

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

Submitters Perspective

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How to Combat Religious Fanaticism?

Sectarianism and Terrorism born of fanaticism is posing the biggest threat to the peace and order in society and state. This orgy of murder and killing, resulting from years of indoctrination for religious intolerance and bigotry has already taken a huge toll of human lives. The tragic irony is that all these inhuman acts are being committed in the name of Islam that, by its very definition, has its root word in peace. It should attach the highest sanctity to innocent life, human or non-human. In clear and blatant violation of God's explicit command not to fragment their religion, our so-called professional religious leaders have contributed to this exploitation of religion.

[6:159] Those who divide themselves into sects do not belong with you. Their judgment rests with GOD, then He will inform them of everything they had done.

[3:105] Do not be like those who became divided and disputed, despite the clear proofs that were given to them. For these have incurred a terrible retribution.

No government especially in the so-called Islamic states has made even meager efforts to promote the cause of Islamic moral values such as justice, tolerance, austerity, honesty and accountability. There is only chaos and instability in the so-called Islamic countries. As such unless the fear of answerability in the Hereafter grips the hearts of the ruling classes, massive problems will not be solved because there would be no real commitment to the ethical values of Islam.

Teachings have to be propagated in the most tolerant and liberal approach and not through the ritualistic manner which is the way it is currently done in the Madressahs (Islamic Schools). These institutions are by and large shops of fanaticism and those who run them are mostly the source of sectarianism. They do not impart Islam's higher ideals of truth and justice, of reason and moderation, of humanity and compassion, of human unity and equality. Instead, they produce types of mind and character that are extremely narrow, closed, intolerant and opinionated. They resort to physical

punishment with rods and sticks, punishments that are repugnant to Islam's teaching and to modern educational theories. There is a downward and most apparent slide and yet both the rulers and ruled keep denying their wrong beliefs and actions.

Take for example the proliferation of the so-called Madressahs in Pakistan. They run more as business concerns, trade unions, feudal fiefs and states within the state as no government dared ask them even the simple questions: what they are teaching, how they are teaching, what are their financial sources and what quality of human material they are producing? These institutions are not as much concerned with the promotion of Islamic wisdom and learning as with acquiring material benefits and a means of livelihood for the management of the organization.

First and foremost what we need is the total, implicit and unchangeable faith in the Oneness of God and in all His authority, power, glory and command over all creation, with motivation and

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implementation of His sovereign will. He alone is the Creator of good and evil and of every object in the whole universe. Belief that some other entity exists that has power other than God is to deny God's supremacy. God alone lays down all laws called natural laws and also guiding principles for humanity to follow if they wish to lead a peaceful, content and profitable life both now and in the Hereafter.

All Prophets, Messengers, Saints, Martyrs and godly people were people inspired by a purpose with unlimited faith in God. They took personal dangers, hardships, difficulties and vicissitudes, defeats and victories in their stride and went on carrying out their missions. They had their courage of conviction with the strength vouchsafed by God for the great cause of triumph in the name of God. They had courage of conviction in God's Omnipotence, Omnipresence and Omniscience. For example, the setbacks at Uhud and the early reversal in the battle of Hunayn did not dishearten Prophet Mohammed.

The decline of Muslim people can be directly traced to the time when they started to gather Hadith and false Sunnas, the advent of "religious scholars," "mediators" with God, self-appointed saints etc. The Quran was and is virtually repudiated. If we can shun internecine antagonism and devote ourselves to the system laid down in the Quran, no new laws are needed nor any revision of old standing laws.

Sarojini Naidu was a famous poetess of Hyderabad. In a speech "Ideals of Islam" given to the Young Men's Muslim Association, Madras, 1917 she said:

It was the first religion that preached and practiced democracy, for in the mosque from the minaret the call to prayer is sounded and the worshippers are gathered together, the democracy of Islam is embodied five times a day when the peasant and the king kneel side by side and proclaim,

"God alone is great." I have been struck over and over again by this indivisible unity of Islam that makes a man instinctively a brother. When you meet an Egyptian, an Algerian, an Indian, and a Turk in London, what matters that Egypt was the Motherland of one, and India the Motherland of another?

Education

Knowledge is required. Knowledge for humans spiritually, morally, physically and materially which makes us better persons now and forever. The Quranic view of knowledge is so universal and cosmic that it includes not only the study of the verses but also the reading of the Signs of God in the heavens. God says in His Scripture that He would show His Signs to people in the Heavens and their own selves.

[30:22] Among His proofs are the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the variations in your languages and your colors. In these, there are signs for the knowledgeable.

Certainly, education is the basis of proper understanding without which there can be no real commitment to any cause. We ourselves have to set the best example to prepare the ground for the growth of moral values. There is a perpetual downward slide for without the right type of morally guided leadership no Islamic country can get out of the quagmire into which they have walked with their eyes wide open.

It is high time that all responsible, sane and concerned intellectuals, writers, journalists, lawyers, teachers and leaders of public opinion raise their united voice against the menace of sectarian extremism and against its promoters who want to push us back to the Dark Ages. The Quran had brought humankind out of the darkness of ignorance and barbarism into the light of reason, knowledge and civilization. Islam has to be presented on rational lines back to its pristine purity.

Alim C.

The Quran is All We Need

[12:111] In their history, there is a lesson for those who possess intelligence. This is not fabricated Hadith; this (Quran) confirms all previous scriptures, provides the details of everything, and is a BEACON and mercy for those who believe.

[16:102] Say, "The Holy Spirit has brought it down from your Lord, truthfully, to assure those who believe, and to provide a BEACON and good news for the submitters."

[17:2] Similarly, we gave Moses the scripture, and rendered it a BEACON for the Children of Israel that: "You shall not set up any idol as a Lord and Master beside Me."

[27:2] A BEACON, and good news, for the believers.

[31:3] A BEACON and a mercy for the righteous.

[33:46] Inviting to GOD, in accordance with His will, and a guiding BEACON.

[68:36-38] [What is wrong with your logic? Do you have another book to uphold? In it, do you find anything you want?

God Willing

23rd

Annual Conference United Submitters

August 1-3, 2008

Tucson, Arizona

Please, do not procrastinate. Act now, and register promptly. God willing, this will help us organize the conference better.

If you did not receive the registration forms and hotel information in the mail or misplaced them, they are available at www.masjiduntucson.org/conference

You may need a password to access some pages. The password can be obtained by emailing us at info@masjiduntucson.org.

Who are Submitters and What is Submission?

Whether you have heard the usage of the words “Submitters” and “Submission” in religious context before, if you do not know exactly what they mean, you are not alone. But we hope that this is the right time for you to check out their true meaning. You may be surprised to find out that you have actually been a Submitter all your life but have not realized you were one, God willing, until you read this article.

Submitter and 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.

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 some of the traditional 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 definition of a Christian is one who believes 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 basic Quranic teachings when they encounter them.

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

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]

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**

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***(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.

ICS, the International Community of Submitters, and USI, the United 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 best 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. Also, if you know any other people whom you think may benefit from this message, please pass the word to them. Thank you and God bless.

No Compulsion in Religion

We are not trying to convert anyone, but only to present the true Islam (Submission) to the world. God specifically states in the Quran that:

There shall be no compulsion in religion: the right way is now distinct from the wrong way. Anyone who denounces the devil and believes in GOD has grasped the strongest bond; one that never breaks. GOD is Hearer, Omniscient. [2:256]