

Islam: in 5 minutes

Introduction

I have written a detailed book explaining all aspects of Islam with a great deal of documentation and sources, *'Islam: theology, politics and history'*, which the reader is advised to consult for data. Since that work is 140 pages long I considered that many folk do not have the time to read all that and a concise simplified version would be appropriate. While summarising such detailed information is difficult, this is my best attempt.

What is Islam?

'Islam' means 'submission' and Muslims are those who submit to Allah. Allah was originally the Arabic moon god and then, by some tribes, the chief god. Muhammad [c.570–632] took this god as the basis for a monotheistic religion as opposed to traditional Arabic polytheism. His aim was to unite Arab tribes into a religious warring nation.

The teaching of Allah to mankind was given to the prophet Muhammad in a series of visions and this was eventually written down in the Qur'an. However, Muhammad did not write all the contents down (in fact he was barely literate)¹ or collate his visions in his lifetime; the work was kept in the memory of those who studied it.

Due to the variations and conflicts in the memorised readings of the Qur'an, it was eventually standardised by the Caliph Uthman [644-656]; but this was not without complaints and criticisms that the agreed text was either incomplete or inaccurate; especially by trusted companions of Muhammad still living. Further minor revisions followed but even today there are different versions of the Qur'an in Arabic.

The chief factor in Islam is the person of Muhammad. To be a good Muslim one must copy Muhammad in all things. The Qur'an does not contain sufficient information to do this and so the Sunna ('the way') gradually developed over 200-300 years: the traditions of Muhammad contained in the Sira (his biography) and the Hadith (sayings and traditions).

The Sunna contains many hundreds of pages of information about Muhammad in multiple volumes by many authors. Some of these are more respected than others. The most trusted hadith writers are Bukhari and Muslim. Every detailed area of life is controlled by what Muhammad did or taught including: which direction to face when defecating, how to spit, how to put on your shoes, you must drink in three gulps, get dressed from the right side first, and so on. Everything in life is under a religious command. This is legalistic puritanical, fundamentalism.

Dualism

A chief factor in Islam is its dualism; there are contradictions in its sacred texts that are both equally held to be true.

¹ Qur'an 7:157, 7:158, 62:2.

Mecca

The origin of Islamic dualism is the life of Muhammad himself. When he began to preach in Mecca he advocated some toleration of views and sought the support of the Jews, having adopted many of the stories from the Old Testament. He only gathered a few followers in Mecca, mainly from his wider family. When he was driven out of Mecca, for stirring up strife, and became established in Medina he began to change. The flight to Medina in 622 is of great historical significance and is called 'The Hejira'.

Medina

At Medina the powerful Jews there completely rejected him as a false prophet; so Muhammad became angry with the Jews and ceased to be tolerant. After starting as a spiritual reformer in Mecca, Muhammad became a political warrior-leader in Medina and his followers grew – especially as Muhammad commanded raiding parties to gain booty. Eventually the Jews were either banished or executed, 800 in one day by beheading at his feet with his nine-year old wife looking on.

Thus in the Qur'an we can see two strains of thinking: the earlier Meccan portions that are more tolerant and spiritual; then the Medinan portions which are more violent, political and intractable. Thus began the dualism that flows throughout Islamic teaching. There are verses speaking of peace in the earlier parts but these are massively overwhelmed by the verses demanding violence in the later parts (see 'abrogation'). This is complicated by the fact that the early and later parts are hard to identify in the Qur'an, which is not laid out chronologically.

The dualism evident in Muhammad's life leads to the duality in Islamic teaching.

- Political dualism is between Islam and kafirs.
- Duality within Islam is between male and female.
- There are two Qur'ans: the first were the verses written in Mecca, the second are those written in Medina.
- Initially Islam was a religion of peace and developed in an area of religious toleration at Mecca. Later, after Medina, Islam became an intolerant religion of hatred and violence demanding killing or capturing all non-Muslims.
- Initially Islam was a spiritual force, a new religion based upon old ideas. After the Hejira, Islam became a political movement.
- Muhammad initially considered Jews as brothers, developed doctrines from Jewish history and Scriptures and said that Jews and Christians were 'people of the book (the OT)'. After being rejected as a prophet, he then came to hate Jews and Christians and advocated killing them. After initially treating Jews as brothers in the Qur'an, later chapters call them rats and apes.
- Muhammad said that women can be beaten by men and wives are subject to husbands; yet in another place he said don't beat Allah's handmaidens.
- Homosexuality is condemned as a capital crime and yet there are passages which imply that sex with young boys is acceptable and is a pleasure in heaven.

Abrogation [*Naskh*]

The reason for many contradictions and dualism is the Qur'anic doctrine of abrogation (repeal). Muhammad introduced this doctrine in Qur'an 2.106 / 16.101 when confronted by contradictions (thus wine was initially allowed [2.219] but later forbidden [5.93-94]). This teaches that later doctrines are more important than earlier ones and can overturn them completely. Thus peaceful statements in the earlier parts of the Qur'an are reversed by the jihadic commands to slaughter kafirs later in the Qur'an.

Muslims and others that do not understand the doctrine of abrogation cannot know anything about genuine Islam. Muhammad's later teachings are what are authoritative, and these teach violence without mercy.

Religious practices

Confession

The profession is, '*There is no god but god, and Muhammad is the Prophet of god*'. These statements occur in the Qur'an but not together.

The Salat ('worship')

This is the daily prayer ritual. It was originally only performed twice a day by Muhammad (sunrise and sunset). In the Medina ritual it was prescribed for all Muslims and extended to three times a day. Then the Friday noon worship service was also instituted by Muhammad at Medina. Only after Muhammad died, within a century, was the number of daily salats increased to five. For over a year after the Hejira, Muslims faced Jerusalem during prayer. At the time of the 'break with the Jews' the direction of prayer (*qibla*) was changed to Mecca.

Alms giving

The Qur'an stipulates giving of whatever is surplus to your requirements. Over time this was interpreted differently and a minimum amount was set for each type of property. The formal term *zakat* was used for alms, which then became a tax of wealth, produce, precious metals, merchandise and livestock. The *zakat* system varies in geographical areas and legal schools. In modern Muslim states it is usually replaced by national taxation and welfare systems (except Saudi Arabia and Libya).

Fasting

The thirty-day daytime-only fast of Ramadan is crucial to Muslims. In this fast the Qur'an is recited daily.

The pilgrimage (Hajj)

This is a journey to visit the sacred monuments in and near Mecca to be performed at least once in a lifetime. Ritual ablutions and a special salat must be performed before entering the sacred territory around Mecca followed by various duties. There is a lesser pilgrimage (*umra*) that can be performed anytime.

Jihad

A very important feature of Islam is the doctrine of jihad. This means 'struggle' and some identify this as the inward struggle to obey Allah. However, this is misleading since the teaching of Muhammad is overwhelmingly about the struggle to make Islam the dominant force in the world. In the Hadith the inner struggle comprises only 3% of the doctrine, 97% is about violent struggle. The Medinan chapters of the Qur'an focus upon jihad. About 31% of all Islamic texts refer to jihad (67% of the Sira – biography of Muhammad).

Muhammad saw the world as two halves: the house of Islam where people submitted to Allah, and the house of war, where people that did not submit to Allah must be killed. This led to the doctrine of the kafir.

Kafir

'Kafir' is a very strong word that is usually translated as infidel or unbeliever; however, it means far more than that. The kafir is not just an unbeliever but a lesser type of being, something sub-human to be treated with derision, torture and execution, or occasionally slavery. Non-Muslims within Muslim territory that were allowed, under various conditions, to continue their worship in private were called dhimmis and were heavily taxed as second class citizens. Dhimmis did most of the work in historic Muslim lands, some did manual labour (usually Black Africans) while others were managers or even soldiers. Originally, only monotheists could be dhimmis.

Thus jihad means the gradual conquering of the world to make it a Muslim caliphate (i.e. rule by a religious-political leader). All Muslims are called to jihad and all are commanded, multiple times, to wage war and attack kafirs. There are over 100 verses in the Qur'an telling Muslims to attack non-believers, including verses commanding that kafirs be beheaded and tortured.

History of warfare

The history of Muslim expansion after the death of Muhammad is a history of violence, brutality, warfare, beheadings, rapes, torture and theft of property – which is the outworking of Muhammad's teaching on jihad. Thus within 300 years, the Muslim empire stretched from Spain to Persia, occupying all North Africa and parts of the Balkans. In the following centuries Muslims invaded Afghanistan, Pakistan and India. A Muslim conquest of Europe was only prevented by Charles Martel at the Battle of Tours in 732; even so Muslims besieged Vienna twice.

In addition to land battles, Muslim pirates patrolled the Mediterranean for centuries, raiding coastal cities for slaves and ruining local economies. It was the US navy in the 19th century that put an end to European Muslim piracy, though it continues in the Indian Ocean.

There were over 500 Muslim battles in Europe alone with hundreds more in Africa and Asia. It is estimated that at least 270 million people were killed in 1400 hundred years, but some put the figure at 800 million. In some campaigns tens of thousands were killed in one day. Before one battle, Tamerlane killed 90,000 Hindu prisoners. To summarise:

- 60 million Christians killed in the initial jihad conquest of Europe and the Levant.
- 80 million Hindus killed from 1000 to 1525.
- 10 million Buddhists killed.
- In Africa alone over 120 million Christians and animists were killed. 11m slaves crossed the Atlantic and 14m sent to Islamic nations. Collateral deaths equal 95 million.
- At least 270 million dead overall.
- However, some historians believe that this is an under-estimate and affirm that Muslims killed 600 million people in India alone.

Ethics**Slavery and rape**

Since the kafir is a sub-human, not only are the men to be killed but the women are to be raped and then sold as sex-slaves and the children either killed or enslaved. Muhammad himself set the precedent for raping women captives and having multiple slaves. Thus over a million Christians were enslaved by Muslims during 1400 years, and many millions of

Black Africans. During one raid alone in Spain 3,000 blonde virgins were captured for an African sultan. Muslims were the masters of the slave trade for many centuries.

Misogyny

Women are second class citizens in Islamic countries, or worse. Muhammad allowed for them to be beaten into submission by husbands. They had fewer rights, such as their testimony was only worth half a man's in court and they were allowed a smaller inheritance.

Men are allowed up to four wives (though Muhammad had many more) as well as sex-slaves that are kafirs. Women can only marry one man. Prostitution and paedophilia are common in Muslim communities with Muhammad setting the precedent by marrying a six-year old girl and having many concubines (sex-slaves).

Under Sharia Law, which is extracted from the teaching and traditions of Muhammad by various legal schools, women are treated appallingly in modern Muslim societies. In Saudi Arabia they cannot drive a car, talk to a man without their husband, leave the home without accompaniment and much more. Their dress includes full covering of the body. Women are often executed for trivial offences in public squares or killed by their own family for transgressions (such as looking at a boy). Since a woman's testimony is only worth half of a man's, women have no chance winning a court case trying to prosecute a rapist (in fact it is forbidden). Indeed, raped women have been executed for bearing false witness.

General practices

- Alcohol is forbidden.
- Eating pork or blood is forbidden.
- Gambling is forbidden.
- Usury is forbidden.
- Circumcision is recommended, but is usually treated as essential today.
- A thief should have his right hand cut off.
- Adulterers are to be punished by stoning. In common practice, a man can kill his wife for adultery.
- Fornicators should be beaten.

There are many other laws, which fall under the Sharia legal code. This code can be summarised as:

- What God commands (compulsory laws).
- What God recommends.
- Things indifferent (what is allowed).
- What God dislikes but has not prohibited.
- What God forbids.

Thus laws cover all aspects of life, far more so than western legal systems. Those who say that Sharia is simple and involves a few prohibited items are lying. The main authorised commentaries on Sharia law occupy 800 or more pages.

Deception

If deception advances Islam it is part of jihad and fully acceptable. This lying is called *taqiyya*. Thus Muslims regularly lie in their defences of Islam in order to gain more footing

within society. When Muslims gain positions of power the question of deception becomes very real and worrying. Muslims are even allowed to deny that they are Muslims to avoid punishment or to help jihad. Thus oaths by Muslims to support a democratic constitution or an oath of office cannot be trusted at all.

Muslims, however, must not lie to other Muslims. Confusingly, Muhammad did allow Muslims to lie to each other if it promoted brotherhood or healed rifts.

Sects

Islam fragmented into multiple sects quite early. There are now dozens of such sects. However, the main two forms of Islam are Sunni (the majority) and Shi'ites (centred in Iran). These began as different opinions as to which family constitutes the true caliph. Alawites are a branch of Shi'a Islam based in Syria; but there are other sub-divisions. There are also many branches of Sunnis. Wahhabism is a puritanical, fundamentalist (*Salafist*) form of Sunni Islam, which is dominant today and is based in Saudi Arabia, the Gulf States and also ISIS. ISIS is not a distorted form of Islam it is pure Islam.

We should also mention the Sufis, which is the mystical strain of Islam. The famous Turkish 'Whirling Dervishes' stem from Sufism.

Potted history

Due to the doctrine of jihad, the spread of Islam is the history of violence, unprovoked attacks, warfare, brutality, slavery and massacres. Anyone who thinks that Islam is a religion of peace needs to read some history books. Islam is the most violent movement in all human history bar none. Here are some very basic key points in history.

c.570	Birth of Muhammad.
622	The Hejira (emigration to Medina).
624	Battle of Badr, first major Muslim victory.
627	Banu Quraysa tribe massacre of 800 Jews.
632	Death of Muhammad.
637	Jerusalem conquered.
639	Muslim conquest of Egypt.
652	Italy invaded and plundered.
711	Spain invaded and conquered.
732	France invaded. Defeat of Muslims at Tours stops an Islamic invasion of all Europe.
846	Rome sacked.
1011	Cordoba massacre of Jews.
1033	Fez massacre of Jews.
1037-1492	Moorish dynasties rule in Spain.
1066	Granada massacre of Jews.
1095	First Crusade.
1263	The Mamluk sultan Baybars took Antioch and slaughtered the 16,000 strong garrison then sold the 100,000 inhabitants into slavery.
1291	The fall of Acre in 1291 ended the Crusader presence in the Levant.
1387	The Isfahan (Persia) slaughter of 70,000.
1398	Slaughter of 100,000 Hindu prisoners.
1401	90,000 killed during the sack of Baghdad.
1453	Sack of Constantinople.
1492	Fall of Granada – end of Moorish occupation of Spain.
1528	Babur captured the Fortress of Chanderi and slaughtered the population; men, women and children.
1739	Nadir (Nader) Shah invades India and kills millions. Dehli was massacred in March 1739 with slaughter continuing

	for 6 hours, killing at least 20,000.
1876	Turks slaughtered 30,000 Bulgarians for resisting Islamic government.
1894-96	300,000 Armenian Christians slaughtered in Turkey in various provinces.
1909	30,000 Armenians killed in Adana, southern Turkey.
1915	1½ million Armenian Christians killed in Turkey.
1922	The Turks murdered 150,000 Christians in Smyrna.
1971	In Bangladesh, Pakistan's soldiers killed three million Hindus in one year. 200,000 women were raped.
1983 onwards	The Sudan genocide.
2004	The Beslan (North Ossetia) school massacre. 1,100 people, including 777 children, captured; 385 killed by Muslims.
2008	In 1947 Hindus were 10% in Pakistan and 25% in Bangladesh. By 2008 Hindus had decreased to 1% in Pakistan and 10% in Bangladesh.

Note: regarding the Crusades, these were wars of self-defence; they were not pre-emptive strikes, Muslims had attacked the Christian Byzantine Empire. In fact it took the European Crusaders hundreds of years to respond to the slaughter of Christian cultures in the Holy Land, Egypt and other places. Without the Crusades all Europe would have been overrun instead of just the Balkans. There were relatively few battles with cruelty on both sides. Some Crusades involved no battles at all. The failure of the Crusades to free the Near East led to the fall of the Byzantine Empire and the destruction of an entire Christian civilisation that had stood for 1,000 years.

By the mid 15th century the Muslim hordes had destroyed all Christian cultures in Anatolia, the Middle East and North Africa. Spain, southern Italy and the Balkans had been subjugated, southern France temporarily occupied; European coastlines were under threat from pirates for centuries. Hindus and Buddhists in India, Pakistan, and Afghanistan had been decimated by genocide. Various Eurasian states had been subjugated (such as Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan etc.) and the Zoroastrians in Persia had been wiped out.

Key points about Islam

Islam basics	
Authority	The real authority in Islam is the words / actions of Muhammad. These are only partially revealed in the Qur'an, which tells people to copy Muhammad in all things. One must study the Sunna (Hadith and Sira) to get the details about how to behave like Muhammad. Thus the Qur'an is not enough to enable one to be a good Muslim.
Practices (pillars)	The confession; pray five times a day; poor tax; fasting during Ramadan; pilgrimage to Mecca. Islam is a religion based upon your performance and merit through works.
Key beliefs	The one God, Allah; the prophets of God; the scriptures (including the original Bible); the angels; the day of judgment; destiny.
Clerics	Islam has no priests or clergy; any man can lead worship. However, it does have leaders that teach the Qur'an (e.g. imam for Sunnis / mullah for Shi'ites).
Dualism	Islam contains many paradoxes and contradictory sayings and commands. There is also the dualism of treatment of the non-Muslim world compared to the treatment of Muslims plus the treatment of men compared to the treatment of women.
Abrogation	This is the explanation of the contradictions in the Qur'an: later revelation supersedes earlier revelation.
Peace	The Meccan sayings about peace / tolerance to kafirs are earlier revelation and were abrogated by Muhammad.
Violence	As found in the later Medinan portions of the Qur'an. These overrule the sayings of peace and command violence, attack, torture and death of non-Muslims (kafirs) in

	holy jihad.
Goal of Islam	The complete subjection of the whole world to Allah. All non-Muslims are to be killed or enslaved.
How does it reach this goal?	Terrorism (commanded and modelled by Muhammad). Raping and killing kafirs (commanded and modelled by Muhammad). Violent overthrow of nations (commanded by Muhammad). Full-on war to destroy nations (commanded by Muhammad). Gradual overthrow of nations by increasing numbers (commanded by Muhammad). Lying and deceit to advance Islam by stealth (commanded by Muhammad).
Deceit	As part of jihad, to advance Islam, Muslims can lie, renege on oaths, and deceive kafirs. This includes perjury.
Misogyny	Women are lesser people than men and are an affliction to men. Thus their testimony is only worth half of a man's and her inheritance is 50% of a man's. Muhammad allows a husband to beat his wife into subjection [Qur'an 4:34]. In Islam women are considered as cattle [Abu Dawud, 11.2155], but in modern practice Salafists treat women like furniture (less than the value of cattle). In Wahhabism women cannot even drive a car. Women are frequently killed by execution or by lynch mobs for trivial offences in Saudi Arabia. Men can rape kafir women [Qur'an 4.24]. Qur'an 65:4 allows paedophilia of young girls. A woman who has been raped cannot testify in court against her rapists. Female genital mutilation is commanded in the Hadith. Muhammad says that women were spiritually inferior to men and were not as intelligent [Bukhari, 1.2.28]. When men pray women must pray standing behind the men. A woman cannot speak alone to a man who is not her husband or relative. Muhammad did not command women to be veiled.
Marriage	A man can have four wives and as many concubines as he likes. A man can divorce his wife by saying the divorce formula three times.
Sharia Law	This is an extensive legal code based on the texts which cover every aspect of life. As well as dietary laws and prohibition of alcohol and gambling, punishments include stoning for adultery, and having the right hand cut off for stealing. It is common for women to be publicly beheaded. Death is also prescribed for: criticising the Qur'an or Muhammad, apostasy, a non-Muslim marrying a Muslim, and anyone converting a Muslim. Sharia Law permits a husband to beat his wife with a stick.
Sects	There are many sects within Islam. The main division is between the majority Sunnis (e.g. Saudi Arabia) and the minority Shi'ites (e.g. Iran). These tribes are hostile to each other. Wahhabism is the fundamentalist division of Sunni Islam practiced by Saudi Arabia, the Gulf States and ISIS. Liberal, modernist Islam is represented by Ba'athists (e.g. Saddam Hussein) and Alawites (e.g. Bashar al-Assad).
Adjectives to characterise Islam	Misogynistic. Polygamous. Chauvinistic. Jingoistic. Genocidal. ² Fanatical. Xenophobic. Warlike. Brutal. Cruel. ³ Irrational. ⁴ Anti-intellectual. Illogical. Monotheistic. Paradoxical. Fundamentalist. Non-temporal. Political. ⁵ Despotic. Authoritarian. Aggressive. Expansionist.

² Proven in history by killing millions.

³ E.g. crucifying children, beheading infants, selling children as sex-slaves, throwing homosexuals off high buildings or cliffs etc.

⁴ Note that without dhimmis and conquered technology, the culture of Islamic nations is sterile and primitive. The two Golden Ages relied on dhimmis and kafir learning, and were under liberal Caliphs.

⁵ The earlier, abrogated, Meccan Qur'an was more spiritual as Muhammad developed a new religion. This was superseded by the Medinan Qur'an which was almost entirely political and devoted to jihad. Islam only grew when it became a political, warmongering entity.

Beliefs and practices that are not in Islam
God as a Trinity.
Christ as the God-Man; the Son of God.
The work of the Holy Spirit in calling, conversion and sanctification.
The cross: vicarious atonement and redemption.
The return of Christ in glory as God's Son. [Islam has a version of the second coming but Jesus is not God.]
The new, restored earth after the Day of Judgment.
Sovereign grace.
The doctrines of grace: total depravity, unconditional election, limited atonement, irresistible grace, perseverance of the saints.
Justification by faith.
Adoption.
Definitive (legal or positional) sanctification.
Baptism.
The Lord's supper.
The golden rule: doing unto others what you would want done to yourself.
Giving good for evil, turning the other cheek.
Loving your neighbour. [Muslims must do good to other Muslims (in practice they don't) but are hostile to others.]
Submitting to authority. [Muslims must submit to Islamic rulers but destroy non-Muslim rulers.]
Democracy. [Muslim politics are authoritarian and despotic.]

Examples of Taqiyya (lying)
You will commonly find these statements in Islamic apologetics.
Islam is a religion of peace. [Denied in the Qur'an and Hadith. Denied in Muslim history. See quotes.]
Islam is tolerant. [Denied in the Qur'an and Hadith. Denied in Muslim history. See quotes.]
Jihad does not mean a 'holy war' and the term 'holy war' is not in the Qur'an. [The Arabic for 'holy war' is not in the Qur'an but that does not mean that the characteristics of a holy war are not in the Qur'an. The quotes following show that Allah commands a continual holy war on kafirs until the whole earth is subdued to Islam. Jihad literally means struggle and it can mean one's personal inner struggle to be holy. However, the overwhelming meaning revealed by Muhammad (and that is what counts) in the Qur'an and Hadith is violence to subdue kafirs and war on kafir lands until Islam subjugates the world.]
Islam condemns terrorism. [Denied in the Qur'an and Hadith. Denied in Muslim history. Qur'an 8:12, 8.60, 22:19, 5:33. Bukhari 52:220.]
Islam does not command beheadings. [Yes it does: Qur'an 8:12, 47:3-4; Ibn Ishaq / Hisham 990.]
Islam does not allow burning people to death. [Yes it does: Bukhari 11:626]
Islam does not command mutilation of enemies. [Yes it does: Qur'an 5:33, 22:19.]
Women are not oppressed in Muslim cultures. [Denied in the Qur'an and Hadith. Denied in Muslim history.]
Female genital mutilation (FGM) is not a part of Islam but is a localised custom in Africa. [It is commanded in the Hadith: Bukhari 5889, Muslim 257, 349, Abu Dawood 5271 (this latter text is sometimes interpreted as allowing only cutting part of the clitoris). It is prescribed by all Islamic scholars but some differ on whether it is obligatory. No scholar says it is not prescribed or it is forbidden. Muhammad stated that sex was a meeting of two circumcised parts. Sharia Law says FGM is obligatory ('Reliance of the Traveller', commentary, 34.3; 'bazr' means 'clitoris'; this is sometimes wrongly translated deliberately). See Al-Nawawi: <i>al-Majmoo</i> , 1/367.]
Honour killings are not part of Islam. [Yes they are: Qur'an 18:80-81.]
Monotheists, people of the Book (Christians and Jews) are accepted by Muslims. [The Qur'an and Hadith commands that they be attacked. Jews are called apes and rats (e.g. Qur'an 2.65). Denied in Muslim history. Qur'an 3:85, 9.30; Bukhari 52:177; Tabari 7:97.]
Islam does not advocate forced conversions. [In a sense this is true because a conquered people have the option of

converting to Islam or dying. Islam does not force people to become Muslims, it just kills or enslaves people that don't.]
Muslims built vast libraries of learning. [While this is true, for example the 10 th century Cordoba (Umayyad) library in Spain, Muslim conquerors burned even bigger Christian libraries in the Greek and Roman world, and also Hindu libraries. 90% of ancient learning was destroyed by Muslims. Many ancient artefacts, documents, statues, temples, churches and palaces were destroyed by Muslims. Even some great mosques were destroyed by Muslims such as Tamerlane.]
Islam had two great golden ages. The main one was the Abassid golden age [750-1258] based in Baghdad consisting of a coalition of Persian <i>mawali</i> (new converts), Eastern Arabs and Shi'ites. Some claim that the Moorish control of Spain was also a golden age. Most Islamic scholars only claim one Abassid Golden Age. [These were not peaceful or great; they included invasive wars, massacres and widespread slavery. They were more rational and philosophical than usual because the caliphs were liberal and went against the commands of Muhammad by promoting Kafir learning, such as Aristotelianism and Hindu mathematics.]

Selection of Quotes from the Qur'an

Warfare includes beheading and slaughter, thus enabling massacres

When you encounter the Kafirs on the battlefield, cut off their heads until you have thoroughly defeated them. Qur'an 47:4.

A prophet should not take prisoners of war until he has fought and slaughtered in the land. Qur'an 8.67

When we wish to destroy a town ... we destroy it with utter destruction. Qur'an 17:16.

Terrorism is commanded outside of warfare

I will send terror into the Kafirs' hearts, cut off their heads and even the tips of their fingers. Qur'an 8:12 [If this isn't terrorism I don't know what is. ISIS cruelty is pure Islam.]

Muslims must muster all weapons to terrorise kafirs. Qur'an 8.60.

Punish the kafirs with garments of fire, hooked iron rods, boiling water; melt their skin and bellies. Qur'an 22:19. [ISIS cruelty is pure Islam.]

They [opponents of Islam] should be murdered or crucified or their hands and their feet should be cut off on opposite sides ... and have grievous chastisement. Qur'an 5:33.

Attitude to kafirs – constant enemies worthy of death

Kill them wherever you find them ... fight them until there is no more unbelief. Qur'an 2:191-193.

Muslims must not take the kafir as friends. Qur'an 3:28.

Take not friends from their ranks (unbelievers) ... seize them and slay them wherever you find them. Qur'an 4:89. [Thus Muslims must never integrate into democratic societies.]

Slay the idolaters wherever you find them, and take them captive and besiege them and lie in wait for them in every ambush. Qur'an 9:5.

Fight those who do not believe in Allah. Qur'an 9:29.

The Jews and the Christians are perverts; fight them. Qur'an 9.30.

Oh you who believe fight those of the unbelievers who are near to you and let them find in you hardness. Qur'an 9:123.

We verily shall urge thee on against them, then they will be your neighbours in it but a little while. Accursed, they will be seized wherever found and slain with a fierce slaughter. Qur'an 33:60-62.

Those who disbelieve follow falsehood ... So when you meet those who disbelieve smite at their necks [behead them] till when you have killed and wounded many of them. Qur'an 47:3-4.

Is Islam a religion of peace?

Fighting is prescribed for you ... which is good for you. Qur'an 2:216.

Those who believe fight in the cause of Allah. Qur'an 4:76

Kafirs are stupid; urge the Muslims to fight them. Qur'an 8:65.

Allah has preferred ... those who strive hard and fight ... Unto each, Allah has promised good [Paradise]. Qur'an 4:95. [The passage criticises Muslims that do not fight. It also confirms that jihad means violence.]

Surely Allah loves those who fight in his cause. Qur'an 61:4.

Fight with them until there is no more unbelief and religion is all for Allah. Qur'an 8:39. [Thus Islam seeks world domination.]

Oh Prophet, exhort the believers to fight. Qur'an 8:65.

Are other religions compatible with Islam?

Any religion other than Islam is not acceptable. Qur'an 3:85.

Conclusion

The claim that Islam is a religion of peace is false. Muslims are commanded to perform jihad, which is the violent struggle to overcome the whole earth. This includes killing, raping, and enslaving but it also includes subversion, deception, treachery, sedition, and political manoeuvring. The Muslim grooming gangs in Britain that gang-rape, enslave, abuse and traffick young kafir girls is fully endorsed by Muhammad and is found wherever Muslims are in sufficient numbers (e.g. European migrants, Muslim occupied Africa / India etc.).

Moderate Muslims found in the west that enjoy the benefits of western prosperity (a prosperity not historically found in Muslim nations) would be considered by Muhammad as apostates that should be killed.

Islamic teaching is an active threat to western democracies and any non-Muslim nation. To ignore this is to invite destruction.

Scripture quotations are from The New King James Version
© Thomas Nelson 1982

Paul Fahy Copyright © 2017
Understanding Ministries
<http://www.understanding-ministries.com>