohammed himself – as we

can see from the following summary of the picture of Mohammed in the writings of his biographer, Ibn Ishaq.

The character attributed to Mohammed in the biography of Ibn Ishaq is exceedingly unfavorable— *'...in order to gain his ends he (Muhammad) recoils from no expedient, and he approves of similar unscrupulousness on the part of his adherents, when exercised in his interests. He profits to the utmost from the chivalry of the Meccans, but rarely requites it with the like. He organizes assassinations and wholesale massacres. His career as tyrant of Medina is that of a robber chief, whose political economy consists in securing and dividing plunder, the distribution of the latter being carried out on principles that fail to satisfy his followers' ideas of justice. He is himself an unbridled libertine and encourages the same passion in his followers. For whatever he does he is prepared to plead the express authorization of the deity. It is, however, impossible to find any doctrine he is not prepared to abandon in order to secure a political end. At different points in his career he abandons the unity of God and his claim to the title of Prophet.'*

This is a disagreeable picture for the founder of a religion! It cannot be pleaded that it is a picture drawn by an enemy, and even though Ibn Ishaq's name was for some reason held in low esteem by the classical traditionalists of the third Islamic century, they make no attempt to discredit those portions of the biography which bear hardest on the character of their Prophet.

It is a fact that even *'moderate'* Islam is radical in its beliefs— as well as its deeds. Vast numbers of Muslims believe that all non-Muslims, bar none, are hellfire bound and well-deserve being maltreated to the utmost. No radical barbaric act of depravity is out of bounds for Muslims in dealing with others. They destroy precious statues of Buddhas, level sacred monuments of other religions, and bulldoze the cemeteries of non-Muslims – to give just a few examples.

Muslims are even radical in their intrafaith dealings. Various

sects and subsects pronounce other sects and subsects as heretics worthy of death; women are treated as chattels, deprived of many rights; hands are chopped off for stealing even a loaf of bread; sexual violations are punished by stoning. These, and much more, are standard day-to-day ways of the mainstream *moderate* Muslims living under the stone-age laws of the Sharia

*Moderate* Islam has been genocidal from its inception. Their own historians record that Ali, the first Imam of the Shiites and son-in-law of Mohammed, with the help of another man, beheaded 700 Jewish men in the presence of the prophet himself. The prophet of Allah and his disciples took the murdered men's women and children in slavery. Slave trade, even today, is a thriving business in Islamic lands where wealthy, perverted sheikhs purchase children of the poor from traffickers for their sadistic gratification.

Muslims are taught deception and lying in the Quran itself – something that Mohammed practiced in his life whenever he found it expedient. Successive Islamic rulers and leaders have done the same. Khomeini, the founder of the 1979 Iranian Revolution, for instance, rallied the people under the banner of democracy. All along his support for democracy was not a commitment of an honest man, but a ruse of a true Muslim. As soon as he gathered the reins of power, Khomeini went after those who Lenin called 'useful idiots' of his time with a vengeance. These best children of Iran, having been thoroughly deceived, had to flee the country to avoid the fate of tens of thousands who were imprisoned by this Imam.

But the most savage, barbaric phenomenon of all is the deliberate use of children as human shields; the use of residential districts as a base for operations; the deliberate positioning of rocket emplacements and command centres in civilian areas - a sure way of prompting Israeli counterattacks and the inevitable civilian deaths that result, thus providing an effective weapon in the propaganda war against Israel.

Not a trace of all this is found in Sheikh Kuftaro's benign presentation of Islam; and it is the merit of the British researcher, Dr. Clifford Denton, to have analysed in his files '*The Challenge of Islam*' the process by which Islamic propagandists have succeeded so well:

*'In modern times, Islam has swept throughout the world with a vigour and force unparalleled by any movement in human history.....It is an extremely important thing for us to recognize the variety of faces of Islam and endeavour to understand the way these different faces can confront us....The picture of the worldwide expansion of a political/religious ideology is of a many-faceted movement taking and holding (rather like a large monster plodding relentlessly forward) country after country, people after people. Some would call Islam a chameleon, able to change its appearance to suit the surroundings. A study of the Koran will show the variety of different injunctions, some peaceful, some persuasive, some seductive, some aggressive. All religious and adamant, many ambiguous, none compromising, **but the whole inviting interpretation and adjustment to suit the surroundings, with an almost conscious choice of emphasis, so that Islam can express itself in many ways to take what it can where it can.**' (Italics mine.)*

Now we can understand the irresistible appeal of Sheikh Kuftaro's address. His analysis of the modern world's sicknesses is designed to appeal to any civilised audience. All the key words have been used – poverty, oppression, persecution, fanaticism, pollution, deterioration of family structure, divorce, divorce rates, loss of love and compassion, etc. Then, after an oblique reference to the Jews as the source of all evil, he comes to his real message: *"...the essence of religious values that were perfected by Mohammed, the Messenger of Islam, who described himself as the last of the Prophets."*

In all history there has been no brain-washing more effective than addresses like Sheikh Kuftaro's to his Japanese audience. The Muslim allies of Hitler learned the art of propaganda during their years

at Hitler's side in Berlin during World War II. They have far surpassed their mentors both in technique, ingenuity and technology. The result is that millions of people throughout the world are misled by selective and biased reporting, distorted imagery, and doctored photography. As *Time* contributor Christopher Allbritton revealed in a recent dispatch from Lebanon:

***'To the south along the curve of the coast, Hezbollah is launching Katyushas, but I am loath to say too much about them. The Party of God has a copy of every journalist's passport, and they've already hassled a number of us and threatened one.'***

To complete this birds-eye view, I want to refer you to this booklet. It is entitled '*Arab Theologians on Jews and Israel.*' It contains extracts in English of the Conference that took place in Cairo in 1968. I want to read you some examples of the main recurring themes of the papers that were read at the Conference by the venerable participants.

In his opening address, Dr. Abdul- Halim Mahmoud, Secretary-General of the Islamic Research Academy, declared: "*Because of the latter's (i.e., present-day Muslim societies') prolonged neglect and heedlessness, God has empowered against a queer medley of peoples gathered from every corner of the earth, raising the standard of a creed that is quite unrelated to God and in direct hostility to mankind at large.*"

Jews are frequently described as the '*enemies of God*' or '*the enemies of humanity*'. Following a continuous and unchanged Islamic tradition, the Bible is considered a counterfeited work, falsifying God's message. The Jews are a riff-raff and do not constitute a true people or nation. Their evilness has been transmitted throughout their history by means of their cultural inheritance. Thus, whoever is converted to Judaism is infected with their repugnant qualities. By their behaviour, the Jews have called forth the hatred and persecution of all the peoples with whom they have come into contact. They deserve their fate. The State of Israel is the culmination of the historical and cultural

depravity of the Jews. It has to be destroyed, having been established through aggression which is its congenital and immutable nature. This should be achieved by a Jihad – a Holy War. (p. 8)

Many participants reiterated that it is outrageous for the Jews, traditionally kept by Arab Islam in a humiliated and inferior status and characterized as cowardly, to defeat the Arabs, have their own State, and cause the contraction of the “abode of Islam. All these events contradict the march of history and God’s design. (pp. 8-9)

One member of the Academy, Muhammad Azzah Darwaza, declared: *‘The atrocities of the Jews are so terrible that they curdle one’s blood. Their wicked intentions towards all the Arabs and their countries are quite evident. They attacked their countries several times and occupied some areas of the Arab world in addition to all parts of Palestine.’* (p.36.)

The same learned gentleman concludes: *‘It is incumbent on the Muslims to strain every nerve and make all efforts in order to be well equipped by all means to fight the Jews. The Muslims should corner the Jews without feeling exhausted or tired as Allah enjoins upon them. The Muslims should spare no effort to exterminate their state and delivery every place of the Muslims’ homeland from the Jews’ desecration and keep under the control of the Islamic authorities as it was. Any slight indifference to this matter is indeed a shameful sin against religion.’* (ibid.)

The entire proceedings are permeated with sentiments such as these; indeed, it is difficult to realize that the occasion was an ‘academic conference’ and not a racist harangue before a frenzied mob. . But there is one speech particularly to which I want to draw attention. Sheikh Mohammad Abu Zahra, an Egyptian member of the Academy, presented a paper entitled ‘*Punishment in Islam*’. Under the heading *Hadd* (punishment) for *Ridda* (Apostasy) he states: *‘Whoever changes his religion, put him to death.’* He then adds the following paragraph: (p.72.):

**'No one who professes a faith would ever think of adjuring it unless he discovers the falsity of its tenets. Islam, being based on true tenets, no believer ever thinks of rejecting it except under compulsion. Most apostates from Islam have only been opportunists who adopt Islam for worldly purposes and having achieved their selfish ends, relapse into their former faith. Such opportunists wantonly adopt the faith without any serious intent. It is only just that religion should be protected against such frivolous persons. A severe punishment must therefore be inflicted on apostates so that whoever embraces Islam should know the penalty awaiting him once he defects therefrom. And there is no doubt that anyone who enters a place, knowing that he is going to be shut within, will think twice before entering it unless he is firmly determined to stay permanently therein.'**

I wonder on which planet the learned Sheikh lives? It cannot be the same one as we inhabit – where the number of contributors to the website *'Arabs for Israel'* has now reached 1,560,000; and the number registered for the site FaithFreedom.org is nearly 500,000. The latter is stated to be 'a grassroots movement of Muslims' and its goals are (a) to 'unmask Islam and show that it is an imperialist ideology akin to Nazism; but disguised as a religion; and (b) to help Muslims leave it.'

And if *'no believer thinks of rejecting it'*( ie. Islam), how would he explain the writings of ex-Muslims such as ***Why I Left Jihad*** by Walid Shoebat, ***Leaving Islam*** by Ibn Warraq, ***The Trouble with Islam*** by Irshad Manji, ***Now they call me Infidel***, by Nonie Darwish— and a host of other ex-Muslims who write articles, and lecture at risk of their lives? I have an incomplete list of about two dozen, of which some have made an explosive entry into the media, such as Wafa Saltah.

The conclusion is clear!

The career of mankind on the earth has come to a critical point. The picture is not one of continuing progress and peace as was universally expected in the last half of the nineteenth century, and the beginning of the twentieth; It is a world of trouble and fear, in which values such as truth, honesty, morality, and humanity that were once considered eternal –are being replaced by lies, misery, oppression, fanaticism and genocide.

I well remember the helpless feeling of frustration in the 1930's when the world drifted towards war against Fascism, relying on appeasement of evil. I remember the same feeling while training as a pilot in the United States in December, 1941, wondering why the Americans couldn't foresee a surprise Japanese attack. Today, I have the same presentiment. The liberal democracies who are willing to sacrifice Israel are – knowingly or unknowingly - paving the way for the fulfillment of the age-old Islamic dream of world supremacy.

If – Heaven forbid - Israel were to be the first victim; the rest of the world would surely follow.

**Q.:** What is Islam's Secret of Success?

**A.:** The insane obsession by Western leaders in

- a) pretending that Islam is a peaceful religion, while
- b) seeking to appease its violent nature!