



In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

Submitters Perspective

Monthly Bulletin of International
Community of Submitters



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Submitters Who Are We?

The first issue of the *Submitters Perspective* newsletter was published in February 1985. Dr. Rashad Khalifa was the editor of the newsletter. He was the one who established Masjid Tucson and the United Submitters International organization. The newsletter was then called the "Muslim Perspective." Dr. Khalifa renamed it the "Submitters Perspective" with the December 1989 issue. His life in this world came to an end when some intruders assassinated him inside the masjid before dawn on January 30, 1990. It was his routine to come to the masjid (mosque) in the early hours of the day to continue his work on spreading the message of worshipping God alone. At the end of this article, you will find some excerpts from a Tucson daily news-

paper about what happened to some of these people who might be involved with the killing of Dr. Khalifa. According to the Quran, it is not unusual for people who deliver God's messages to be rejected, or even killed by their contemporaries.

We gave Moses the scripture, and subsequent to him we sent other messengers, and we gave Jesus, son of Mary, profound miracles and supported him with the Holy Spirit. Is it not a fact that every time a messenger went to you with anything you disliked, your ego caused you to be arrogant? Some of them you rejected, and some of them you killed. [2:87]

We know that ultimately whatever happens is in accordance with God's will and plan, and that God

allows it to happen for reasons known only to Him.

We are now entering our 19th year in continuous publication of the newsletter by the grace of God. We have had many distracting events happen over the years. However, we are persevering in the face of adversity and against Satan's schemes. God willing we are determined to continue the work Dr. Khalifa has left for us to the best of our ability. We hope to spread the same message all the messengers and prophets came with. This message has been specified for all humanity since the days of Adam: There is no god but GOD. Worship Him alone.

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Submitters

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Who is a Submitter and what is Submission?

Although the word "Submitter" is the English equivalent of the Arabic word "Muslim," and the word "Submission" is the English equivalent of the Arabic word "Islam," the underlying implication of these words is very profound, and far from the superficial meanings that are traditionally understood or used. Therefore, Dr. Khalifa initiated extensive usage of these words in his newsletters and translation of the Quran in order for people to differentiate between a so-called Muslim and a true Muslim or Submitter, and between the corrupted religion of Islam and the true Islam or Submission.

A Submitter can be defined as a person who submits to the will of God. The state of Submission, which can only take place between the person and God Almighty, is considered to be the only acceptable form of worship by God. (3:19, 85). Therefore, Submission is not just a name of a religion; rather it describes one's devotion to God alone.

Submission is a religion whereby one recognizes God's absolute authority, and reaches a conviction that only God possesses all power; no other entity possesses any power that is independent of Him. The natural result of such a realization is to devote one's life and one's worship absolutely to God alone. This is the First Commandment in all the scriptures, including the Old Testament, the New Testament and the Final Testament (The Quran).

Hear, O Israel!

The Lord our God is One God!

*Therefore you shall adore
the Lord your God
with all your heart,
with all your soul,
with all your mind,
and with all your strength.*

*[Deuteronomy 6:4-5, Mark
12:29-30, Quran 3:18]*

The commandment to worship God alone is also found in the Hindu scriptures:

*Let us meditate on God,
His glorious attributes,
who is the basis of everything in
this universe as its Creator,
who is fit to be worshiped
as Omnipresent, Omnipotent,
Omniscient
and self-existent conscious being,
who removes all ignorance
and impurities from the mind
and purifies and sharpens the intellect.*

[Gayatri Mantra, Yajur Veda]

Submitters only in Islam?

While every religion has been corrupted by innovations, traditions, and false, idolatrous doctrines, there may be "Submitters" within every religion. There may be Submitters who call themselves Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, or anything else. This is a concept the traditional and ignorant Muslims will fiercely object to, even though it is in the Quran, and we experience it constantly.

*They are not all the same; among
the followers of the scripture,
there are those who are righteous.
They recite GOD's revelations
through the night, and they
fall prostrate. [3:113]*

One of the reasons for this objection could be due to the implication of the terminology used. For example, the phrase "Christian submitter" may seem to introduce a conflict, since the traditional def-

inition of a Christian is the belief in the divinity of Christ. However, there are Christians who consider this idea to be blasphemous, and consequently they believe that Jesus was only a messenger of God. Similarly, there are people in other religions who believe in God Almighty, believe that they are accountable for their works, and they are righteous. A criterion of the true submitters is that they will find nothing objectionable in the Quran when they encounter it.

All these people are Submitters, and they collectively constitute the only religion acceptable to God.

Minimum Criteria

There are many more people out there who are Submitters in heart, but we may not be aware of them. Furthermore, they themselves may not know where to fit in. How can one know if he or she might qualify to be called a Submitter? The minimum criteria to be a Submitter are given in the following verses.

*Surely, those who believe,
those who are Jewish,
the Christians,
and the converts;
anyone who
(1) believes in GOD, and
(2) believes in the Last Day, and
(3) leads a righteous life,
will receive their recompense
from their Lord.
They have nothing to fear,
nor will they grieve.
[Quran 2:62, 5:69]*

Organizations

The Submitters have set up non-profit organizations over the years so that they can work in the cause of God more efficiently.

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ICS, the International Community of Submitters, and USI, the United

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Submitters International, are non-profit organizations that were initiated for this purpose. Masjid Tucson is the mosque for the Community of the Submitters in Tucson.

The Submitters follow the religion of Abraham (16:123). It was the religion of Moses and Jesus and Muhammad. It was the religion of all of the prophets and messengers. All of them were Submitters to God, and God alone.

How to Become a Member?

To join our organization, you do not need any membership, nor do you have to pay any dues. If you are a Submitter, then you are our brother or sister.

Submitters are members of one family. They are allies of one another. They help and support each other as God and His angels help and support them. They are also united in one column when striving in the cause of God.

One Unifying Religion

It is a known fact that all religions of the world—Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and others—have been corrupted one way or another through innovations, traditions, and the idolization of humans such as the prophets and the saints. Many people use religion to justify wars, terrorism, tyranny, and for economic and political gain.

The Submitters follow God's revelations, and obey God's commandments as well as they can. They follow the truth from their Lord, not corrupted religions and man-made doctrines.

As submitters, we believe that Submission today is like a precious jewel that is buried under

piles upon piles of man-made innovations. Our aim is to purge these innovations by upholding only God's revelations, and present the jewel of true Submission to the world. It is time for Submitters from all religions to come out and support each other to preach the true message of God and join the fight against the corruptions of their religions.

Say, "O followers of the scripture, let us come to a logical agreement between us and you: that we shall not worship except GOD; that we never set up any idols besides Him, nor set up any human beings as lords beside GOD." If they turn away, say, "Bear witness that we are submitters." [3:64]

If you want to be part of history in the making, you can join us in our cause. Just drop us a note and ask to be on the mailing list for our newsletter.

No Compulsion in Religion

If you received this newsletter by mistake, or you think this newsletter is not for you, just tell us. We will take you off our mailing list. On the other hand, if you like the newsletter, we would like to hear from you. Also if you know any other people whom you think may benefit from the newsletter, please let us know. We can arrange to send them complimentary issues of the newsletter.

Submitters of Masjid Tucson

Say, "We believe in GOD, and in what was sent down to us, and in what was sent down to Abraham, Ismail, Isaac, Jacob, and the Patriarchs, and in what was given to Moses, Jesus, and the prophets from their Lord. We make no distinction among any of them. To

Him alone we are submitters." [3:84]

Some notes on the assassination of Dr. Rashad Khalifa:

We get many questions asking us about the responsible parties who killed Dr. Khalifa, and whether they were caught and brought to justice. Unfortunately, up until now no one knows how many intruders there were to assassinate Dr. Khalifa and who actually ended up killing him. According to what is found by the police, these people also had intentions to blow up the entire mosque, but God did not let it happen. The community of Masjid Tucson trusts in God that He will protect the submitters from the actions of such evil people.

The following excerpts were taken from the Arizona Daily Star newspaper articles.

Wadih El-Hage, 41, who lived in Tucson in the 1980s, and was sentenced in New York on federal charges that he helped plot the 1998 bombings of U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, has been linked to Khalifa's murder.

El-Hage has also been linked to Osama Bin Laden's terror network. His name came up in 1992 as Colorado state investigators looking into Khalifa's death probed a radical Islamic sect known as Jamaat ul-Fuqra, or simply Fuqra, with a history of targeting Hindus and Islamics deemed heretics.

In 1989, police searching a storage locker rented by the group in the Denver suburb of Englewood discovered explosives, weapons and documents indicating a planned attack on the Tucson mosque.

Seven members of the Fuqra group, mostly black American Muslims, were indicted in 1992 on conspiracy charges related to Khalifa's killing and the 1984 bombing of a Hare Krishna-owned hotel in Denver, along with fraud and theft charges. Two Fuqra leaders were subsequently convicted of conspiracy charges, two were convicted of fraud charges and one pleaded guilty to theft.

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Masjid Tucson Activities

Soup Kitchen

We participate in an ongoing project to help feed the hungry in our town in cooperation with Casas Adobes congregational church and congregation-or-Chadash Jewish group. This project has started over ten years ago with soup kitchens every other month. Then we started doing it every month in 1997. However, since May 1998, we were able to do a soup kitchen twice a month because of the increased interest and contributions from the community by God's grace. Instead of feeding 300 people, we now feed 700 to 1000 homeless and poor people.

We use the kitchen facilities of Casa Maria, a Catholic run operation in south of Tucson. We also use the facility of Masjid Tucson to prepare the sandwiches before hand since Casa Maria kitchen is very tiny for the number of people that need to be fed.

Volunteers from the three communities run the soup kitchen. These volunteers get together twice a month. They buy all the necessary food for the soup kitchen. They prepare, cook and distribute the food the next day at the Casa Maria's kitchen facility. The last month's soup kitchen participation was on Jan 11 and 25. Hot meals and sandwiches were served to about 1000 needy people. May God accept the efforts of the volunteers.

Interfaith Study Group

An interfaith scripture study group has been on going at the ICS Mosque since October 1997. The group started meeting at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of every other month. So far these scripture studies have been very fruitful and lively. During the study, each group reads and discusses their scripture for about half an hour. The con-

Reader Comments

Peace

I'm an Egyptian man living in the US myself who was born and raised to follow the traditional form of Islam and by God's grace was guided to the true version. You know what made me start looking deeper and question my own beliefs.

My wife is a born and raised American like yourself and she's a Christian (not a traditional one and doesn't belong to any denomination). It all started by trying to see what our faiths had in common, then I started getting deeper in my studies and I started questioning things I was taught and raised to believe without questioning.

I've been studying different religions for about 5 years now and I'm convinced this is the true path. But again that's my own belief and I can't force it on anyone. After 5 years of marriage and 3 kids together (5 in all), my wife is still a Christian and I still love the special relationship she has with God.

C. S.

gregation-or-Chadash group directs the Torah reading. Casas Adobes congregational church members direct the Gospel reading and the participants from Masjid Tucson direct the Quran reading.

Sister Senobar coordinates the soup kitchen and interfaith scripture group activities.

Righteousness is not turning your faces towards the east or the west.

Righteous are those who believe in GOD, the Last Day, the angels, the scripture, and the prophets; and they give the money, cheerfully, to the relatives, the orphans, the needy, the traveling alien, the beggars, and to free the slaves; and they observe the Contact Prayers (Salat) and give the obligatory charity (Zakat); and they keep their word whenever they make a promise; and they steadfastly persevere in the face of persecution, hardship, and war. These are the truthful; these are the righteous. [Quran 2:177]