



MONOTHEISM & PEACE

ISLAMIC VISION

PLANET DIVERSITY

BONN

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ABRAHAMIC TRIALOGUE: HARMONY AND PEACE

Judaism



Christianism

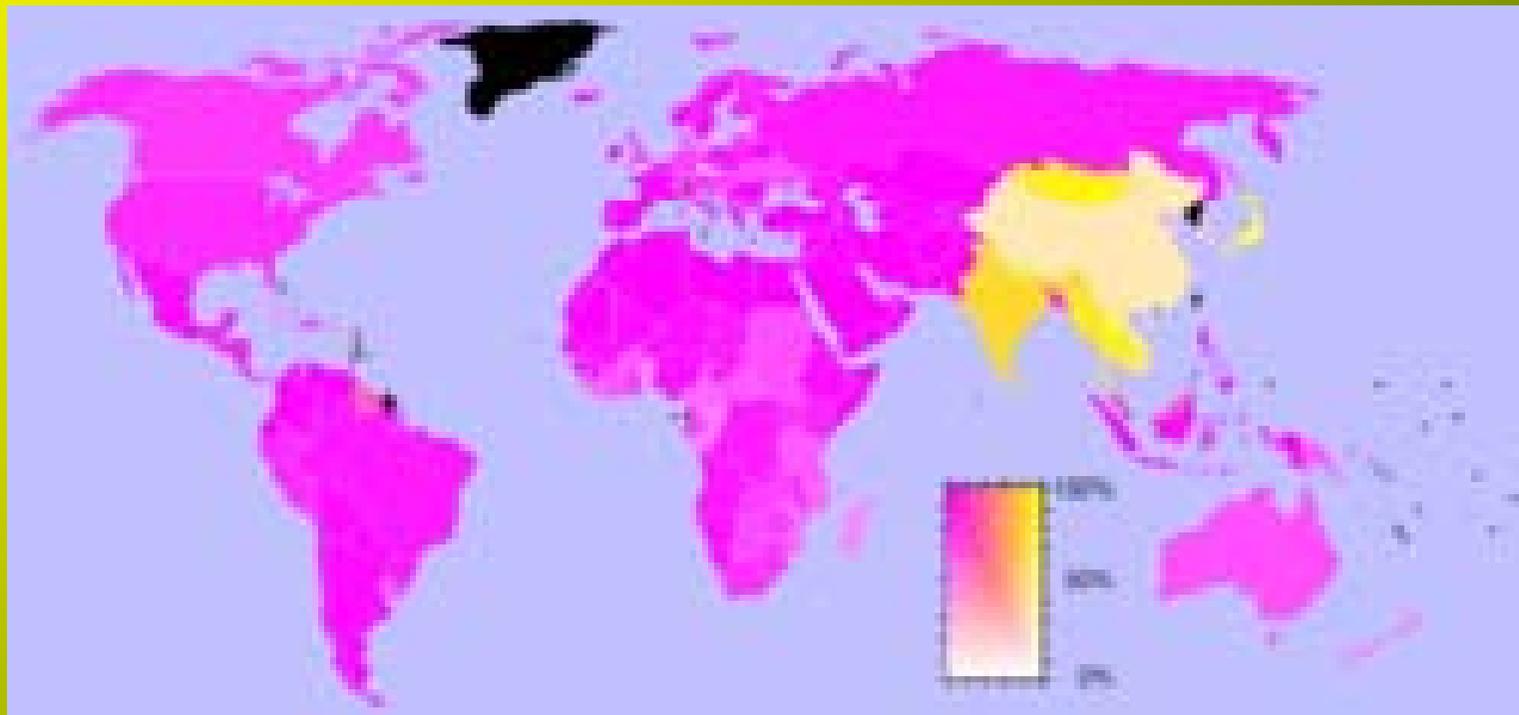
Islam

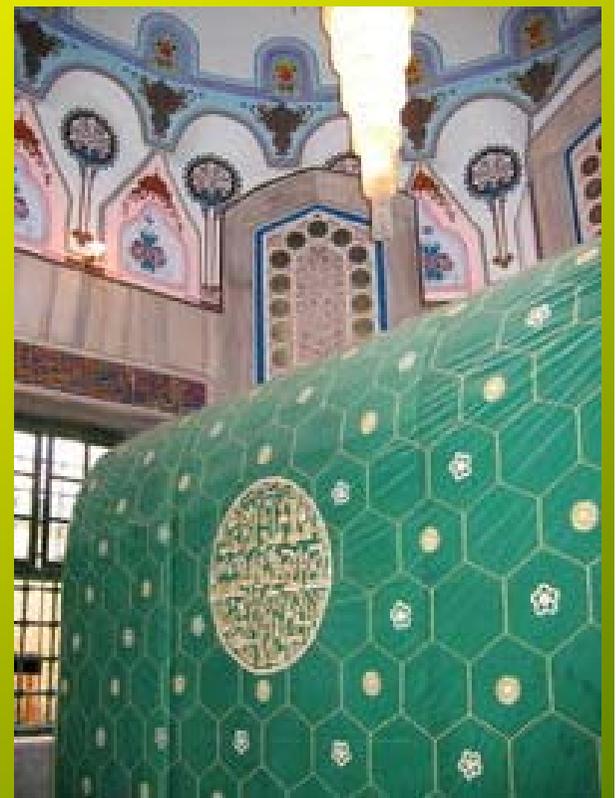
ABRAHAMIC RELIGIONS



Bahá'í Faith

Sikhism





الحرم الإبراهيمي
Abraham's tomb
Hebron - Al Khalil



***Jewish thought, is the basis of the
Christianity and Islam. In it,
monotheism is considered as its
most basic belief.***

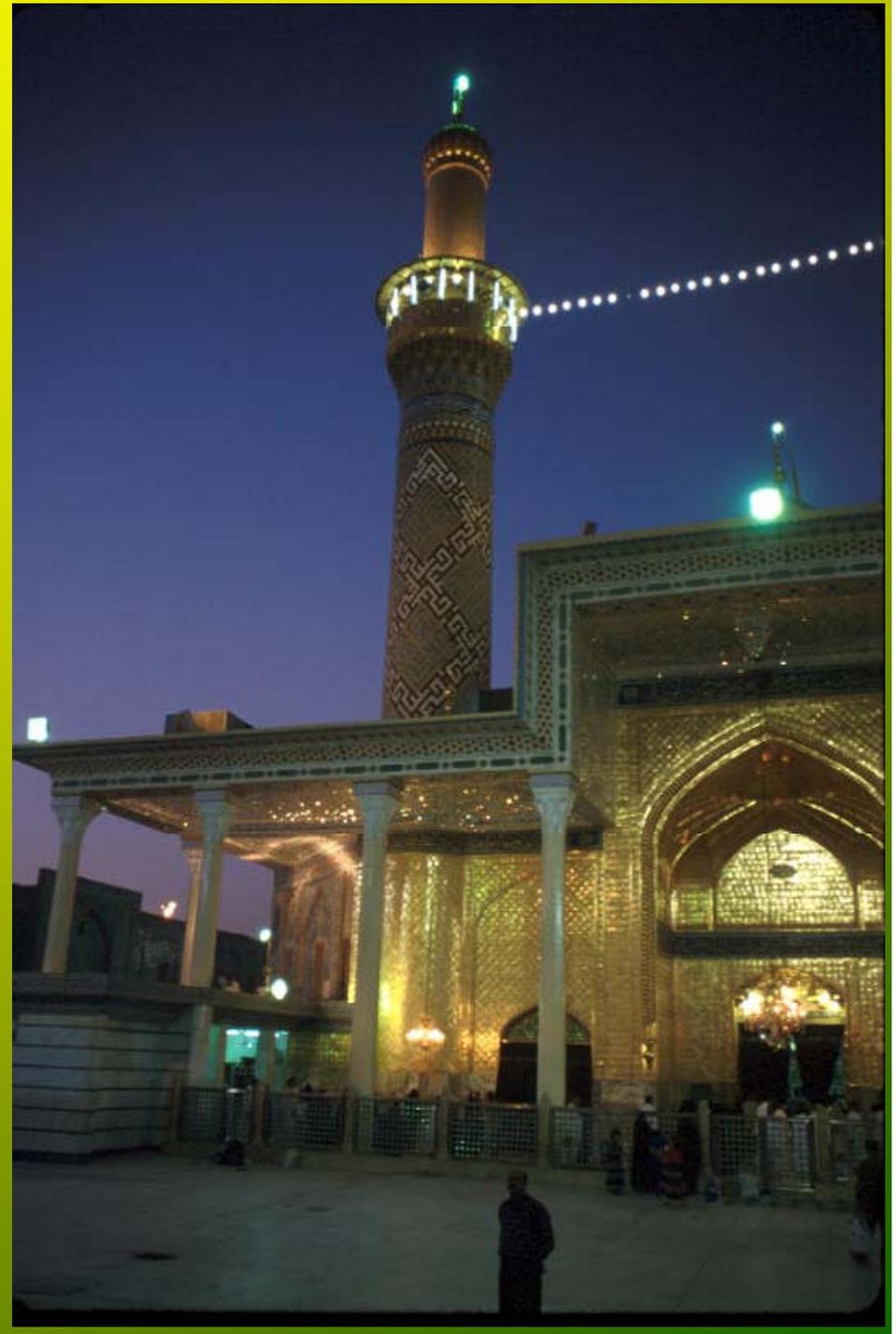
Such a concept remains intact in Islam.

***Christianity developed a more complex
form of Trinity monotheism, as a result of
attributing divinity to Jesus, defining him
as the son of God.***

Muslims also believe
in the religious texts
of Judaism and
Christianity.

The Qur'ān has
repeated references to
the "religion of
Abraham".

(see Suras 2:130,135;
3:95; 6:123,161; 12:38;
16:123; 22:78).





THE CHURCH DECLARATION
"NOSTRA AETATE"
ABOUT ISLAM PROCLAIMED BY HIS
HOLINESS POPE PAUL VI ON OCTOBER 28, 1965

The Church regards with esteem also the Moslems. They adore the one God, living and subsisting in Himself; merciful and all-powerful, the Creator of heaven and earth, who has spoken to men. They take pains to submit wholeheartedly to even His inscrutable decrees, just as Abraham, with whom the faith of Islam takes pleasure in linking itself, submitted to God. Though they do not acknowledge Jesus as God, they revere Him as a Prophet. They also honor Mary, His virgin Mother; at times they even call on her with devotion. In addition, they await the day of judgment when God will render their deserts to all those who have been raised up from the dead. Finally, they value the moral life and worship God especially through prayer, almsgiving and fasting.

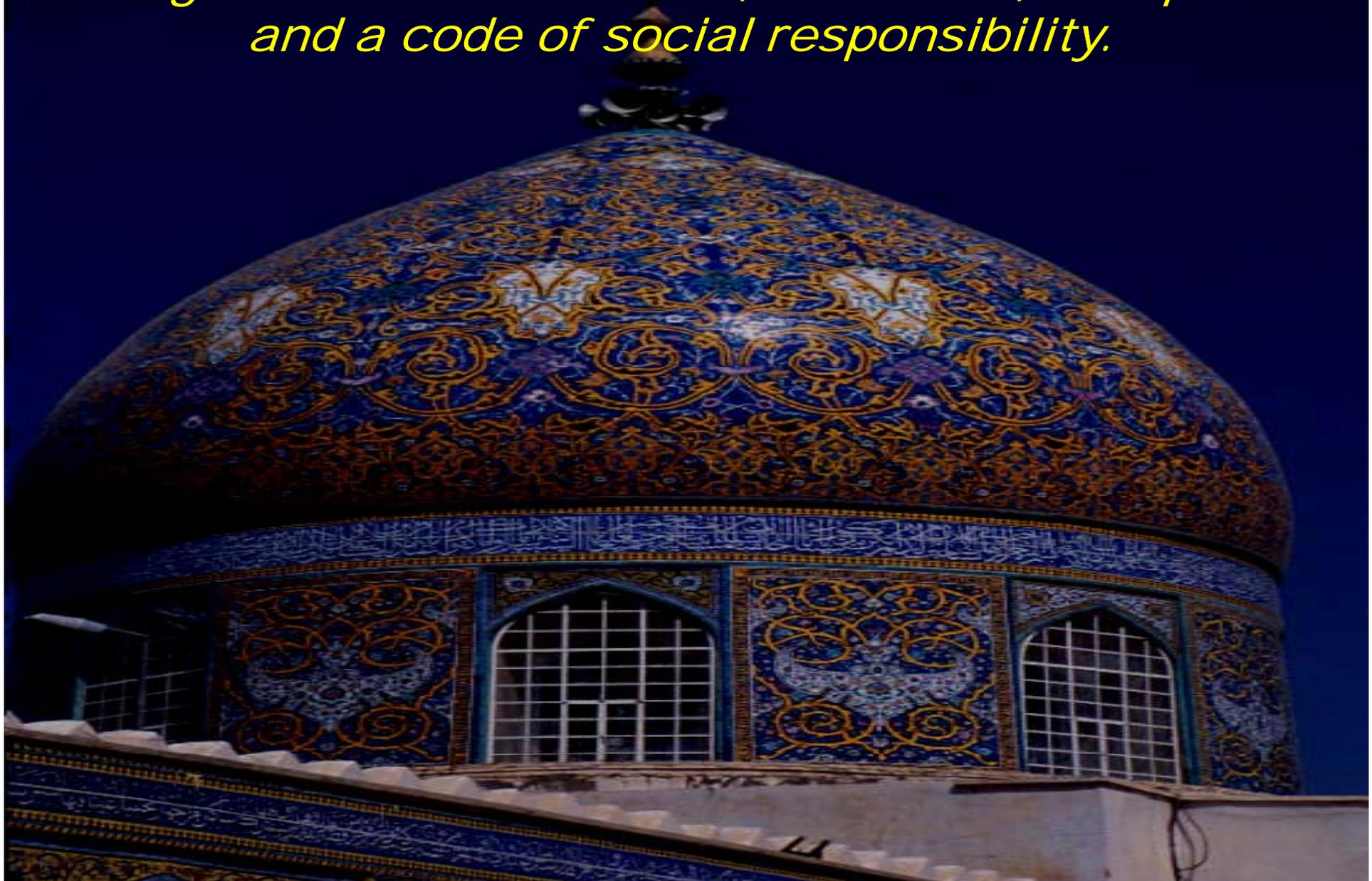
ISLAM

MEANS: "*Voluntary Submission to God alone*".

Laa ilaaha illal-lah (None has the right to be worshipped except God)



Muslims, recognize, for their mundane life, that Religion offers information, education, discipline and a code of social responsibility.



MUHAMMAD, THE PROPHET OF ISLAM HIS MISSION

*Was begun when he was 40 years old;
and lasted 23 years.*



THE GLORIOUS QUR'ĀN

*Contains the messages revealed to
Muhammad, through Archangel Gabriel.*



*Islamic Pillars, codes for good behavior and a lot of information
about world and universal structure, processes and phenomena,
in addition to a rich human history.*

FROM ISLAMIC POINT OF VIEW, MONOTHEISM IS BASED ON 4 PRINCIPLES:

A) UNIQUENESS OF CREATION SOURCE:

“GOD IS THE UNIQUE CREATOR OF THE UNIVERSE AND ALL THINGS (living or not) IN IT.” - *What does it mean?*

B) UNIQUENESS OF THE ORIGIN OF MAN:

“ALL THE HUMANBEINGS ARE DESCENDENTS OF ONE HUMAN COUPLE, ADAM AND EVA.” - *What does it mean?*

C) UNIQUENESS OF THE FINAL DESTINATION OF MANKIND:

“ALL OF US WILL GOBACK TO GOD – JUDGMENT DAY.”
- *What does it mean?*

D) UNIQUENESS OF DIVINE RELIGION:

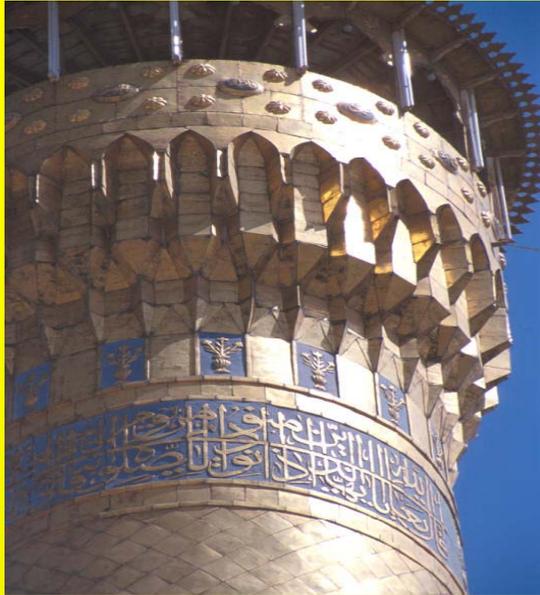
GOD REVEALED ONLY ONE RELIGIOUS CODE, IN NUMEROUS STEPS, INITIATED BY ADAM AND ENDED BY THE ABRAHAMIC MISSIONS.

A) UNIQUENESS OF CREATION SOURCE:

IN RECOGNITION OF HIS UNIQUENESS, THE
QUR'ĀN OPENS WITH THE FOLLOWING
INVOCATION:

"IN THE NAME OF GOD, THE BENEFICENT, THE MERCIFUL"

"Praise be to God, Lord of the universe, the Compassionate, the Merciful, Sovereign of the Day of Judgment. You alone we worship, and to You alone we turn for help. Guide us to the straight path, the path of those whom You have favored, not of those who have incurred Your wrath, nor of those who have gone astray." (1:1-7)



A) UNIQUENESS OF CREATION SOURCE:

*"IN THE NAME OF GOD, THE BENEFICENT, THE
MERCIFUL"*

*"Say: God is One, the Eternal God. He begot
none, nor was He begotten. None is equal to
Him."*

(112:1-4)

A) UNIQUENESS OF CREATION SOURCE:

"He throws the veil of night over the day. Swiftly they follow one another. It was He who created the sun, the moon and the stars and made them subservient to His will. His is the creation, His the command. Blessed be God, the Lord of all creatures."

(7:54)

All the prophets of God including; Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, Issac, Jacob, Jesus, and Muhammad (peace be upon them), invited the people to the same thing, to worship The One God without any partners.

GOD SAID:

“Say (O Muhammad): We believe in God and that which was revealed unto us and that which was revealed unto Abraham and Ishmael and Isaac and Jacob and the tribes, and that which was conceded unto Moses and Jesus and the Prophets from their Lord. We make no distinction between any of them, and unto Him we have surrendered.”

(Qur'an 3:84).



The Prophet said:

- 1- **"Whoever says Laa illaaha illullaah (None has the right to be worshipped except God) sincerely, will enter Paradise".**
- 2- **"Whoever says La illaha illa-Allaah (None has the right to be worshipped except God) it will be his salvation someday, no matter befalls him before that."**

B) UNIQUENESS OF THE ORIGIN
OF MAN:

***ISLAM HAS REAFFIRMED RACIAL
AND ETHNIC UNITY OF ALL
MANKIND***

B) UNIQUENESS OF THE ORIGIN OF MAN:

“O humanity, be conscious of your Lord, who created you of a single soul”.

(Qur‘ān 4:1)

Prophet Muhammad said:

“Your Lord is One. You are from Adam and Adam is from dust. An Arab is not superior to a non-Arab, nor a white person over a black person, except for his/her piety and right behavior”.

D) UNIQUENESS OF DIVINE RELIGION:

*All the prophets of God including; Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, Issac, Jacob, Jesus, and Muhammad (**peace be upon them**), invited the people to the same thing, to worship The One God without any partners.*

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SOCIAL FUNDAMENTALS IN ISLAM

1- Human brotherhood and abolishment of the spirit of hate and violence.

2- Individual and collective freedom and liberty.

SOCIAL FUNDAMENTALS IN ISLAM

3- Social justice.

*4- Human dignity as a parameter for
"good life".*

SOCIAL FUNDAMENTALS IN ISLAM

5- Work and earning (only through ethic and licit mode).

6- Knowledge and science, as a public humanity patrimony, to reach a good life quality for all communities.

SOCIAL FUNDAMENTALS IN ISLAM

7- Discipline and organization, as a concept, in all which we do.

8- Spirituality: and in it: there is the truth of faith in God.

MUSLIM'S RELATION WITH JEWISH AND CHRISTIAN PEOPLE

“This day are (all) good things made lawful for you. The food of those who have received the scripture is lawful for you, and your food is lawful for them. And so are the virtuous women of the believers and the virtuous women of those who received the Scripture before you are lawful for you, when you give them their marriage portions and live with them in honour, not in fornication, nor taking them as secret concubines.”

(Qur‘ān 5:5)

WHY ISLAM CAME ?

TO DECLARE HUMAN BROTHERHOOD AND BRINGING
GLAD TIDINGS OF THE UNIVERSAL IDEA

- ***Islam came to announce human brotherhood, aiming to collaborate for the eradication of all forms of discrimination, and to construct effective instruments of a call to universality;***
- ***Islam, also, came to make public this objective, using all pacific practical and theoretical means.***

IS ISLAM A RELIGION OF VIOLENCE?

Islam is not a religion of violence; it is actually a religion, which teaches a culture of peace. According to the Qur'ān, God does not accept violence.

Peace, In the Qur'ān, is one of God's names:

“He is God, none has the right to be worshipped but He, the King, the Holy, the One Free from all defects, the Peace, the Giver of security, the Watcher over his creatures,”

(Qur'ān 59:23).

JIHAD IN ISLAM MEANS TO PEACEFULLY STRUGGLE FOR A NOBLE CAUSE. IT IS A NON-VIOLENT ACTIVISM.

The actual Arabic equivalent of war is QITAL or 'HARB , and even this is meant in a defensive sense.

In Islam, war is not the prerogative of the individual but of an established government. Only an established government can declare war.

Individuals can pray on their own, but they cannot wage wars of their own decision.

Only when a war is declared by the ruling government, can the public join in and support it, and not before that.

Islam does not sanction individual actions on this issue.

ISLAM REJECT EXTREMISM

Islam, actually, teaches Moslems follow the pacific and equilibrium path.

GOD SAID:

"Do not go to excess in your religion." (4:171)

The Prophet of Islam observed:

"You should restrain yourselves from committing excesses (ghulu) in religion. For it was due to their having gone to extremes in religion that the previous communities were destroyed."

*FINAL DECLARATION OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE FOR DIALOGUE OF THE
AL-AZHAR AND THE PONTIFICAL COUNCILS FOR
INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE
(FEBRUARY 2008)*

The Committee strongly condemned the re-publication of offensive cartoons and the rising number of attacks against Islam and its Prophet.

Note was taken of the words of Pope Benedict XVI, in a speech to the Ambassador of Morocco, in which he expressed his conviction that: "in order to favor peace and understanding between peoples and human beings, it is necessary that their religions and symbols be respected, and that believers not be the object of provocations which cause harm to their religious commitment and feelings" (20 February 2008).

The participants agreed upon five points:

1. All religions respect the human dignity, and condemn any offence against personal integrity, property and honor;
2. Effort to inculcate true respect for religions, beliefs, religious symbols, holy Books and whatever is considered sacred;
3. Efforts to encourage mutual acceptance, love and respect for all, regardless of their religion;
4. Freedom of expression not be taken as a pretext for offending religions, convictions, religious symbols and everything that is considered sacred.
5. Exchange of views on matters of common concern which may arise.

FINAL COMMENTS

Islamic religion is a true manifestation of human brotherhood, calling for harmony and peace.

In an era of wars, conflicts, and violence, the Islamic conception of establishing peace and justice, is needed to be understood, as an inspiring call for mankind.

Some western governments and communities have lived for a long time knowing nothing about Islam and Muslims, considering them as fanatic, ignorant, and can be easily led and conquered.

Why anti Muslim Propaganda?

- 1- **Materialism in central countries** resulted in a huge scientific, technological and economic progress, but failed to establish social harmony, solidarity and compromise with the future generations.
- 2- **Energy resources consumption** (*petroleum in the Middle East*), leading to wars, invasions and destructions.
- 3- **Geo-political interest** (*geographic localization and important sea routes*)

Religion and Peacemaking Web Links



UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE

*Islamic Perspectives on
Peace and Violence*



United Religions Initiative

Thank You,

Mohamed Habib