

Editorial

By Barry L. Baker

The Islamic Jihad

Is there such a thing? The people who claim that they are in a Holy War against the west have now proven their true colors. Their war is no longer directed solely on the western powers and people. They now are killing their own people and those of other Arabic nations. These Terrorists cannot call themselves “Warriors” since they have no country. A warrior comes at you from the front, not from your back with a hood over his head. That is done by a coward, a bully, one that has no allegiance to anything but their own twisted desires.

The Quran is fully detailed in how and why the believers can go to war. If the people are attacked, or if they are under severe persecution war can be condoned. So when did the West attack Islam and force them to stop worshiping in the manor that they chose? To my knowledge that has not happened, therefore there is no basis for any war. Secondly, if a war is performed it is by assembling an army and attacking the aggressor frontally, by attacking the warriors of the aggressing nation. Not by killing innocent women and children, not by kidnapping non warriors and killing them in a horrible manor.

These are the acts of a coward, murders that have no loyalty to anyone, not even their own people. They do not represent Islam or the Muslim people. I suspect that they have never even read the Quran, they do not know what is between the pages of the Book. All they know is the twisted innovation of a radical cleric that has an agenda that is not authorized nor condoned by God. They seek power and control to impose their twisted views on all the people of the world.

The Quran is very clear on Killing; it states that any killing is wrong, except in the course of justice or in war. To take someone’s life for justice the person must have committed murder or some horrible offense against the people. And even then, the Quran goes on to state that “Forgiveness” is even better for you. In war, one does NOT kill women and children, the unarmed and non-combatants. The Quran even goes so far as to say that a believer should never kill another believer for it is a gross sin. It further clarifies that we cannot say “Oh, you are not a believer” to justify our actions. These cowards are now killing other Muslims, anybody that opposes their point of view. They are no longer followers of the Quran, they are not Muslims, and they cannot hide under the banner of Islam. They are outcasts, cowards, and murders and should be treated as such by the entire world. If anyone supports them, they will share in their sin and receive just punishment in the Hereafter.

As bad as what these cowards do, the press of the western cultures must share some of the blame. I say this because the press does not make any attempt to read and understand the Quran themselves. I do not say that they have to believe it or even follow it, that choice is theirs and theirs alone. One does not review a play on Broadway without seeing it. How can they speak about the Quran without reading and knowing it? All the ammunition needed to combat the Terrorist acts are contained within the book. The western press does not make any attempt to understand the Islamic people. They do as was done years ago in the Crusades, try to impose their value system on all other people.

All people are different, depending on what ethnic group they originated from. This is not to say that this is better than that, it is simply different. And there is no Race difference, since there is only ONE Race on this planet and that is the Human Race.

We all have the ability to live together peacefully and in harmony if we place a few things at the top of our priority list. And that is, Love of God, Tolerance, and Forgiveness. These are qualities that are stated in all the Scriptures, the Bible, the New Testament, and the Quran. All of these works of God are for all the people. More time should be spent in studying them and less time in trying to twist them to suit some personal agenda for power or control.

We are one race, created by our creator to worship that creator. So we do it in different fashions, that does not make any one of them wrong, again just different. We should compete for righteousness not struggle for who is right or wrong. If you worship the Lord, do good, forbid evil, honor your parents, care for the elderly and the orphans, be charitable, and compassionate towards our fellow human, how can that be wrong, no matter what you call yourself, Muslim, Jewish, or Christian.

We spend too much time in trying to prove how wrong others are to our religion or belief. Instead of trying to find the common ground that shows how much we believe the same things. So, I say Allah and you say God, they are one in the same, a word in different languages that means "Our Creator", "The Lord of Heaven and Earth." Tolerance is the key, and tolerance is miss-understood in our society today.

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