

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
Alexandria Division

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
)
 v.) Docket No. 112CR35
)
 JESSE CURTIS MORTON,)
)
 Defendant.)

**DEFENDANT’S SENTENCING MEMORANDUM AND POSITION
WITH RESPECT TO SENTENCING FACTORS**

COMES NOW the defendant, Jesse Curtis Morton, by counsel, and submits this memorandum to further assist the Court in determining a fair and just sentence in this matter.

On February 9, 2012 Mr. Morton entered guilty pleas to an information charging him with (i) conspiracy in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371, (ii) communicating threats in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 875(c), and (iii) aiding and abetting stalking in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 2261A(2)(B) and 2. Mr. Morton was arrest in Morocco on May 25, 2011. He was extradited to the United States on October 31, 2010 and has remained in the government’s custody since then. Following his plea, Mr. Morton met with the Probation Department and provided them with all the information needed to prepare a complete presentence report. As his conduct throughout this prosecution makes clear, Mr. Morton fully accepts responsibility for his actions. He is prepared to serve the terms of any sentence imposed by this Court.

Factual Corrections and Objections to the Presentence Report.

Correction #1: Paragraph 129 contains the only factual objection Mr. Morton has to the information contained in the presentence report. Mr. Morton denies that he told the probation office he had never used crack cocaine but admitted using powder cocaine. His statement was actually the reverse of this. He admitted using crack but denied using powder.

Objection #1: Mr. Morton objects to the presentence report's use of U.S.S.G. 2A1.5, conspiracy or solicitation to commit murder, as the lead guideline. Mr. Morton was charged in count 1 with conspiracy to solicit a federal crime involving the use or threatened use of force, to wit, stalking. 18 U.S.C. 2261A(1) prohibits traveling interstate with the intent to kill, injure, or harass another. Solicitation requires proof that a person induced or encouraged another person to commit a specific crime. In the present case, there is no evidence that any person ever attempted to murder MN. There is no person who has been or can be identified as the potential murderer. The conspirators in this case took no affirmative steps indicative of an intention to actually arrange the murder of MN. Mr. Morton's action against MN involved posting a link to *Inspire* magazine which remained active for approximately one day.

The object of the conspiracy was to threaten MN, to induce fear, and thereby stop what was believed to be defamation of the Prophet Muhammad. The evidence establishes that the conspirators' intent was to harass MN, not kill her. The possibility that some unidentified "loan wolf" might read the posts as a solicitation and act on them is mere speculation, not proof beyond a reasonable doubt. *United States v. William White*, 779 F.Supp2d 775, 779 (N.D.Ill. 2011) (holding that the government failed to present evidence that anyone in White's "target audience" read the posts as a solicitation) citing *United States v. Perez-Melendez*, 599 F.3d 31, 45 (1st Cir. 2010). Under the circumstances, the guideline which most accurately describes the object of the conspiracy is U.S.S.G. § 2A6.1 which applies to illegally communicating threats and results in an offense level of 18, not 33.

The logic of this argument is bolstered by the sentencing guidelines themselves. U.S.S.G. 2A2.1(a)(1), which applies to attempted first degree murder, has a base offense level of 33, the same as solicitation to murder. To be guilty of attempted first degree murder, one must

engage in conduct constituting a substantial step towards commission of the crime. By assigning the same offense level to solicitation, the authors of the guidelines must have contemplated that a similar substantial step to arrange an actual murder would exist before U.S.S.G. § 2A1.5 would be applicable.

Objection #2 Mr. Morton requests that his total offense level be reduced by two based on his minor participation in these offenses. See U.S.S.G. § 3B1.2. Application Note 5 describes a “minor participant” as a defendant “who is less culpable than most other participants, but whose role could not be described as minimal.” In the present case, Mr. Morton had no involvement in the original publication or distribution of *Inspire* magazine. His culpability arose when he posted a link on Revolution Muslim directing readers to the magazine. This link was active for one day. Along with the link, Mr. Morton posted a disclaimer stating that the magazine was posted for “educational and information purposes only.” See Statement of Facts ¶ 52.

The same considerations are applicable to the threats against the South Park writers. Mr. Morton played no role in the drafting or posting of Mr. Chesser’s original threats. His primary culpability stems from the “clarification statement” he and Mr. Chesser wrote. The clarification statement was significantly less threatening than Chesser’s original posts. See Attachment 1. Mr. Morton began the statement by noting, “Our intention with this explanation is only, Allah willing, to create the possibility that a deeper and more productive dialogue may be initiated to create an opportunity for correction of wrongs.” He went on to state, “We hope that the creators of South Park may read this and respond, that before sending hate mail and condemning us that we may partake in dialogue, and that the Western media’s degradation of the most blessed of men ceases.” Statement of Facts ¶ 38. After issuing the clarification statement, Mr. Morton stopped communicating with Mr. Chesser.

Objection #3: Mr. Morton objects to one criminal history point being assessed for his petit larceny conviction in Albemarle County, Virginia. As the presentence report explains, this offense arose from the same conduct that led to Mr. Morton's conviction for Possession of Cocaine on May 23, 2003. There was no intervening arrest. Although the presentence report is unclear, it seems logical to assume that the offenses arose from the same charging document: the arrest warrants issued on October 28, 2002. See U.S.S.G. § 4A1.2(a)(2).

Applying this argument would reduce Mr. Morton's criminal history points from 11 to 10 which still results in a criminal history category of V. Mr. Morton believes this criminal history category overstates the seriousness of his criminal history as well as the likelihood that he will commit other crimes. A downward departure pursuant to the policy statement in U.S.S.G. § 4A1.3(b)(1) is appropriate.

Two of Mr. Morton's convictions resulted in sentences of 6 to 23 months of incarceration. When indeterminate sentencing ranges of this nature are employed, the guidelines dictate that the high end of the range be used to assign criminal history points. U.S.S.G. § 4A1.2, Application Note 2. Thus, Mr. Morton received 3 points for each sentence because they were deemed to exceed one year and one month. It must be noted, however, that Mr. Morton actually served only six months on each conviction. If the guidelines focused on actual time served (which seems a more accurate and equitable manner to assess the seriousness of a sentence), Mr. Morton would have received 2 points for each conviction. His criminal history category would then be IV.

Mr. Morton's criminal history is based on convictions relating to a life style he left behind many years ago. All of his criminal history points arise from convictions occurring ten or more years ago. All are related to his abuse of drugs. As detailed in the presentence report, Mr.

Morton left home at an early age to escape his abusive, dysfunctional family. Given this background, it is not surprising that Mr. Morton developed substance abuse problems. Over the past decade, however, Mr. Morton has firmly established that he has overcome these problems. He has graduated from college and earned a Master's degree from Columbia University; he has married and is raising two children; and he has dedicated himself to his religious faith, a faith which prohibits the use of alcohol and drugs. He has thus demonstrated that the likelihood he will commit other crimes related to his past criminal history is extremely low.

Based on the foregoing, Mr. Morton requests that his offense level total be calculated as follows:

Group one - Stalking and threatening MS and TP:

Base level	18
Pattern of Activity	2
Minor Role	-2
Adjusted level	18

Group two – Distributing explosive materials/Stalking and threatening MN:

Base level	18
18 U.S.C. 842(p)	4
Minor Role	-2
Adjusted level	20
Total units	2
Combined offense level	22
Acceptance of Responsibility	-3
Offense level total	19

Criminal History Category IV

Guideline Range 46-57 months

Position of the defendant regarding sentence.

In *United States v. Booker*, 125 S. Ct. 738, 756 57 (2005), the Supreme Court ruled that the mandatory nature of the United States Sentencing Guidelines is unconstitutional. The Court struck the mandatory language of the statute and held that, although a court should consult the guidelines in fashioning a sentence, the court is also permitted to tailor the sentence in light of the other statutory factors outlined in § 3553(a). *Id.* at 757. Those factors include (a) the nature and circumstances of the offense and the history and characteristics of the defendant, (b) the kinds of sentences available, (c) the guideline range, (d) the need to avoid unwarranted sentencing disparities, (e) the need for restitution, and (f) the need for the sentence to reflect the following: the seriousness of the offense, to promote respect for the law and to provide just punishment for the offense, to afford adequate deterrence, to protect the public from future crimes and to provide the defendant with needed educational or vocational training, medical care, or other correctional treatment. See 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a). Section 3553(a)'s primary directive is to impose a sentence sufficient, but not greater than necessary to comply with the purposes of sentencing.

a. The nature and circumstances of the offense.

In addressing the nature and circumstances of the offense, it is important to note the dramatic difference between Mr. Morton and the other participants in this vastly defined conspiracy. Mr. Morton understands and acknowledges that his actions in establishing Revolution Muslim, his failure to monitor and edit the site's other contributors, as well as his

own postings and publications on the site crossed the line from protected speech into illegal activities. This is not what he wanted to achieve when he started the web site.

Mr. Morton converted to Islam as a young man who had endured a difficult, dysfunctional family followed by several years of struggling with drug abuse. His conversion to Islam ultimately gave him the focus and discipline he needed to harness his considerable talents and intellect in a positive manner. He achieved outstanding academic success and established a solid employment history as a certified substance abuse counselor and as a teacher. He married and had two children – including a young son disabled by Down Syndrome. He remains a devoted husband and father. Despite his legal difficulties, his family has been and remains his top priority.

Mr. Morton's conversion to Islam was powerful and profound. He has described his first reading of the Koran as an overwhelming epiphany. This is not to say that his growth in the religion has not been without careful examination. Mr. Morton is a voracious reader and a strong critical thinker. Over the past decade, he has gained a deep understanding of the Muslim world's history, political structure, and economics. His studies have led him to conclude that the vast majority of the world's Muslims live in oppressive poverty brought on by corporate and imperialistic powers which support illegitimate governments that cling to power by keeping their people poor and uneducated. He believes that the people of the Muslim world have the right to throw off their oppressors and establish states governed by Islamic law. He also believes that such states will have to establish economic and political systems that allow them to interact legitimately with the industrialized Western World while still adhering to Islamic law.

Mr. Morton started Revolution Muslim with the hope that it would be an open forum that could present and discuss a full range of issues confronting the Muslim world. Of course, the

consequences of 9/11, the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the actions of terrorists such as Osama Bin Laden would all be a part of the discussion. Not surprisingly, Mr. Morton's opinions on these issues are dramatically different than most U.S. citizens. Many certainly find such opinions deeply offensive and would like them silenced. Of course, under bedrock principles of the First Amendment, Mr. Morton is entitled to hold and express his opinions provided he does not cross the line into threatening or other dangerous, prohibited communications. During the vast majority of his work on Revolution Muslim, Mr. Morton recognized this line and did not cross it. The same cannot be said for others associated with the website. In large part, Mr. Morton's crimes stem from his failure to adequately address the conduct of these associates.

As the Statement of Facts carefully details the activities of these associates, an examination of Mr. Morton's interaction with them is appropriate:

Zachary Chesser: Mr. Morton met Zachary Chesser after reading some of Mr. Chesser's posts on economic issues confronting Haiti following the devastating earthquake there. Mr. Morton was impressed with the intellectual quality of the posts and was surprised that such a young man had written them. He invited Mr. Chesser to post on Revolution Muslim and gave him the administrative information necessary to access the site. Mr. Morton had little direct contact with Mr. Chesser because Chesser lived in Northern Virginia and Mr. Morton lived in New York. Over a short period of time, Mr. Chesser's views became increasingly militant. Mr. Morton recognized the influence of Anwar al-Awlaki, a charismatic preacher who espoused a form of jihad that permitted unrestricted violence against the West, a position that Mr. Morton rejects.

In April of 2010, without Mr. Morton's knowledge, Mr. Chesser posted the initial threat against the writers of South Park for defaming the Prophet Muhammad. As Mr. Morton

explained in his statement to the probation officer, he wrongly attempted to capitalize on the publicity this post garnered by publishing a “clarification statement.”

In July of 2010, Mr. Chesser was arrested while attempting to travel to Somalia with plans to join the terrorist group Al-Shabaab. Mr. Morton was unaware of Chesser’s plans. Had he been aware of them, he would have strongly tried to dissuade Mr. Chesser. Mr. Chesser had never traveled abroad and had no real comprehension of the situation in Somalia or the Muslims living there.

Conspirator YK: Mr. Morton met YK through his involvement with the Islamic Thinkers Society in New York. YK was a Jewish man from Israel who had converted to Islam and moved to New York. Mr. Morton decided to start Revolution Muslim with YK because YK was the only person who shared Mr. Morton’s dedication to the project. Unfortunately, YK lacked Mr. Morton’s desire to address the issues in a thoughtful, intellectual manner. His posts were sophomoric and needlessly antagonistic. Mr. Morton and YK argued often over the content of YK’s posts. Eventually, YK ceased his involvement with the web site.

Samir Khan: Mr. Khan was the purported publisher of *Inspire Magazine*. He was killed in a drone strike carried out by the U.S. government in Yemen along with Anwar al-Awlaki. Mr. Morton had no role in the production of *Inspire Magazine*. Before Samir Khan’s move to Yemen, he had contacted Mr. Morton and asked him write an article for another on-line magazine he was publishing called *Jihad Recollections*. In response, Mr. Morton wrote an article entitled “Off With the Head” which called for domestic revolutions in the Middle East and counseled Muslims to begin focusing on the development of effective Islamic states. *See Attachment 2.* Mr. Khan found the ideas expressed in the paper highly offensive and upsetting

because they did not align with his belief that all Western culture had to be rejected and destroyed.

Bilal Zaheer Ahmad: On July 25, 2010 Mr. Morton moved to Morocco with his family to begin a new teaching position. At that time, he handed over all of the day-to-day operation of Revolution Muslim to other authorized administrators including Bilal Ahmad, a Muslim living in England. On November 3, 2010, Mr. Ahmad published a threatening post which contained the names and addresses of the members of Parliament who supported the Iraq war. As noted in paragraph 63 of the Statement of Facts, the Revolution Website became unavailable immediately thereafter. What is not explained in the Statement of Facts is that the site became unavailable because of the actions of Mr. Morton. In response to Ahmad's post, Mr. Morton forwarded Revolution Muslim's domain name to a new website, Islam Policy. On November 16, 2010, Mr. Morton published a post on Islam Policy announcing the transfer of Revolution Muslim to that site and explaining that the new site would "concentrate on the solution that is the establishment of the [Islamic] state." *See Attachment 3.*

b. The history and characteristics of the defendant.

As the presentence report and the attached letters (Attachment 5) make clear, Mr. Morton is an individual who has overcome much and has a great deal to offer. He is an articulate, educated, and hard-working man who is dedicated to his faith and his family. Not just as a consequence of his arrest, but as a natural result of his religious growth and the ongoing changes in the Arab world, Mr. Morton's views on the correct response to Muslim oppression have moderated. He is now focused on the prospect of regime changes in the Middle East and the governing systems that must be developed to raise the vast majority of Muslims out of the desperate situations in which they currently live. As he wrote in his statement to the probation

department, Mr. Morton now believes he can “one day help build bridges between the West and the Muslim World.” Presentence Report, p. 36. .

This growth is not surprising. Unlike many of Mr. Morton’s associates, Mr. Morton is a careful, critical thinker. He never blindly adopted the teachings of Osama Bin Laden or Anwar al-Awlaki. As the plea agreement states, the government agrees that Mr. Morton’s activities did not involve a federal terrorism crime. He did not provide support for terrorist organizations nor did he participate in any way in the planning or execution of any terroristic acts.

Mr. Morton is not a terrorist. The Statement of Facts contain excerpts from an interview Mr. Morton did with CNN as well as an excerpt from a post he placed on Islam Policy responding to a report CNN had done on Revolution Muslim. Statement of Facts at ¶¶ 4-5. These quotes are accurate, but they lack context. On their face, they would lead one to believe that Mr. Morton supports terroristic acts by Muslims against Americans and other non-believers. In fact, Mr. Morton’s post explicitly clarifies his statement on CNN by stating, “In no way, shape, or form is [my statement] a call for attacks against civilians. In no way, shape, or form has Revolution Muslim ever called for attacks against civilians. What we do call for is anti-war activism and opposition to empire in the West with support for those physically, even violently, resisting the empire abroad.” See Attachment 4.

c. The need for the sentence imposed, the kinds of sentences available and the established sentencing range.

Mr. Morton is requesting that the Court impose a sentence within the guideline range calculated above: 46 to 57 months. Such a sentence will reflect the seriousness of Mr. Morton’s offenses, it will promote respect for the law, and it will provide a fair and just punishment. Mr. Morton is not a violent individual. His conduct consisted of illegal speech designed to frighten,

coerce, and harass. Mr. Morton has acknowledged that his actions cannot be sanctioned and that punishment is appropriate. The sentence requested here, one of approximately four years of incarceration, is sufficient to punish Mr. Morton for his crimes, to give him sufficient opportunity to rehabilitate, and to deter others from engaging in similar conduct. It clearly meets the directive of 18 U.S.C. § 3553 that the sentence imposed be sufficient- but not greater than necessary- to comply with the purposes of sentencing.

Whatever sentence the Court deems just to impose, Mr. Morton requests that the Court take into account that the Bureau of Prisons will not give him credit for the five months and one week of incarceration he served in Morocco. Accordingly, Mr. Morton requests that the Court reduce any sentence of incarceration by five months and one week. Such a request is consistent with the sentencing guidelines policy statement on related discharged terms of imprisonment.

U.S.S.G. § 5K2.23.

WHEREFORE, based on the foregoing and such additional facts and arguments as may be raised in open court, Mr. Morton requests that this Honorable Court sustain his objections to the sentencing guidelines and impose a prison sentence between 46 and 57 months followed by a period of supervised release with such terms and conditions as the Court deems proper. Mr. Morton further requests that he be recommended for participation in the Bureau of Prisons' 500 Residential Drug Abuse Program.

Respectfully submitted,

JESSE CURTIS MORTON
By Counsel

/s/

James W. Hundley, VSB # 30723
BRIGLIA HUNDLEY NUTTALL & KAY, P.C.
1921 Gallows Road, Suite 750
Vienna, Virginia 22182
703-883-0880
703-883-0899 (fax)
jhundley@bhnklaw.com

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 18th day of June, 2012, I electronically filed the foregoing pleading (with attachments) with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system, which will send notice of said filing (NEF) to the following:

Gordon Kromberg
Assistant United States Attorney
2100 Jamieson Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22314
202-514-8020

Counsel for the United States

/s/

James W. Hundley, VSB # 30723
BRIGLIA HUNDLEY NUTTALL & KAY, P.C.
1921 Gallows Road, Suite 750
Vienna, Virginia 22182
703-883-0880
703-883-0899 (fax)
jhundley@bhnklaw.com

Clarifying the South Park Response and Calling on Others to Join in the Defense of the Prophet Muhammad – RevolutionMuslim.com

In the name of Allah the Beneficent the Merciful, all praise is due to Allah the Lord of all that exists, and may blessings and peace be upon the Messenger of Allah Muhammad, and I bear witness that there is no deity worthy of worship except for Allah, and I bear witness that Muhammad is His slave and Messenger,

As for what follows,

In light of the volume of attention being given to our response to the recent South Park episode we feel compelled to issue a statement clarifying the issue to both Muslims and non-Muslims alike. We would like to point out that we are not against a rational dialogue with either group and would like to take this opportunity to ask all to read and respond with an objective mind. We live in an age of media concision, and a consequential reality which tends to afford very little opportunity for in depth discussion. Our intention with this explanation is only, Allah willing, to create the possibility that a deeper and more productive dialogue may be initiated to create an opportunity for correction of wrongs and the alteration of behavior that many may suggest is insignificant, but nevertheless to behavior we hold not only sacrilegious but that we feel typifies the root cancer of the world right now, that of American imperialism and its coincident culture of pagan hedonistic barbarism, a culture which actually makes possible the perpetuation of such a dehumanizing U.S. influence in the world at least for the overwhelming majority of the global village effected by its imperialist advancement.

This past week South Park aired an episode which insulted three of our beloved prophets: Musa (Moses), 'Isa (Jesus), and Muhammad, peace be upon them all. Not only did they do this, but within the episode the makers of South Park made it very clear that they knew how the Muslims would feel and potentially respond to their show. In an effort at covering over their actual intention to incite, the creators of South Park carefully contrived a plotline that they believed could only stump those Muslim extremists that may arise to defend the honor of the Prophet Muhammad, held in highest regard by Muslims and Non-Muslims alike, indeed many have categorized Muhammad as the most influential human being that ever walked on Earth.

By placing the Prophet Muhammad in a bear suit and thus believing that they could not possibly be accused of portraying his image, the creators of South Park sought to insult the sacred and show their blatant and general disregard for religion while at the same time creatively avoiding the Islamic law as they understood it. Indeed were the American terror state, these individuals are so proud of not occupying several Muslim countries, were it not responsible for the killing of many millions of Muslims in its recent history of foreign policy, the propping up dictators all over the Muslim world so that they can sequester the natural resources of Muslim land, and the unconditional supporting and militarization of the fascist, apartheid state of Israel, there may be some sort of justification for why Muslims could or should simply overlook the ignorance and arrogance of such an act by a handful of individuals. However, as it stands, the aforementioned situations are occurring and increasingly many Muslims the world over realize that the United States in engaged in a comprehensive war against Islam. Whether consciously or subconsciously, the dehumanization of a conquered people's culture is part and parcel of all conquest, and the South Park episode is an example of how even seemingly unimportant images in a society can and do contribute to a dominant powers aggression and subjugation of all things 'other.' To

insult the premiere figure of the people you are conquering in jest is nothing new, but to sit silent whilst unrecognizing the process of domination is contribute to it and so to oppose the depiction of the Prophet Muhammad in any way, shape or form that is derogatory is to protect the honor and dignity of the Muslim nation, and refuse to remain open-minded in matters of imperialist conquest.

Free speech is a vital tool in the staving of oppression, but this function has its limits. It is hard to understand how one can feel self-righteous while defending somebody as an "equal opportunity offender." Such an illogical state of mind could only emanate from a selfish culture in which the suffering of the many is justified by the enjoyment of the few. And it may be an American "value" that all speech should be free including that which is obscene and aimed at emotionally oppressing a specific group of people, but this is not a value that the Muslims share with America as a whole. In fact, one of the major reasons there is such little opposition to American domination today is the reality that the principle of free speech envisioned by the founding fathers of the United States and by wise men and women throughout the ages has been more as a universal principle that may protect citizens from political, economic, or religious persecution than in the manner it is understood today, that being the right to promote pornography, homosexuality, slander, and libel against even that which is considered sacred. Indeed, it is in the shifting away from this conceptualization that America first deviated from its position as republic and assumed a role of global empire.

While insulting Jesus, Moses, or any other prophet would remove someone from Islam, we are also forbidden to insult the deities which other religions hold in high esteem. Allah says in the Qur'an:

وَلَا تَسُبُّوا الَّذِينَ يَدْعُونَ مِن دُونِ اللَّهِ فَيَسُبُّوا اللَّهَ عَدْوًا بِغَيْرِ عِلْمٍ

Revile not those unto whom they pray beside Allah lest they wrongfully revile Allah through ignorance

Therefore, as Muslims we do not define speech which has no place in a moral society and which violates that which is considered sacred by some as "free speech." Furthermore, we will never tolerate the mocking or insulting of any one of the prophets, peace be upon them, from any source even if it was the Caliph (leader) of the entire Muslim world. It is truly sad that we did not speak out when they first insulted 'Isa (Jesus), Musa (Moses), or even the first time they mocked the final prophet Muhammad, peace be upon them all. However, simply because they have done something in the past and there was no outcry does not justify our silence in the present.

As for the Islamic ruling on the situation, then this is clear. There is no difference of opinion from those with any degree of a reputation that the punishment is death. For one example, Ibn Taymiyyah the great scholar of Islam says, "Whoever curses the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) -a Muslim or a non Muslim- then he must be killed...and this is the opinion of the general body of Islamic scholars. Likewise Ibn Mundhir, another classical scholar, said, "It is the consensus of our scholars that the one who curses the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) should be executed!" This is also the opinion of Imams Malik, al-Laith, Ahmed, Ishaq, Shafi'i, and Numan Abu Haneefah. This shows that taking this stance is virtually obligatory, but it does not mean that our taking this stance is in some way an absolute call toward the requirement that the creators of South Park must be killed, nor a

deliberate attempt at incitement, it is only to declare the truth regardless of consequence and to offer an awareness in the mind of Westerners when they proceed forward with even more of the same.

Many are proclaiming that the South Park episode's insult was minimal and some might inquire about a situation where the insult is not that great. Imam Malik said, "If someone says that the button of the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) is dirty, then he should be executed!" And then Qadi I'yad says, "And we don't know any different opinion, this is a consensus and we don't know any different opinion!" Before continuing it must be made clear that anyone who knows anything about Usool ul-Fiqh (the fundamentals of jurisprudence) knows that ijma' (consensus) is a hujjah (proof) as the Prophet, salaa Allahu 'alayhi wa salam, said, "My Ummah cannot have consensus on something that is wrong." This means that the above opinions are the accepted opinions and these statements are proof that is the case. While the details of this conversation may have lost our non-Muslim audience in evidences from the religion we implore you to read on and advise you that the system of law in Islam, known as shariah, is the most amazing thing the mind could stumble upon.

In the lifetime of the Prophet Muhammad two key events stand out that provide evidence for the permissibility and indeed preference for retaliation against those that insult the Prophet Muhammad. In the first, a blind Muslim man who had a Jewish wife (and some say servant) assassinated his wife once she continuously would curse and criticize Muhammad. In the other, a Jewish poet by the name of Ka'b bin al-Ashraf was killed for his poetry insulting the Prophet even though he was living under peaceful covenant with the Muslims and was within his own territory. If anyone is in need of details and sources for these occurrences feel free to contact us and we will forward them to serious inquirers. At this point, it must be known that this is the position in Islam, that there is consensus in it and that for those that argue the harm coming as a consequence exceeds the benefit, then they should know that this is at best an argument that entails a difference of opinion although the evidence suggests adopting the platform that we ourselves have taken.

The law, known as *shariah*, in Islam is sacred and it is for no man to change, alter, or disregard when reacting to events like the recent degrading of the Prophet Muhammad (saws) on South Park. Indeed there is an Islamic ruling on nearly every affair and Muslims must seek their response in the religion and not in the personal desire and false manipulation of subjective introspection via reason or in most cases emotional attachment bent on socialized norms. Allah says in the Quran, "And do not clothe the truth with the falsehood, nor hide the truth while you know (2:42)." It is not for us to convey what we desire but to convey the religion in its entirety no matter the consequence. Allah also says in the Quran, "Surely you can have no true faith until you refer to the Prophet Muhammad in all your affairs. (4:65)." Thus the postings that have caused so much controversy on revolutionmuslim.com with regard to this matter were actually not the publication of the opinion of some Muslims but a referral and deferment to Islamic Law, thus fulfilling our divine obligation to command the good and forbid the evil by teaching and preaching the religion of Islam no matter how strange that way of life may seem to some. This is a divine order, obligatory for at least some Muslims in any community to fulfill. Allah says,

وَلْتَكُنْ مِنْكُمْ أُمَّةٌ يَدْعُونَ إِلَى الْخَيْرِ وَيَأْمُرُونَ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَيَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ وَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ

Let there arise out of you a band of people inviting to all that is good, enjoining what is right, and forbidding what is wrong: They are the ones to attain felicity. (3:104)

Ibn Kathir, in his renown exogenesis of the Holy Quran says that this is not restricted to people with official authority, or in this case is not restricted to those that are seeking appeasements with the American Empire and are in actuality from amongst its staunchest allies despite that they claim to be Muslim and have been granted positions of leadership here in this country. Ibn Kathir states, "The objective of this Ayah is that there should be a segment of this Muslim Ummah fulfilling this task, even though it is also an obligation on every member of this Ummah, each according to his ability. Muslim recorded that Abu Hurayrah said that the Messenger of Allah said,

مَنْ رَأَى مِنْكُمْ مُنْكَرًا فَلْيُغَيِّرْهُ بِيَدِهِ، فَإِنْ لَمْ يَسْتَطِعْ فَبِلِسَانِهِ، فَإِنْ لَمْ يَسْتَطِعْ فَبِقَلْبِهِ، وَذَلِكَ أَضْعَفُ الْإِيمَانِ

"Whoever among you witnesses an evil, let him change it with his hand. If he is unable, then let him change it with his tongue. If he is unable, then let him change it with his heart, and this is the weakest faith."

Speaking out against ending this kind of belittling insult toward the Prophet Muhammad is completely in line with the tenets of the religion, should have been undertaken by the so-called leadership who remain silent, and is an obligation on Muslims everywhere to defend their Prophet (saws) with whatever strength they can muster. Thus our position remains that it is likely the creators of South Park will indeed end up like Theo Van Gogh and we pray that Allah makes that reality. However, as stated in the words of the Prophet above, if one cannot alter the situation with their hand then they must speak out against it and try to change it that way and we would also like to Mr. Parker and Mr. Stone understand the tastelessness of their portrayal, apologize and reflect on the words that follow. Any Muslim that condones this type of behavior or minimizes it does not fulfill the obligation of hating it with his or her heart and thus as is stated emphatically in the hadith may fall outside the necessary status of holding onto even the weakest of faith. Many conquered peopled become completely oblivious to function of their oppressor in enslaving their minds so we seek no harm against them, but do hope that they may be inspired to adopt a proactive stance and work alongside us in the struggle to liberate Islam and Muslims from foreign control.

Individual Muslims may react in quite the same manner as those non-Muslims, claiming that we are making Islam look backwards and ancient, overreacting and bringing about more harm than good. These same individuals decry every act of so-called terrorism while remaining completely silent in the face of U.S. terror; every time a leader of those courageously defending occupied Muslim lands from occupation is killed or captured they applaud. They constantly sit silent as tanks and troopers are deployed and have little to say as the empire expands. In fact, they hurry to the American Empire to let them know they are with them at least in some of the matter. Today, as Obama perpetuates a War on Islam, they perpetuate the tale that the United States is at war with a fringe group of extremists. Allah explains this phenomenon in the Quran by saying,

فَتَرَى الَّذِينَ فِي قُلُوبِهِمْ مَرَضٌ يُسَارِعُونَ فِيهِمْ يَقُولُونَ نَخْشَى أَنْ تُصِيبَنَا دَائِرَةٌ فَعَسَى اللَّهُ أَنْ يَأْتِيَ

بِالْفَتْحِ أَوْ أَمْرٍ مِّنْ عِنْدِهِ فَيُصْبِحُوا عَلَىٰ مَا أَسْرُوا فِي أَنفُسِهِمْ نَادِمِينَ

Those in whose hearts is a disease - you see how eagerly they run about amongst them, saying: "We do fear that a change of fortune may bring us disaster." Ah! perhaps Allah will give you victory, or a decision according to His will. Then will they repent of the thoughts which they secretly harbored in their hearts

Today Muslims the world over run and say that Muslims like us do not represent Islam, as if in some way speaking out against empire is in fact causing it. In order to survive, empires must conscript support, and usually impose a loyal indigenous elite over the lands they conquer. Oftentimes these loyal elite find ways of influencing the home front as well. Empire is primarily concerned with preserving political, economic, and military dominance and therefore tends to portray itself as tolerant and pluralistic of the cultures and customs of those they conquer. However, a closer objective analysis always reveals that this tolerance is a guise of strategy and is only apparent where the conquered are willing to retain personal customs and control in exchange for the sacrifice of indigenous sovereignty over wealth, natural resource, and political decision. Thus while empires rape and extract the material wealth of the people they dominate, they grant the seeming retention of indigenous language, custom, religion and the like. In reality, this focus on power and control leads to the actual loss of spiritual, psychological, and emotional health and, as an elite is imposed, the educated class is granted modest concessions and then political and economic rights of the general people are violated for the long term. This requires that what a conquered people consider sacred must be portrayed as backwards. While this process tends to occur subconsciously it lead to a sense of power and privilege on the home shores of the imperialist that serve as a justification for the atrocities committed and thereby minimized on the frontier: the term "sand-nigger" or "camel jockey" did not start with American soldiers on the ground in Iraq, but was a phrase coined during Britain's imperialist adventure in the Middle East, the 'other's' culture and custom must always be degraded in order to retain a justification for physical domination. Media always plays a role in perpetuating these ideas.

The process of imperialism thereafter splits a conquered people up into two camps: the good and the bad. The good are those that accept domination and vie for safety by adopting the position that the Empire isn't an imperialist entity at all, but rather a liberator – the bad are those that refuse to sacrifice autonomy and continue to fight on... Americans should be all too familiar with the process; the very foundation of their nation is built upon the genocide of the indigenous Native Americans. So too then in its occurrence, 'good' Indians collaborated with American settlers against the 'bad' Indians; they demonized them for fighting and not accepting defeat and were subsequently displayed by the imperialist power as proof for the benign nature of America's early expansion. The genocide of Indians would have been impossible without their collaboration. We face similar situations as Muslims today.

This phenomenon is true of Babylonian, Greek, Roman, Persian, British empires, indeed all imperialist powers employ the same means. The creators of South Park so too emulate this process in their work and in their own right contribute greatly to passive acceptance of a sick status quo. The contemporary American Empire is dependent on a hedonistic, consumerist mindset that effectively numbs the general world populace and thus keeps them ignorant and oblivious to the imperialist reality. Thus when 9-11 happens Americans are told it is due to Muslims hating their freedom and democracy and are never told that the perpetrators of the

attack cited the death of millions of Muslims at the hands of U.S. foreign policy. With the help of media, Americans are kept oblivious to the heinous crimes of the empire overseas and especially in Afghanistan and Iraq over the past eight years by a complacent news media and garbage consumerist television shows like South Park that serve as the new opiate of the masses. One of the only ways we could ever end American Empire would be to take away the ideological justification it finds via its mainstream media outlets. Thus it should be apparent that we perceive this incident not in isolation but as part of a broader narrative that is part and parcel of a much more complex and deeply seeded crisis amongst humanity. Thomas Friedman, proponent of this empire, explains the contemporary order is sustained by, “the presence of American power and America’s willingness to use that power against those who would threaten the system of globalization... The hidden hand of the market will never work without the fist,” but it is also true that the hidden hand of the market would never work without a mind-numbing American media that can help to pacify those that would otherwise stand opposed of economic domination and the military domination it is dependent upon. The stance that we have taken is a derivative of this much deeper war, and our intention is not only to fulfill the command of forbidding evil in Islam but to engage both Muslims and non-Muslims alike in a much deeper discussion. Certainly, the mainstream media will never allow that to happen, but there are massive alternative opportunities in this, the information age. It should be understood that we will not lie over and accept America’s imperialist conquest of Muslims and will speak against any and all activities that leads to that being the case. Finally, Allah says in the Quran,

انْفِرُوا خِفَافًا وَثِقَالًا وَجَاهِدُوا بِأَمْوَالِكُمْ وَأَنْفُسِكُمْ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ ذَلِكُمْ خَيْرٌ لَّكُمْ إِن كُنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ

Go forth, whether light or heavy, and strive with your wealth and your lives in the way of Allah! That is best for you if you but knew.

In the end, we seek justice and preservation of Islamic culture and will not stand passive and silent in these tumultuous times. We implore conscious people everywhere to do the same and are open to the advice, suggestions, and general conversation with all those that would like to engage in detailed discussion, we plan on hosting some open dialogue opportunities as soon as our website is back up and running. We call humanity to the solution that is the religion of Islam and to recognize the beauty and fabulous religion given by the Prophet Muhammad to the entire world. We hope that the creators of South Park may read this and respond, that before sending hate mail and condemning us that we may partake in dialogue and that the Western media’s degradation of the most blessed of men ceases, otherwise we warn all that many reactions will not involve speech and that defending those that insult, belittle, or degrade the Prophet Muhammad is a requirement of the religion. As Osama bin Laden said with regard to the cartons of Denmark, “if there is no check in the freedom of your words, then let your hearts be open to the freedom of our actions.”

Off with the Head –onto the Hands: Expanding the Scope of Islam’s War on Terror – Younus Abdullah Muhammad

“While we were sitting around the Messenger of Allah (SAWS) writing, he was asked a question: “Which one of the two cities will be conquered first, Constantinople or Rome?” The messenger of Allah (SAWS) replied, “The city of Heraclius (i.e. Constantinople) will be conquered first.”¹”

For 800 years Muslims tried to conquer Constantinople, the great walled city of which Napoleon said, “If the world was one kingdom, there will be no better city befitting to be its capital” and the home of the Byzantine Empire. It was only after Muhammad Al-Fateh (the Conqueror) fulfilled the prophesy in 1453 A.D. that the statement of the Prophet Muhammad (SAWS) was fulfilled. Today we await the conquering of Rome. Certainly its fulfillment will be realized as well as it is reported that the Prophet (SAWS) said, “Allah draws the ends of the world near one another for my sake. And I have seen its eastern and western ends. And the dominion of my Ummah would reach its ends which have been drawn near me.”² Today we witness the continuation of the struggle to establish these ends and after the utter dismantlement of the dignity of the ummah, the abolishment of the Caliphate system, and the subsequent fulfilling of the Prophet’s (SAWS) prophesy that Muslims would exist “numerous at that time but like froth and scum carried down by a torrent of water,”³ at least prior to the renaissance leading to the spread of the deen from East to West.

The revival of Islam came after a declination that continues to permit the near entire occupation and confiscation of religion, life, and resource in the Muslim world. The effects of this occupation are all over today. However, they are withering and the world is on the threshold of an Islamic Awakening largely because Osama bin Laden and the mujahedeen hit the root of the affliction, targeted America on its own lands, and cut off the head of disbelief thereby reviving the jihad that will inevitably lead to the conquest of Rome. While much criticism came from several sectors of the Muslim ideological perspective with regard to the 9-11 raids, it is becoming apparent that the actual intention behind the attacks, to lure the United States into an imperialist war that would one-day bankrupt the superpower, has been achieved. The strategy was genius. The consequences were, for the most part, positive and the results even better than expected. Today America is a shadow of its former self and the head is suffering from a concussion. Tomorrow the struggle must exploit these results and advance the jihad to a progressive stage.

Sheikh Osama Bin Laden (HA) set forth his initial justification for cutting off the head of the disbelievers in a lengthy sermon delivered in 1996 that concentrated on highlighting the atrocities committed by the Saudi regime and their role as agent of the U.S.-Israeli Alliance in allowing U.S. troops onto Saudi soil. In it, he utilized the principle of warding off the greater evil as expressed in Ibn Tayymia’s elaborate writings on the subject of repelling the tyrant aggressor and called for “concentration on hitting the main enemy who has thrust the nation into whirlpools and labyrinths for decades since dividing it into states and statelets,” and declaring that, “It is no secret that warding off the American enemy is the top duty after faith, and nothing should take priority over

¹ Saheeh: Collected by Ahmad and Daarimi and narrated by Abu Qubail from Abdullah bin Amr ibn Al-As

² Collected by Muslim, Abu Dawood, Timidhi and Ibn Majah

³ See the entire hadith on the authority of Thawbaan in Dawood and Ahmad

it.⁴ This sense of direction was the first example of Bin Laden emphasizing his belief that the mujahedeen were capable of destroying the only empire left standing after their defeat of the USSR only a few years earlier.

There was much criticism within the Islamic nation during this time and indeed much criticism continues today but efforts were increased to advance this ideology and convince the noble sons and daughters of the ummah that the approach would work. In an interview in 1997 with reporter Gwyn Robert he declared, "I confirm that all the youth and the whole nation should concentrate their efforts on the Americans and the Zionists because they are the head of the spear that has been pointed at the nation and delivered into the nation's heart, and that every effort concentrated on the Americans and the Zionists will bring good, direct, and positive results. Therefore, if someone can kill an American soldier, it is better than wasting his energy on other matters."

On February 23, 1998 Bin Laden and others issued a fatwa claiming that, "to kill the Americans and their allies -- civilians and military -- is an individual duty for every Muslim who can do it in any country in which it is possible to do, in order to liberate the al-Aqsa Mosque and the holy mosque [Mecca] from their grip, and in order for their armies to move out of all the lands of Islam, defeated and unable to threaten any Muslim.⁵" The attacks on American Embassies in Tanzania and Kenya in 1998 highlighted an array of operations that documented the seriousness of his adherence to the threats and sent the Clinton Administration into efforts to capture the newest challenge to U.S. dominance while many in the Muslim world either downplayed the seriousness of the threat or criticized his stance as misguidance.

Today the jihad has extended from Afghanistan to Iraq, into Pakistan, Somalia, Palestine, Indochina, the Arabian Peninsula, the Caucuses, and active cells sit in every country on the globe. The Crusade against Islam continues as well. Occupation in Iraq and Afghanistan rages on as the incumbent administration wages a massive propaganda war throughout the Muslim world and sets of carefully contrived proxy governments speaking in terms of Islam, Jewish aggression expands, and international agencies set their eyes on the Sudan and Somalia while U.S. military imperialism expands its presence on Muslim land despite government propaganda. It must be realized that the objectives espoused in the plan to "cut off the head" are advancing toward realization. Osama described, "Take care not to be pushed into fragmenting your efforts and squandering your resources in marginal battles with the lackeys and parties but concentrate the blows on the head of the unfaith until it collapses. Once it collapses, all the other parts will collapse, vanish, and be defeated,⁶" Recent statements suggest it is time to shift attention, open new fronts, and attack the hands the head can no longer protect.

The United States was for a long time thought of as a friendly power in the Muslim world. Recent events have completely altered that misconception, but few understand the history of western imperialism in the region. One must understand the history and intervention of western control alongside the exact location and plans of U.S. military presence on Muslim soil if the plan for permanent Western occupation is going

⁴ See "Message from Osama bin Laden to his Muslim Brothers in the Whole World and Especially in the Arabian Peninsula: Declaration of Jihad Against the Americans Occupying the Land of the Two Holy Mosques; Expel the Heretics From the Arabian Peninsula" released by Al-Islah, Sep. 2, 1996

⁵ See <http://www.fas.org/irp/world/para/docs/980223-fatwa.htm>

⁶ Al-Qaida Issues Statement under Bin Laden's Name on Afghan 1st War Anniversary. (Internet)

to be prevented. It is only in understanding this actual background that one may gain a deeper appreciation for the past, present and future efforts to resist Western dominance in the Muslim world.

It has been narrated by 'Umar bin al-Khattab that he heard the Messenger of Allah (SAWS) say: I will expel the Jews and Christians from the Arabian Peninsula and will not leave any but Muslim.⁷

The present day advancement of Western forces in the Middle East did not begin with the invasion of Iraq in 2002. Western advances on the Muslim nation have occurred over a prolonged period of time and recent events are merely a continuation of 400 years of colonialism that followed the conquering of Islamic Spain by Europeans in 1492. The subsequent subjugation of Africa and Latin America was followed by the earliest attempts to invade and occupy terrain in the Middle East. The French invaded Egypt in 1798 only to be repelled two years later. The French annexed Algeria in 1834 and the British took over administrative control of Egypt by 1882. Despite the fact that six European State powers controlled 25% of the world's land surface between 1876 and 1914,⁸ little direct rule was capable in the Middle East however due largely to Muslim dignity and the unity attributed by the Islamic Khilafah. Attempts to push the western ideology onto Muslims ended in utter failure. For example, Lord Curzon remarked in 1892, "It is against the impregnable rock-wall of Islam, as a system embracing every sphere and duty, and act of life, that the waves of missionary effort beat and buffet in vain." Sensing the need to cut the Muslims off from their ideology, Western powers began a careful and gradual attack on the ruling system that eventually led to present conditions.

The strategic location of the Persian Gulf has always made it a center of world trade and thus a region prone to intense confrontation for control. Western intervention there essentially began when the British Empire, in order to secure safe shipping routes to and from their empire in India, turned family run Sheikdoms into British protectorates. Ultimately, these careful partnerships and the additional support for the House of Saud, established in the late nineteenth century, led to the present age of Western dominance.

It was the Saud family that aligned with the British and betrayed the Ottoman Caliphate. The evidence is clear in the historical record few take the time to read. British Officer S.G. Knox, wrote in April of 1914 in communication with the British Government in colonized India that, "it looks probable that unless something definite can be communicated to him very soon, Bin Saud, will make his own arrangements with the Turkish Government, and such arrangements may very well be hostile to our interests."⁹ This message found the British suddenly eager in interest to subjugate efforts by the Ottomans to make peace with Ibn Saud. However, a treaty between Ibn Saud and the Turks was signed on May 15, 1914 that gave the Willyat of Najd to Ibn Saud and his progeny afterwards in exchange for Ottoman control over the region through military residency, taxes subject to Ottoman control, a promise to defend the region from foreign occupation, and an explicit agreement that Ibn Saud, "is not allowed to interfere with, or correspond about foreign affairs and international treaties, or to grant concessions." And

⁷ Buckari, Hadith #4366

⁸ E. Hobsbawn. Industry and Empire (London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1968)

⁹ See Memorandum No. 1171, dated Bushire, April 19, 1914. Major S.G. Knox to the Foreign Secretary of the Government of India in the Foreign and Political Department, Simla.

so it should have been that the Ottoman Empire worked to regain a foothold in the Arabian Peninsula and reestablished control from the British via the developmental project they had arranged with Germany. This would not be the case as the fate of history and the promise of fitnah from Najd would be fulfilled. Correspondence from that date between Ibn Saud and the British Empire documents an increasing British effort in wooing the Arab leader away from his treaty with the Ottoman Caliphate and as World War I broke out, Ibn Saud declared his allegiance by December 1914 saying, "I accept and acknowledge severance of dealing with any other power in all matter of concession, interference and intercourse, except with reference to the British Government,¹⁰" By 1921 he was the recipient of 5,000£ Sterling each month and ample munitions to carry out the furthering of British objectives in the region.¹¹ In 1925 he captured Mecca ending 700 years of Hashemite tutelage of the Kaaba and eventually killing most of the Ikhwan that had fought to gain the territory because they continued to push jihad into Iraq, a British Protectorate. This opposed his now apparent loyalty to the British Queen.

The Saudi alliance with Britain allowed the conclusion of World War I to destroy the Khilafah and Western powers to intensify efforts to colonize the Muslim world. The contradictory promises of the Hussein-McMahon correspondence which funded Arab rebellion against the Ottomans, the Sykes-Picot agreement which carved up the Muslim world between Britain and France, and the Balfour Declaration which established the Jews in Palestine allowed the British Empire to watch the last remnants of the Ottoman Empire vanish. The post-World War I League of Nations mandate system gave the British colonial control over Palestine, Transjordan and Iraq and France control over Syria and Lebanon. Thus, prior to World War II, the Middle East was mainly the focus of British and French imperialism but the long lasting effects of a forced nationalism and the separation of the Muslims into separate nation states virtually erased the entirety of dignity and autonomous control for the ummah.

America's role as an imperialist nation started at their very root with the genocide of an entire indigenous population, the American Indians. Alexander Hamilton described the United States as the "embryo of a great empire" as early as 1795¹², but America's role as imperialist in the international arena started directly after the Indian population had been subdued and placed on reservations, the taking of Alaska and Hawaii, and the victory of the Spanish-American War toward the end of the 19th century. The U.S. immediately set out to claim the Philippines, an Island in South East Asia with a predominantly Muslim population. Conquering the Philippines established a base from where America could project its power throughout the world and was thus the next logical step in their imperialist expansion. President Theodore Roosevelt stated his views claiming, "in the long run civilized man finds he can keep the peace only by subduing his barbarian neighbors; for the barbarian will yield only to force."¹³ The Philippine issue was never fully resolved until 1946 when they were granted nominal independence, but it served as an initial launching point for future American militarization of Muslim land.

¹⁰ See Translation of letter to Sayyid Tlaib in King Abdul Aziz Diplomacy and Statecraft 1902-1953, Vol. 1 Archive Eds. Limited, 1998.

¹¹ See Memorandum dated May 4, 1921 from Office of the High Commissioner to His Excellency Sheikh Sir Abdul Aziz bin Abdur Rahman al Faisal al Saud.

¹² See www.carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=18908&prog=zgp&proj=zusr

¹³ Roosevelt, Theodore. "Expansion and Peace." 1989. pp. 287-89

In 1890, naval captain Alfred T. Mahan published a book entitled *The Influence of Sea Power upon History*, in which he argued that a strong nation must use naval power to extend ports and colonies throughout the world. These colonies and foreign ports would also benefit the home country through foreign trade and opportunities for investment. The occupation of the Philippines and domestic growth at home allowed the United States to launch its first real display of power in the Persian Gulf when from December 16, 1907 to February 22, 1909 the Great White Fleet, a collective group of US Navy vessels, circumnavigated the globe by orders from Theodore Roosevelt. These vessels sailed while brandishing the US flag and made their way into the Persian Gulf by early 1909 eventually working their way all the way through to the Suez Canal before passing back through the Islands of the Arab Emirates and setting its eyes on the British controlled island of Bahrain where it would start its program for colonizing the region.

America first made major inroads into the Persian Gulf by way of Saudi Arabia in May of 1933, when Standard Oil Company of California, known as Chevron today, obtained 60-year oil expropriation rights in exchange for 35,000 British pounds. This marked the initiation of American intervention in the region. From 1933 until the conclusion of World War II the intimate relationship between Saudi Arabia and the U.S. was the direct result of this relationship as Aramco (Arabian-American Oil Company) was formed and led to lucrative contracts for many Western firms developing the Saudi state and thus creating the “special relationship” that carries through to this day. By the end of World War II, with Europe destroyed by the Nazis, the United States found itself with a firm and intact domestic society and as the most powerful country in the world. This was recognized immediately by Government officials as the imperialist ambitions of the U.S. now set its eyes, in secular, Western tradition on a bigger piece of the world pie. George Keenan, then Secretary of State, described the Post-World War II scenario,

We have about half the world's wealth... but only 5 percent of its population... In this situation...our real job in the coming years is to devise a pattern of relationships which permit us to maintain this position of disparity... To do so we have to dispense with all the sentimentality and day-dreaming, concentrate everywhere on our immediate national objectives... [And] deal in straight power concepts. The less we are hampered by idealistic slogans the better.¹⁴

In 1944 Franklin Roosevelt announced that, “the defense of Saudi Arabia is vital to the defense of the United States.”¹⁵ In 1951 President Truman dispatched a committee to explore the prospect of economic control over the region. However, the banker that he sent to assess the situation quickly identified the risks involved due to a rising sentiment of Arab nationalism.¹⁶ By 1952 National Security Council Archives relate that securing the allegiance of Arab countries to the West was tantamount and especially because they control a large portion of the world's oil reserves essential in times of “war and peace.” However, they also identify the structural composition of the Arab countries and divided the populace into three groups: the elite, intellectual class, and peasantry. Of course, it

¹⁴ See United States Department of State Policy Planning Study No. 23, 1948

¹⁵ Little, Douglas. *American Orientalism: The United States and the Middle East since 1945*. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2002).

¹⁶ See Paul Krugman, *The Ambassador of the Arabs: The Locke Mission and the Unmaking of U.S. Development Diplomacy in the Near East, 1952-53.* In David Lesch, ed. *The Middle East and the Unmaking of Development Diplomacy*.

was necessary to support the profligate dictators whose every essence ran contradictory to so-called "democratic" ideals. The report concludes that, "In the past the U.K. has played the major role in the maintenance and defense of Western interests in the area..." but there is a need for, "a review and restatement of U.S. policy toward the area," as the U.S. had already taken over for the U.K. in Greece (where it massacred 160,000 civilians) and "has major military and economic interests, as in the case of Saudi Arabia, U.S. influence has largely replaced the U.K. interests."¹⁷ The documents concludes that the elite leadership must be supported as, "our principle aim should be to encourage the emergence of competent leaders, relatively well-disposed toward the West" despite the fact that they may not be able to "express any overt good will toward, or to seek any explicit association with the West." The primary fear was the potential increase in, "anti-American trends of Arab opinion," which would threaten U.S. interests, namely oil and so it was that America took over from the British in the Middle East.

This new outlook led almost immediately to intervention when in 1953 Dwight Eisenhower ordered the covert operation AJAX that removed democratically elected Prime Minister Mohammed Mossadeqq from power in Iran and installed Reza Shah, loyal Western puppet until the Iranian Revolution in 1979. The covert operation marked an increasing role for the U.S. especially with regard to control of the oil interests. Prior to the coup, the Anglo-Persian oil company was maintained and controlled solely by the British. Operation AJAX established a 40% share for the Anglo-Persian company, which changed its name to BP, a 14% share to Royal Dutch Shell, and a new 40% reward to a group of American firms for their support of the covert endeavor.

In 1958, in reaction to Iraqi revolution and efforts to nationalize their oil, the U.S. Chairman of Joint Chief of Staff stated, "be prepared to employ, subject to the President's approval, whatever means might become necessary to prevent any unfriendly forces from moving into Kuwait."¹⁸ It is assumed that here the U.S. meant nuclear weapons. Support for the Israeli State voted into existence by the U.S. in 1948, covert operations in Syria, Lebanon, Iraq and across the region, and a careful policy of propping up dictators through the sale of arms and strategic economic infiltration of other Middle East nations gradually led to the U.S. taking over from the U.K as the hegemonic power in the Middle East.

The American experiment with empire drew from lessons learned by British and French colonialism however as they were very careful not to establish a physical presence in the region. American expansion has carefully contrived a typical foreign policy in the Middle East of covert subversion and military and financial support for loyal dictators. As hatred for the British drew to a height after the 1956, Israeli, French and British attack on Egypt who attempted to stop Jamal Abdul Nasser from nationalizing the Suez Canal, America, by necessity, took over complete reign. America sided with Nasser and repudiated the attack thus earning positive Arab sentiment. In reality, the policies of the United States were essentially controlled by the oil companies during this era who were gradually expanding their control over the resource and exploiting huge profits from states in the region, the most important of which remained Saudi Arabia, the country's most valuable asset.

¹⁷ NSC Document 129, United States Objectives and Policies with respect to the Arab States and Israel, April 7, 1952.

¹⁸ See William Quandt, "Lebanon, 1958, Jordan 1970." *In Force Without War* (1979)

Saudi Arabia has forever been the bastion of U.S. relations in the Middle East and it was there from 1952-1963 that the first major U.S. military presence in the Gulf was established with the placement of nuclear armed bombers at Dhahran Airbase. While King Faisal ordered the removal of American presence there in 1963 for use on a case-by-case basis, the new base, renamed King Abdul Aziz Air Base, served as the launching pad for U.S. strikes during the first Gulf War, where 7,248 aircraft in a span of a few months dropped 88,500 tons of bombs and destroyed water-purification plants, electrical grids, schools, hospitals, bridges, roads and other civilian targets. Thousands were killed under the blanket takfir and issuance of the Saudi regime and state ulama as the Baathists attacked proved to be mostly women, children and civilian infrastructure. The sanctions that followed would kill 1.5 million children from 1991 until 2003¹⁹.

The American military enhanced its presence in 1965 when Diego Garcia, a British colony, was established as a U.S. military base on lease from the U.K. This base was used as the main launching pad for attacks into Afghanistan and Iraq over the last few years and housed several prisoners of CIA secret renditions. The base was built after the entire indigenous population was forced off the island through extremely violent sanctions and attacks. A recent court case filed in the U.K. has rewarded damages to the ex-inhabitants, but the base still serves as a primary protectorate of "U.S. interests," primarily due to the hidden nature of its location. It is located well over 1,000 miles away from the Gulf in the Indian Ocean.

In August of 1971 Bahrain obtained independence from Britain and the U.S. signed an agreement to maintain its naval presence in the country for a payment of \$4 million a year. On December 2, 1971, the six remaining Arab sheikhdoms created the United Arab Emirates and the first Gulf War allowed the United States to establish a military presence in each and every single one of them. The era of Nixon and Ford witnessed little intervention in the Middle East as the Vietnam War embroiled the U.S. in a brutal guerilla affair with the Vietnamese and the domestic population rose to challenge the military regime, thus preventing further expansion. Exploitation of Middle Eastern oil during this era was largely in the hands of seven corporations based in the United States and Europe and they largely influenced policy in a direction that was conducive to their interests. These corporations still rest today among the world's largest and most powerful financial empires.

On August 15, 1971 the Nixon administration, in the face of a bankrupt international gold benchmark system, altered the entire global monetary scheme and established the post-Bretton Woods fiat system. At this time the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) was formed and planned originally to sell oil in its own currencies. However the Anglo-American power structure intervened and spoke with the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia to guarantee that all crude distributed by OPEC would be sold in dollar denominated terms. In exchange the regime in Saudi Arabia would be protected. Since then the House of Saud has adjusted production almost at the request of their Anglo-American protectors and for the past 30-plus years the oil rentier regimes have been reinvesting the dollars they receive in the domestic U.S. economy or the Federal Reserve through treasury bonds. This "petrodollar recycling" is what keeps the dollar as the fiat currency with supreme value as oil must be bought and sold on the international

¹⁹ See <http://www.twf.org/News/Y1997/Ramsey.html>

market in dollar denominated terms. This keeps every country in the world dependent on holding dollars for energy supplies. The 1973 oil embargo by Saudi Arabia against the U.S., due to American support for Israel, led U.S. government planners like Henry Kissinger and Arthur Schlesinger to identify the oil of the Persian Gulf as a “national interest” as plans were set into motion for the U.S. to take over the oil fields of Saudi Arabia in the event of an emergency.

By the late 1970’s, with increasing reliance on oil imports and the need to protect its carefully structured international monetary scheme, the Carter Administration, proclaimed the Carter Doctrine of Middle East Policy: “Any attempts by any outside force to gain control of the Gulf region will be regarded as an assault on the vital interests of the United States of America, and such an assault will be repelled by any means necessary, including military force.” However the Iranian Revolution sent one of the pillars of U.S. policy apart from U.S. control and the U.S grew closer and more reliant on its relationship with the Arab Gulf States. Carter organized what would come to be called the Rapid Deployment Force which would provide immediate air attacks in the event a situation arose contrary to U.S. interests. In 1978 the Joint Chiefs of Staff stated that American interests in the Middle East were, “to assure continuous access to petroleum reserves, prevent inimical power or combination of powers from establishing hegemony, and to assure the survival of Israel as an independent state.²⁰” The Joint Chiefs also recommended expanding basing facilities throughout the Persian Gulf. The direct American military presence there remained miniscule however, and during the Iran-Iraq War of the 1980’s only seven smaller Navy ships based in Bahrain were able to patrol the waters. The 1987 Iraqi attack on the USS Stark²¹ allowed the U.S. to use an isolated incident as a pretext for a drastically increased presence and in 1991 the occupation of the Arabian Peninsula with 600,000 American troops, mostly located in Saudi Arabia, moved into the region.

The period between the two Iraq Wars saw a vast expansion of American military presence as the official inner-workings of the petrodollar scheme started to unravel and it became apparent that the Afghan-Arab resistance to Russian aggression had revived a dormant Islamic awareness that served as a direct threat to U.S. interests and the regimes they backed as one prescient ruler of the Gulf remarked in the early 1980’s, “I would rather deal with 10 Communists than with one Muslim fundamentalist.²²” The Clinton era was marked by a pro-Israeli dual containment policy that strongly supported the continuation of the sanctions on Iraq and persuaded similar sanctions on Iran that sought to isolate it from the global community. From 1996 to 2002 construction at Prince Sultan Airbase was continuous and barracks were constructed that resembled permanent housing units. In 2001, the Saudi regime permitted use of the base in coordinating air operations against targets in Afghanistan. To hedge their control over the region, the United States also built Udeid Air Base in Qatar as an alternative in the face of potential Saudi evacuation.

The invasion of Iraq in 2003 marked the onslaught of official occupation as the 9-11 attacks forced the Bush Administration’s neoconservative movement to bear the

²⁰ See Review of US Strategy Related to the Middle East and the Persian Gulf. (1978)

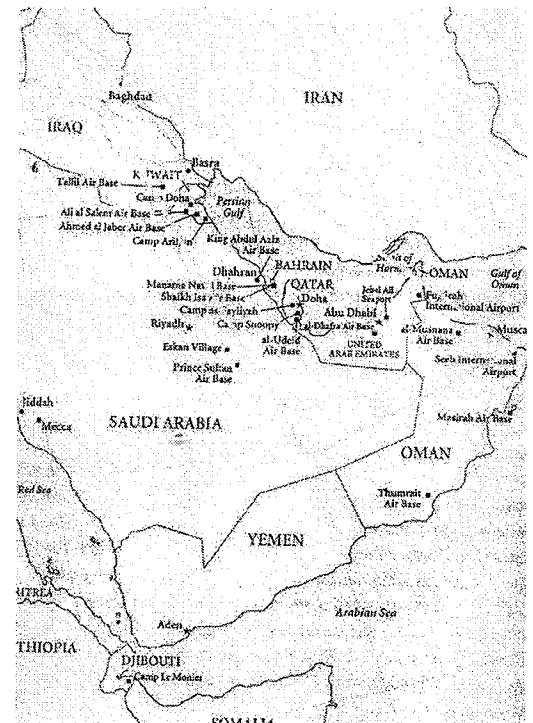
²¹ See Harold Lee Wise. Inside the Danger Zone: The U.S. Military in the Persian Gulf, 1987-1988. (Naval Institute Press, 2007.

²² Interview with advisor to the ruler, Gulf emirate, August 17, 1982

actuality of its intentions²³ and the expansion of military presence became evident. The proclamation that the Middle East would be democratized rang throughout the initial invasion. Today 1.3 million dead Iraqi's and the failure to effect even the slightest hint of democratic reform in Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, U.A.E, Egypt or other feudal monarchies and dictatorships the U.S. supports suggests this was never the case. The fact that U.S troops secured Iraqi oil fields on the first day of the occupation shows that control over Mid-East oil supplies had become the chief objective of the continuing, imperialist foreign occupation of the state. The occupation of Iraq established another front for the mujahedeen and today while rhetoric from America proclaims troop withdrawal, 50,000 troops will remain behind as a residual force on 6 permanent military bases built by billions of U.S. taxpayer money with the world's biggest embassy located in the heart of Baghdad. It is highly unlikely the U.S. plans any serious evacuation.

In fact, the U.S plan was always to establish a permanent military presence from which to control the entire region and the reality is that their objectives have been only half-heartedly realized. The occupation of troops on Saudi soil lasted until 2003 when combat troops were forced to evacuate in the face of the violent reactions by Saudi citizens on Khobar Towers in 1996, thus forcing the overt presence of U.S. military to be concealed. Today the U.S. has transferred its personnel and equipment to Prince Sultan Airbase and runs a very well fortified U.S. compound called Eskan Village on the outskirts of Dhahran. Saudi rhetoric may suggest that there are no U.S. forces in the country but it is illegal to photograph the base or any signification of American presence in the Kingdom. The troops typically train the Saudi Army and officials at Prince Sultan are employed by the Vinnell Corporation where they train the Saudi National Guard²⁴. There has also been a proliferation of bases in Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman, the U.A.E., Turkey, Iraq, Egypt and other places with obvious ambitions to occupy the entire region permanently.

Today the United States controls 800-1,000 military bases across the globe with an increasing presence in the Middle East. Obama's budget includes \$663 billion for Defense, an increase from 2008²⁵, but it is an easy lesson learned in history that imperial overreach eventually destroys the domestic currency and leads to the disintegration of Empire. Knowing this history and the intentions behind it leads one to clearly understand the imperativeness of American evacuation. While public opinion polls suggest large



Western Bases on Muslim Land

²³ For specific details of NeoCon plans see Project of New American Century's: *Rebuilding America's Defenses* and Robert Kagan and William Kristol. *Present Dangers: Crisis and Opportunity in American Foreign and Defense Policy*.

²⁴ See http://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php?title=Vinnell_Corporation

²⁵ See <http://www.motherjones.com/mojo/2009/02/obama-increases-military-budget-ignoring-franks-criticisms>

portions of Muslims do not support the attacking of civilians, large majorities agree with Al Qaeda's goal of pushing the United States to remove its military forces from all Muslim countries and substantial numbers approve of attacks on US troops in Muslim countries.²⁶ The struggle to liberate Muslim land began by attacking the head aggressor on its home soil. The U.S., stretched now militarily and facing economic turmoil at home must now alter its perceived role as aggressor in the region. The question then becomes, where do the mujahedeen go from here?

“Oh you Muslims! You have slept for a long time, long enough for the tyrants to take control over you. You accepted to live as slaves and submitted to tyrants.

Now that time has come to revolt and destroy the shackle of slavery.”²⁷

The Soviet threat drove Cold War policies that split the world into two camps. The fall of the Soviet Union at the hands of the mujahedeen marked the end of the bi-polar world and ushered an age the Americans termed the ‘End of History,’ as they sensed that secular, democracy had come to conquer all other ideological counterparties. The resurrection of the jihad in Afghanistan and the subsequent revival of Islam proved this not to be the case. The attacks of 9-11 highlighted this reality and should have served to initiate awareness that the system the U.S. ships overseas is far from good-intentioned.

Today President Obama’s Foreign Policy approach must at least look peaceful as he has concentrated on the moderates of the Arab world and is essentially begging the people not to overthrow the puppet regimes the U.S. controls. Prince Turki Al-Faisal of Saudi Arabia explained very clearly to Obama that the region faces complete upheaval if the U.S. does not alter its approach and especially with regard to their unconditional support of Israel²⁸. The administration must now deal with a prospering nuclear-oriented Iran as a shift toward trying to contain the Shiites may open up opportunities for the mujahedeen to go after their Arab oppressors and they continue to expand troops in Afghanistan despite an ever-growing insurgency.

The case of Saudi Arabia is telling. The ruling family has long since been in fear that the ideology of Al-Qaeda will eventually infiltrate their society. They are also worried their efforts to enter fully into the international ribaa based system with the establishment of King Abdullah Financial District²⁹ will be affected by “terrorism.” King Abdullah's recent political restructuring, for example demoting Sheikh Saleh Al-Luhaidan for his stance on liberal media in the kingdom, suggests they still fear the ulama. The King’s effort to organize international faith-based conferences marks a series of fears and anxieties that the international community may cease to support them as well. Their meddling in Afghanistan by trying to prop up a counterparty to the Taliban, in Somalia trying to prop up a western imposed puppet, and their inaction with regard to Gaza suggest they are entering into a period of increased angst. In the recent past Saudi Arabia has sold the idea that they have dealt with the domestic threat of jihad by treating it like a behavioral disorder and crime, that they have squashed all rebellion and that no threat presently exists. However, stability in the state may be largely attributed to the boom in the price of oil since the Iraq War that allowed the economy to control the people, but the pacifiers that exist in the society may be removed as this "global recession" starts to

²⁶ See http://www.worldpublicopinion.org/pipa/articles/home_page/591.php?nid=&id=&pnt=591&lb=

²⁷ From the will of Sheikh Abdullah Azzam (RA)

²⁸ See <http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/65b122b6-e8c0-11dd-a4d0-0000779fd2ac.html>

²⁹ See <http://kingabdullahfinancialdistrict.com>

prevent American expansion and leaves the regime to fend for itself. This is the case in nearly all Middle Eastern societies and the scenario was described explicitly by Bin Laden who said in 1997 with regard to his plan to cut off the head that,

Russia was the head of the communist bloc. With the disintegration of Russia, communism withered away in the Eastern Europe. Similarly if the United States is beheaded, the Arab kingdoms will wither away.³⁰

He and the faithful ones with him- they said, "This day we cannot cope with Goliath and his forces," but those who were convinced that they must meet Allah said, "How often, by Allah's will, has a small force vanquished a big one? (2:249)

The War against Islam has taken on new projections and in many ways has retreated from the original belief that simple military might and aggression would be able to subdue the spread of Islam. Today, the resultant 180 degree pendulum shift from hard to soft power is a sure sign that the West is losing the War. They have obviously underestimated the resistance. If anything, the intended results of 9-11 have been realized and the head is starting to wither away or at least showing signs of declination. Osama bin Laden announced more on his methodology for chopping off the head in a statement he released on November 1, 2004 coincident to Bush asking for an additional \$70 billion to continue the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. He stated, "We, alongside the mujahedeen, bled Russia for ten years, until it went bankrupt and was forced to withdraw in defeat, Al-hamdulillah. So we are continuing this policy in bleeding America to the point of bankruptcy." Today, a little recognized shift in directives has witnessed the apparent belief of Al-Qaeda that they have indeed succeeded in their primary objective.

The presently espoused belief is that the present American administration is encumbered much like the Nixon and Ford administrations were with regard to an inability due to domestic and international pressures to intervene in the Middle East and that it is now time to refocus on cutting off the hands of the U.S.-Israeli alliance, especially the Kaffir Arab rulers in the Muslim world. It is time to open up yet another front and stage of the battle for truth over falsehood. This is evident in the release of Al-Qaeda in Yemen's recent movement to liberate and refocus on the Arab apostates there. The focus was expressed recently by Sheikh Nasir al-Wuhaishi (HA), leader of Al-Qaeda in Yemen, who called on mujahedeen there to organize and prepare for war against the government. The justification being that the government is preparing for attacks on the tribal regions outside the main cities. The ultimate cause is expressed in the frequently honest pages of the Western business press; Total, French oil conglomerate, has been operating in Yemen for 13 months and its "employees cannot travel around town..." but it wants to "start shipping Natural Liquefied Gas from the Gulf of Aden having completed a \$4 billion project³¹." The occupation of land continues with the indirect rule of Western multinational corporations especially from the oil industry.

Ayman al-Zawahiri supported the return of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula in a February 24, 2009 call for Yemenis to follow the lead of the Pashtun tribes in Pakistan and Afghanistan in rebelling against the regime. Sheikh Osama's recent message entitled

³⁰ Osama Bin Laden interview in Pakistan, March 18, 1997.

³¹ <http://www.energycurrent.com/index.php?id=3&storyid=162443>

Practical Steps to Liberate Palestine also enforces a refocus on the regimes in the Arabian Peninsula and neighboring countries. He says,

So unless we realize that our countries are occupied in the interest of the rulers and those who appointed them, and that they are helped in that by both military as well as civilian armies, the latter being the most important and dangerous and led by the evil scholars and those of the educated class and media men whom they have hired... Unless we realize this, and work to expose the truth about them and warn against them and remove them and liberate ourselves from their authority, we will never be able to liberate Palestine³².

This reemphasis on the Arab regimes signifies an alteration in strategy that can only be the result of the garnished successes of the era since 9-11, certainly the head that once was able of doing whatever it wanted in the region is, in many ways, contained. Saudi claims that it has “rehabilitated” the deviant jihadi ideology seem all for naught in light of these new aspirations. Barack Obama has entrusted a moderate approach that may prevent U.S. intervention with his profession that, “the language we use matters,³³” and many are claiming that it is time to accept a role for political Islam in the region. This approach is not by choice but by necessity. Where Theodore Roosevelt espoused the original ambitions of America for the rest of the world more than 100 years earlier as “speak softly and carry a big stick,” meaning threaten war but speak in terms of democratic ideals, Obama’s recent domestic spending and subsequent budget deficit means he cannot retaliate on another front. The utter failure of military might in squashing the mujahedeen means soft tactics must be utilized. This “soft speech” approach typically followed up with military and economic aid is also threatened severely by the rapidly deteriorating economic conditions in the Gulf and global economy. It certainly seems it is a proper time to take on the taghout regimes.

The proposed methodology for dealing with the Arab regimes is significantly different than the asymmetrical means of attacking the U.S., luring it into a guerilla war, or simply attempting to create revolution overnight. The change in doctrine espoused recently by Al-Qaeda’s leadership has gone largely unnoticed by most but is a direct result of a sophisticated learning process and a sure indication that the original intention of cutting off the head was a valuable, necessary, and largely successful strategy ready now to take a turn toward another phase.

Take for example a recent conversation held prior to the genocide in Gaza with Dr. Ayman in October 2008. When asked about the economic blockade inflicted on Gaza by the Egyptian regime, he suggests, “If the Egyptians were to rise up with their tongues, pens, and hands they would - Allah permitting – be able to demolish 1,000 embargoes.” Here he suggests a reaction wider in scope than physical jihad and continues with a suggestion, “What’s the problem if students, employees, and workers were to refuse to study and work until the siege is lifted from Gaza? Are we unable to carry out such a peaceful, passive strike? And I call on my brothers in the Islamic and Jihadi sites on the internet to adopt this call and expand it.”

The interviewer somewhat taken aback by the recommendation inquires, “This might be a new experience and experiment for some of them,” and Zawahari replied, “Yes, the experiment of communicating with the Muslim popular bases.” Thereafter the

³² <http://international.thabaat.net/showthread.php?t=1898>

³³ See Barack Obama interview with Hisham Melham on Al-Arabiyya. January 27, 2009.

interviewer responds, "But some might fear that this experiment will fail" and Zawahiri concludes, "Let it fail, and let us repeat and develop it a 1,000 times until it succeeds. We are obeying Allah and worshipping Him."³⁴ Some might suggest this change in tactic was a means of altering a tarnished image of Al-Qaeda. On the contrary, it is simply a logical next-step and documentation of victory and progression; as Muslim mujahedeen continue to repel the tyrant aggressor occupiers it is now time for a more comprehensive movement to subsist in the shadow of the jihadi revolution.

Similar recommendations are expressed in Osama's Practical Plan for Palestine. He summarizes a multi-faceted approach as well suggesting that, "there must be honest leaders, legal and political awareness-building, Jihad in Allah's path, and exposure of the truth about the hypocrites and differentiation and separation from them, keeping in mind that separation is something already being implemented on the side of the rulers." The entire statement must be analyzed to be fully appreciated, and in no way does this indicate that the jihad against the U.S.-Israeli leadership will be relegated or decreased in any way. However, it seems to suggest that new domestic fronts will be reopened and that they may be marked by a change in approach that signifies victory is on the nigh.

Certainly attacking the regimes that are supported by the U.S.-Israeli partnership while they are incapable of full-fledged military response would drive the very real prospect for revolution in the Muslim world, but only where there was a real substitute ideology that could comfort the general masses of people enthralled by the present circumstance there. Recent calls suggest that it is time to formulate the vision of a substitute system and one that can be marketed and branded as the 'salafi jihadi' solution, a solution that documents in specific terms how the world will operate under shariah after 90-plus years of an absent Islamic State, thus wiping the lenses clean of the typical and widespread belief that Al-Qaeda and its adherents offer no conclusive alternative.

Dr. Saad al-Faaqih, leader of the Islamic Movement for Reform in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia expressed the goals and objectives of Al-Qaeda succinctly in an interview from 2003. He explains,

The project as deduced from their [Al-Qaeda's] literature is the neutralization of America; of course they can't eliminate America. America is a huge and powerful country. But it can be neutralized or brought to a stage where it can't influence the world and this will shrink and withdrawal unto itself upon which the entire West will live in some confusion for a time and during this stage – the stage of confusion in the West, Al-Qaeda thinks they will be able to play with the blocks [the puppet regimes].

It seems that Al-Qaeda is ready to start playing with the blocks, but in a very careful and calculative manner of building popular resistance as they challenge the power structure with sporadic and spectacular attacks on strategic targets. The question then becomes about the role of the one that cannot or fails to attend the jihad physically and has to, by necessity, remain behind. During the Battle of Al-Khandaq, the coalition Quraish, Jew and Bedouin tribes gathered together around Medina and laid siege to the city for over 20 days. During the battles, Nu'aym bin Masood, a prominent member of the coalition, came to accept Islam and met with the Messenger (SAWS), but the Prophet did not instruct him to join the ranks of soldiers. Instead he instructed him to keep his Islam secret and to go back to the enemy and fight them from within. He (SAWS) told him, "If

³⁴ <http://theunjustmedia.com/clips/saz/dee/dee.htm>

you remain with us you are only one man. But go back to them and weaken them from within as much as possible because war is deception.” Naeem (RAA) was able to convince the Jews that the Arabs would betray them and he also convinced the Arabs the same was true of the Jews. When they met, a argument occurred and the coalition broke apart due to disagreement due to the efforts of this one man. How tactful are we living in the West confronted by the coalition of hypocrites and kuffar? We must understand the role we may play in the present reality and the means by which we can contribute from afar. The duties and obligations have been carefully stated in the recent advice of the leadership, but as they advance and develop in approach and tactic so too must the ‘salafi jihadi’ movement: noticing the subtleties of their message, creating Islamic solutions, assessing policy, and posing political solutions that will allow us to develop, establish, and experiment with the skills the ummah will one day need in posing solutions to the problems created by the physical and intellectual occupation of Muslim land over the latest era of ignorance. The ayaah, “make ready for them whatever you can ³⁵” explicitly states that Muslims must not only prepare military might but also intellectual and strategic might as the battle requires a comprehensive and all-encompassing effort. Allah (SWT) says,

And the believers should not all go out to fight. Of every troop of them, a party only should go forth, that they (who are left behind) may gain sound knowledge in religion, and that they may warn their folk when they return to them, so that they may beware (9:122).

Here we are told not to lament when Allah makes it impossible to attend the jihad and to rather remain behind and concentrate on studying the religion in order to guard the community of believers against evil when they return. It is a clear command to utilize the Quran and Sunnah to develop organizational systems to protect Islam and guard the believers once the jihad garners its victory. Therefore, there is no detachment from the mujahedeen. As always, Allah has covered every aspect of the movement to make La ilaha il Allah victorious. Everyone can contribute as Osama his self explained from early on in the War against America,

This humble subject delivered lectures in the year 1407 Hegira urging Muslims to boycott US goods. I used to say then that the Americans were taking our money and giving it to the Jews to kill our brothers in Palestine. This is a religious duty and that is a religious duty. There are many such religious duties, including the jihad in Kashmir and other places. The front, which we established a few years ago, was called the Islamic Front against Jews and Crusaders. Both issues are important. But, sometimes, developments in one issue prompt us to take more action in its direction without ignoring the other direction.³⁶

These recent calls must not be understood as a reversion to populist calls for ‘tarbiya’ or ‘dawa’ alone. The result of the demonstrations across the world for Gaza should give an indication of the outcome under these philosophies, years of efforts at democratic participation, dawa, political moderation and etcetera have yielded few positive gains and only now that the jihad has been resurrected do we see that these efforts too have been boosted due to the comprehensive nature of the deen. We must recognize these limits and expand on the successes; as Sheikh Wahaiishi explains, “Rather, these protests must turn

³⁵ Al-Anfal:60

³⁶Osama bin Laden. Interview with Tyser Alluni of Al-Jazeera on October 21, 2001.

into explosions, and civil disorder must turn into military rage. We must cut the supply routes of the Zionist-Christian Crusaders, and we must kill every Crusader we find in our lands.³⁷

The deen will always be established by the few. Allah (SWT) says, “**Few of my servants are grateful**³⁸” and “**if you obey most of those on the Earth, they will mislead you far away from Allah’s path.**³⁹” Ultimate victory is for the believers as He (SWT) says, “**Allah has promised those among you who believe and do good righteous deeds that he will certainly grant them succession in the Earth**⁴⁰,” then the people accept Islam in droves,

When comes the Help of Allah and the conquest and you see that the people enter Allah’s religion in crowds⁴¹...

The minority that has the ability to see the actual developments and success of these operations must now refocus, not worry about the barrage of hatred for Al-Qaeda, understand these objectives, advance capabilities, and follow the leadership. As martyr Ahmad al-Haznawi al-Ghamidi stated in his last will and testament,

If you agreed to accept a life of humiliation and disgrace, and if you find emigration and the carrying of swords difficult, back us and do not let us down.

The least that you can do is to back us by your words. Forge the glories of your nation with your pens on the gates of the times.

It is best to call now for domestic revolutions in the Middle East, backed by a clear-cut definition for the people on what a replaced state would look like (i.e. how the oil money would be spent, how it will be defended, what the implementation of shariah will look like and the results, etcetera). Those that earn the greater responsibility will surely concentrate now increasingly on removing American military bases, embassies, and the kaffir regimes.

Osama bin Laden (May Allah Protect Him), still alive and well, must be grateful his plan has succeeded completely up to this point. He recalled shortly after 9-11 that, “Then came the New York invasion that ignited the house of the idiots of the age, smashed their citadels, nullified their witchcraft, exposed all the flags that marched behind them, and announced the beginning of their end, Inshallah.⁴²” Bin Laden has continuously documented the fact that he has understood very well the comprehensive nature of this struggle to cut off the head; contrary to popular sentiment that suggests he has created nothing but bloodshed with this strategy. In this 2002 statement he went on to suggest that in addition to waging jihad, Muslims must stage protests and demonstrations against the regimes, disown the leaders of disbelief and hypocrisy, boycott U.S. and Israeli goods, “kill Americans and Jews with a bullet, knife, or stone,” strike at U.S. interests in the world especially on Muslim lands, and back the mujahedeen with encouragement and support. This movement must concentrate on multi-faceted areas of concern and we must now advance in scope and service and set out to work on delegitimizing these regimes.

³⁷ See Al-Qaeda in Yemen. Here we Begin; at Al-Aqsa we Meet. Jan. 27, 2009.

³⁸ Surah Sabaa: 13

³⁹ Surah Al-Anaam: 116

⁴⁰ Surah Noor:55

⁴¹ Surah an-Nasr: 1

⁴² From www.jihad.net 24 July, 2002

Let the Americans choose which country they will attempt to save as all of their puppets go up in flames.

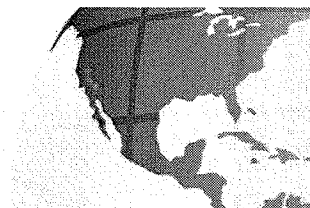
Harvard University scholar Charles S. Maier, in his book *Among Empires: American Ascendancy and its Predecessors* (2006) defines an empire as,

a system of society that transforms society at home even as it stabilizes inequality transnationally by replicating it geographically, in the core and on the periphery. In return it promises to make even the materially disadvantaged in the core stakeholders, often enthusiastic ones, in the imperial project. It enlarges territory or decisive influence to ensure its own new political order, and then it must defend the contested boundaries it has extended to avoid discrediting the expansion previously attained.

American imperial ambition has been present since before its initial founding. It has grown to such levels that every American holds some vested interest in the ability of that Empire to retain its foothold over the world. It must grow and expand in order to fulfill the demands of its domestic constituents and this expansion will prove to be its downfall. However, the Muslim nation may never wrest itself from the control of despotic rulers and oppressive regimes that stifle the well-being of the average Muslim citizen so that Americans can maintain the discrepancy in population and use, with 5% of the population and 40% of global consumption, and in a world where American civilians are front-page worthy but the shedding of civilian Muslim blood is better left undisclosed, until the Empire ceases to exist.

The attacks of September 11, 2001 marked a turn in the course of history and the aggressor reared its ugly head and moved toward the initiation of that destruction. Today, the international economic crisis, military overreach, and changing public sentiment worldwide, mandate change and the tools of power and control at the disposal of the United States grows weaker every day. It is time for the mujahedeen who cut off the head to cut off the hands. There are indications that we will now see movements against the regimes, but we must also formulate a coherent vision of what the Islamic State may look like and develop and advance the battle for hearts and minds. This is evident in the ideologies espoused by the leaders of the jihad. It is time to advance to another stage of the struggle and lose the noose of kufr that controls the land. It is time to begin to think about the necessary next steps that must predicate the conquering of Rome.

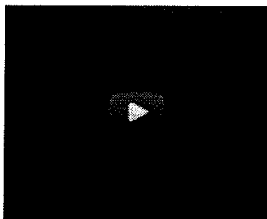
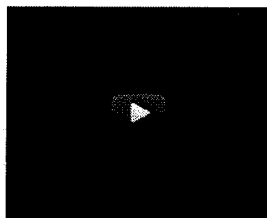
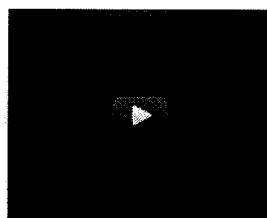
It is He who has sent His Messenger with guidance and the religion of truth, to make it victorious over all other religions even though the Mushrikeen hate it (61:9)



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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2010

Announcement from IslamPolicy.com - on transfer from RevolutionMuslim



السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته:

I am saddened to announce that revolutionmuslim.com has been shut down due to an alleged, reckless post that has now been the cause of the incarceration of one of our brothers (*May Allah hasten his release*). We have seen a few arrests of late, with alleged ties to Revolution Muslim, and while most of what the media reports is distorted to say the least the blogs and forums have also been abuzz with imaginative and hypothetical speculation (as usual), most of which has assumed the worst and been representative of lies.

I want to express my great apology for being inactive and for remaining silent for the past few months. I have been going through some personal alterations with regard to physical, mental and spiritual space and was eager to alter some of the approach I had been being informed of when this recent spate of bad news hit. Perhaps prematurely, this post is to announce the initiation of IslamPolicy.com, the new home of Revolution Muslim.

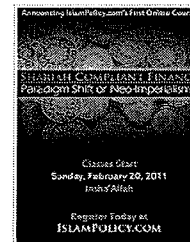
Firstly, I would like to say that we pray and anticipate the best for our brothers and sisters all over the globe who are incarcerated at this time. We know that acts in Islam are based on intention, and that one is only granted the reward of what they intended. Some of our brothers and sisters, no matter how they may be perceived by others, were acting out of what we consider to be a pure intention. It has been narrated from Ibn Umar (ra) that Abu Bakr (ra) dispatched Yazeed ibn Abu Sufyan (ra) to Syria and that Abu Bakr (ra) walked along with him for about two miles when they said to him (ra), "O, Khalifah of the Messenger of Allah would you not go back?" and that he said, "No, for I have heard the Messenger of Allah (saws) saying that, "he whose feet are covered with dust in the path of Allah, Allah will save him from the fire." Indeed our brothers and sisters may have taken the words, "O you who believe why do say that which you do not do?" to heart and so we ask that they are rewarded for their intentions and that they are rewarded the same as if they had attained their lofty goals.

Still recent events should serve as reminders. We live in an age where intention is not enough. We

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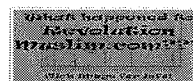


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live in an age where we need increased knowledge and understanding as well, and so we set forth continuing on a path hoping to please Allah. It is imperative at this juncture that we redefine our mission, advance our platform, and improve our position. Inshallah, this *Eid al Adha* marks the end of our two year plan of action entitled *By All Means Necessary* (link). This plan outlined the objectives that Revolution Muslim held and was a guide for my decisions. However, few of our affiliates read it and so perhaps misunderstood the purpose of our organization. In retrospect the document should be read by those that seek a greater understanding of our call, but for brevity I will highlight the closing paragraphs here. *By All Means Necessary* concluded two years ago by stating that.

We have learned a great deal over the last few years. Osama Bin Laden is still alive and Al-Qaeda is plotting attacks that "outdo by far" September 11. According to a former senior Yemeni Al-Qaeda operative, Al-Qaeda has reinforced training camps across the globe. Victory is recognizable in Afghanistan, more may occur in Iraq with recent developments and the prospect of an attack by Israel on Iran. The Shabaab in Somalia are getting closer to regaining Mogadishu as the Ethiopian forces look poised to withdrawal at the end of the year. The incoming American Administration looks destined to be a mule of the international financiers and may be reverting towards a protectionism that will create discord between China and the U.S. and destroy the value of the dollar. Chaos abounds in international markets. The mujahedeen are still waging a successful jihad, but the majority of Muslims cannot foresee the justice of an Islamic State. They are largely unaware of the effect the corporatocracy has on their lives, largely afraid of the rulers the corporatocracy defends. We must pose and become the solution to this paradigmatic problem. It is the best we can do. Revolution Muslim issues a challenge to Muslims across the globe to accept a role in working toward the establishment of the state. Say Somalia would be taken tomorrow. We have problems with piracy, drinking water, health care and political divisions. The world would pose an economic barricade with no foreign investment. The State has oil, resources, agricultural capabilities and a strategic location and the right crew with the right connections could come in with some serious policy recommendations, community organizing and etcetera and protect the State. However, there may not be an internet connection for quite some time and there is little use chatting when the whole world gathers around to destroy you. This is a bold challenge but one that can be met. These are our objectives for the following two years; call it a strategic plan for advancing the objectives outlined in the Mission Statement of Revolution Muslim. Inshallah by the completion of two years hejira will be possible. May Allah make it soon!!

Having passed two years, much of it remains true, our predictions about the Obama Administration and friction between West and East were accurate, the lands of jihad are spreading, and the ummah still has little clear understanding about what the Islamic State would look like were it established. Thus, the next two years will, inshallah, concentrate on the solution that is the establishment of the state, defining its specifics, enhancing the sophistication of calls for it, and helping prepare and advance progress, while maintaining support for brothers and sisters working for it across the globe.

In order to attain that objective, modification is necessary. Inshallah, on the Eid, IslamPolicy.com will release its methodology which will clarify the next stage of our struggle and at that time we will be setting forth a very idealistic set of lofty goals. The only way they will ever be attained is if we get the help of fellow Muslims. And so please watch IslamPolicy.com for the platform, pass this message and the accompanying videos around the web via email, posting on forums, blogs, websites, facebook, twitter and etcetera so that people know of the change in sites.

Of course we will include all the brothers and sisters that are willing to aid and abide in the effort but would like to make some alterations having observed that they are due. The video above highlights the principles that will drive these changes. Please feel free to comment or criticize.

Inshallah, we will be back soon, founding an online radio show, magazine, extensive blog and other activities, while keeping the *ummah* connected to the sincere callers to Islam. Because his words are so much more beneficial than mine I depart for now with a selection from Ibn Qayyim's book *The Path to Guidance*:

There are matters to which he (the sincere servant) has been guided but he is in need of further guidance with respect to them since guidance to the path is one thing, but guidance upon the path is something else. Do we not see that a man knows the path to a certain city, that the path is such and such? However, he is not capable of traversing this path because traversing it requires specific guidance in the journey itself, such as travelling at a certain time as opposed to another, taking a certain amount of water in such and such a desert, resting at this place as opposed to that one. All of this is guidance upon the journey. The one who (merely) knows that this is the path neglects all of this, perishes and is cut off from the desired goal

We ask Allah, having guided us to the path to place us upon it and I close with this from the Quran praying that it is the sincere reality of my intention:

أُرِيدُ إِلَّا الْإِصْلَاحَ مَا اسْتَطَعْتُ وَمَا تَوْفِيقِي إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ تَوَكَّلْتُ وَإِلَيْهِ أُنِيبُ

I only desire (your) betterment to the best of my power; and my success (in my task) can only come from Allah. In Him I trust, and unto Him I look.

It is truly a pleasure to be back in contact with you all. I look forward to hearing the ideas of all: old friends and new. Welcome to IslamPolicy.com, where the revolution in Islam continues inshallah!

~Younus Abdullah Muhammad

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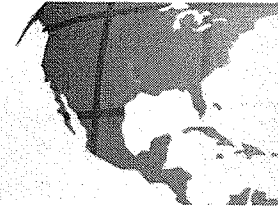
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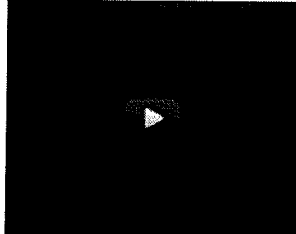
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TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2011

CNN Homegrown Psy-ops Continue: Attempting to Extinguish the Light of Indigenous Resistance to Empire

By Younus Abdullah Muhammad

CNN that patriotic, Pravda-like state sanctioned media component of American Empire recently released an expose entitled *Revolution Muslim Leader Changes Tune* at the request of unwitting crony Yousef al Khattab. The segment represents but a parcel of an interminable propaganda war waged by the Corporatist News Network (CNN) to maintain at least tacit domestic support for the perpetuation of American-led imperialism. In reality, this new piece was yet another example of how untrustworthy the American free press is; it was widely inaccurate, selective, and rationally fallacious. However most viewers never have the time to verify information and indeed most will never read this short reaction displaying the propagandist nature of the report. Still, in order to clarify reality and continue to encourage alternative solutions to the Global War on Terror, I would like to take some time here to elucidate.



Anderson Cooper reported in the introduction to the segment that, "we've been monitoring this group Revolution Muslim for a while now confronting them on their extremist rhetoric." In reality, his definition of confronting would entail sitting down for a half an hour interview and cutting and chopping the final version into small segments that suit CNN's own political agenda. We have never been given an opportunity to discuss our views live with CNN and rather than confront our rhetoric, they have in reality deliberately manipulated the messages we have delivered.

For example, Anderson Cooper introduced the latest piece by saying that, "members of Revolution Muslim say it is their job to terrorize non-Muslims." CNN then cuts to a clip including a quote from myself that says, "We're commanded to terrorize the disbelievers in the Quran... Allah says very clearly in the Arabic language 'turhibunna' this means terrorize them." The clip ends there. Thus, what CNN would have viewers believe is that we are including in this segment support for attacks against any non-Muslim, indiscriminate acts of violence against anyone that does not accept Islam. This is as an exaggeration and broad generalization that represents a deliberate and clear manipulation of reality to affect sinister gain.

The original video on CNN pertaining to Revolution Muslim first aired in November 2009 and contains the aforementioned quote in context. It is true I did highlight the reality that the word for terrorism is in the Quran, but that section of the interview in a deeper context was never aired as that segment of our conversation was about the concept of jihad in Islam generally. I was referencing the reality that Islam fights weapons with weapons and words with words and stated emphatically that our job as Muslims in the West was to combat Western propaganda against Muslims that are defending themselves from Western imperialism abroad. Were CNN to air the entirety of that interview without cut and paste efforts to manufacture rather than report the news that would become obvious. Still, the original interview itself makes clear the propagandist nature of this new report. Here is the full version of that segment in context from the 2009 interview:

Younus: "We're commanded to terrorize the disbelievers?"

Drew Griffin: (Shocked) "You're commanded to terrorize the disbelievers?"

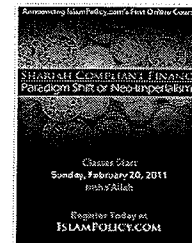
Younus: "The Quran says very clearly in the Arabic language 'turhibunna', this means terrorize them, it's a command from Allah?"

Shocking? Probably... True? Absolutely... the Quranic verse can be found in the eighth chapter, verse 60. The section continues,

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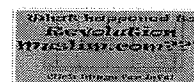
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Drew Griffin: (misleading or misunderstanding) "So your commanded to terrorize... anybody that doesn't believe..."

Younus: "Doesn't mean... you define terrorism as going and killing an innocent civilian... I define terrorism as making them fearful so that they think twice before they rape your mother, or kill your brother, or go onto your land and try to steal your resources..."

In no way, shape, or form is that a call for attacks against civilians. In no, way, shape, or form has Revolution Muslim ever called for attacks against civilians. What we do call for is anti-war activism and opposition to empire in the West with support for those physically, even violently, resisting the empire abroad. And we have consistently called Muslims and non-Muslims alike to this understanding.

The remainder of that edition's coverage suggested that we justify the killing of American soldiers, that we hold the attacks on September 11, 2001 as justified, that we want to restore a global caliphate, wipe Israel off the map, and that attacks on almost any American are justified, to which they also included the quote, "Americans will always be targets, and legitimate targets, until America changes its nature in the international arena." I would be a liar if I said I did not hold these ambitions and aspirations, but since that time CNN has incessantly covered only the quote out of context in order to try to utilize this misrepresentation to affect political gain.



I understand that this platform and the quotation aforementioned, even in context, is controversial to say the least. In reality, the platform of Revolution Muslim has always been that we neither condone nor condemn terrorism committed against America or her allies, that is that we are not prepared to condemn those Muslims that have attacked civilians until Americans and Western citizens generally are prepared to condemn their own state sponsored terrorism and to cease interventions that create the conditions for such violent reaction to imperialism abroad.

While many Americans would understand this proposition, most do not and that is largely due to the fabricated and lopsided reporting done by mainstream media outlets that manufacture a mainstream view that popularizes the myth that wherever the United States intervenes in the world, whether diplomatically, economically or militarily, it is to promote freedom and democracy. Those actually educated about past and present foreign policy practice laugh at that very notion. For example, the recently deceased academic Chalmers Johnson classified the true cause of international terrorism against America and its allies as 'blowback'. He defined blowback as "a term the CIA invented to describe the likelihood that our covert operations in other people's countries result in retaliations against Americans, civilian and military, at home and abroad," and stated emphatically that, "what the daily press reports as the malign acts of 'terrorists' or 'drug lords' or 'rogue states' or 'illegal arms merchants' often turn out to be blowback from earlier American operations." Indeed, once this awareness is included in the frame of debate and added to the discourse, the mainstream view immediately falls apart. It is hard for us to imagine that Muslims would sit forever without violence knowing the atrocities that continue to unfold in Muslim countries. For that reason we engage the press, not expecting to gain any justified coverage but in order to make alternative information and evidence available to those that seek it, and to thereby try to craft some opposition and effort in the face of disproportionate odds.

It is also for this reason that we hold firmly to the belief that we cannot simply see the world through the black and white, "you're either with us or against us" worldview offered by George Bush, Barack Obama, and the mainstream press. While the majority of Americans are completely ignorant of the atrocious covert and overt interventions that represent US foreign policy, the victims of such operations are far from ignorant of them. It is also for this reason that we publish the words of people like Osama bin Laden, not so much because we hold them in high esteem but because we feel that people have more right to access the entirety of what people like bin Laden say than the same ten second, cut and paste propaganda afforded his speech by the allegedly free press.

Indeed, while media like CNN attempted to adopt the line that America was attacked on 9-11 for her freedoms, no one with any rational understanding of the world believed that for a minute. Shortly after the attacks, major media outlets agreed not to publish any of the statements of the "terrorists" for fear that the messages may include encrypted messages with directives for more attacks. CBS said it was committed to "responsible journalism that informs the public without jeopardizing American lives". CNN, for example, continuously showed footage of Osama bin Laden saying: "If inciting people to do that is terrorism and if killing those who kill our sons is terrorism, then let history be witness that we are terrorists," however, a review of bin Laden's quotes from that time shows that most of the stated causes of the attack had nothing to do with Western liberties as was presented as cause in the mainstream media. For example, shortly after 9/11, bin Laden was interviewed by Tayseer Alouni of Al-Jazeera (later put in Guantanamo for the coverage). In the interview he stated emphatically,

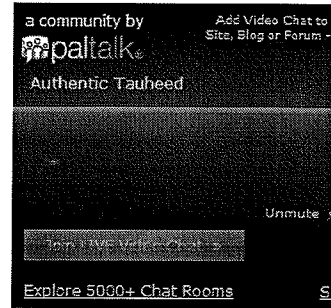
"But I mention that there are also other events that took place, bigger, greater and more dangerous than the collapse of the towers. It is that this Western civilization, which is backed by America, has lost its values and appeal. The immense materialistic towers were destroyed, which preach Freedom, and Human Rights, and Equality. It became a total mockery and that clearly appeared when the US government interfered and banned the media outlets from airing our words which don't exceed a few minutes, because they felt that the truth started to appear to the American people, and that we truly aren't terrorists by the definition they want, but because we are being violated in Palestine, in Iraq, in Lebanon, in Sudan, in Somalia, in Kashmir, in the Philippines and in every place, and that this is a reaction from the young men of this Muslim

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Hardly a word about democracy or the American way of life; in 2002 bin Laden stated yet again, "As for the first question: Why are we fighting and opposing you? The answer is very simple: Because you attacked us and continue to attack us." He proceeded to describe not the horrors of freedom of expression and Western society but the horrors of a generation-plus of US intervention in the Muslim world. His list included Palestine, where he says, "You must know that the Palestinians do not cry alone: their women are not widowed alone; their sons are not orphaned alone." Iraq where more than 1.5 million Iraqi children were killed prior to 9-11 due to sanctions, only to have Madeline Albright say on 60 minutes that she thought, "the price was worth it." He cites numerous atrocities committed against Muslims and concludes that, "America does not understand the language of manners and principles, so we are addressing it using the language it understands." Thus in some circles violence is viewed as self defense, terrorism as freedom fighting, but CNN must quell such identifications and seek to demonize any and all that may call to this reality.

Actually, there has been a definitional debate for quite some time about the term terrorism itself. One of the primary reasons for this is that if the international community were to define terrorism generally as something like 'the indiscriminate and unlawful use of violence to further political or social objectives', the United States and Israel would instantly become the biggest practitioners of terrorism in the world today. In late 1972 the UN General Assembly established an ad hoc Committee on International Terrorism that was to establish an agreed upon definition of the term. The results were inconclusive and there was much disagreement. The nonaligned members vied for a definition that protected the label of terrorism from 'the inalienable right of self-determination and independence of all people under colonial or racist regimes,' but to this day there isn't the slightest fathom of consensus. Since 1996 a new Ad Hoc Committee to Eliminate Terrorism has also been unable to define the term despite the conclusion of the Cold War. Last month, it made another unsuccessful effort at drawing a distinction between "freedom fighters" and "state sponsored terrorism".

Moum Rabbani, contributing editor to the Washington-based Middle East Report, said about the futile attempts to attach legal meaning to the term terrorism, "Thus, in the Middle East, it has reached the point where Palestinian or Arab armed activities that target Israeli military personnel are characterized as terrorist acts, while Israeli armed activities that deliberately target civilians are characterized as legitimate acts of self- defense." This is the lens through which CNN covers the world, the War on Terror, and international affairs generally. Definitions apply only to others, never to Americans, and viewers are continuously convinced about the exceptionally benign nature of American intervention, even in the face of such atrocious evidence as the present Wikileaks cables. The sad part is that most are all too willing to believe such rubbish and toe the empire's line.

Anderson Cooper continued at the conclusion of the piece with his own unsubstantiated rhetoric saying, "It's interesting that a lot of the folks that run these websites they seem very happy to encourage other to, uh, go out and encourage others to blow themselves up, you know from the comfort of their little room where have this website." This is another absolutely, farfetched and unsubstantiated claim but obvious in its intended political ramifications. It is reality, that a few viewers and perhaps even frequenters of the Revolution Muslim website have been arrested over the past year, but there was in no way direct incitement to violence through our organization. It is however probable knowledge about the reality of US foreign policy shared on our site did contribute to their radicalization. However, the question then becomes who pushed them to violence? The answer to that question leads one to draw some very questionable conclusions.

The CNN report called Revolution Muslim a "buglight for Muslim misfits" and indeed we are confronted almost daily by contact with some of the most disturbed, angry, and perhaps even excessive Muslims in the West. In fact, the majority of them are young, lacking direction and even proper Islamic understanding but for those that contact us personally and remain in communication with us, there has never been anything that even remotely resembles a call for domestic attack against civilians. What we encourage Muslims to do is become educated about their religion and the world around them, to dedicate their lives to working for justice, but not to get caught up in blind hate, not knowing why there is the very real need for resistance to empire today. The FBI, on the other hand, seems to have prided itself in recognizing these individuals as well, perhaps even by analyzing the IP addresses of those that visit Revolution Muslim online. Yet, rather than engage them in counter-narrative or let them know firsthand that they are being watched, they have established a long record of posing as members of Al-Qaeda and leading these youth down paths that cultivate false homegrown terror threats and that sustain support for the exorbitant national security state domestically and the perpetuation of wars abroad.

As Dr. Paul Craig Roberts appropriately assessed after the recent Portland case,

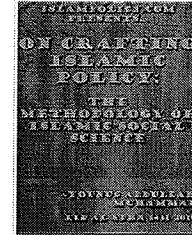
If you are not too bright and some tough looking guys accost you and tell you that they are Al Qaeda and expect your help in a terrorist operation, you might be afraid to say no, or you might be thrilled to be part of a blowback against an American population that is indifferent to their government's slaughter of people of your ethnicity in your country of origin. Whichever way it falls, it is unlikely the ensnared person would ever have done anything beyond talk had the FBI not organized them into action. In other cases the FBI entices people with money to participate in its fake plots.

For the fact that Revolution Muslim may have unintentionally aided in allowing the FBI to locate, investigate and entrap others I feel great remorse. As we go forward I would like to say that the idea of our movement is not to incite others to engage in acts on their own, but to incite others to care about the deteriorating conditions of the world around them and to mobilize within organizations to act collectively in opposition to the atrocities in the world, certainly an international empire cannot be brought down and replaced with something better if individuals act alone.

There is a long record of criticism for CNN's news coverage. The cable news network has been the focus of much attention for its lopsided reporting with regard to Israeli-Palestinian issues, for its coverage of the lead up to the War in Iraq and more. While many consider Fox News to be ultra-propagandist, CNN's coverage is in reality little different at all. Investigative journalist Abe Debries, writing even before 9/11 and during the military intervention in Yugoslavia in 2000 revealed that CNN employs military personnel for deliberate "psy-ops." In his report, he interviewed Major Thomas Collins of the U.S. Army Information Service who said, "Psy-ops personnel, soldiers and officers, have been working in CNN's headquarters in Atlanta through our program 'Training with Industry'... "They worked as regular employees of CNN. Conceivably, they would have



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worked on stories during the Kosovo war. They helped in the production of news." And a study by the European Journal of Communication in 2000 as well found that CNN reported the war in Kosovo misleadingly as a form of humanitarian intervention. The study concluded that, "Television pictures tended to follow the news agenda set up by the US military. Few alternative views were aired and, most importantly, a fundamental change in the nature of NATO from a defense alliance to an offensive peace-enforcing organization was largely ignored," and that, "given the global reach and influence of a channel like CNN, this type of framing also shaped the wider view of the crisis in Kosovo." Indeed CNN propaganda continues and the latest piece about my organization is clearly an example of just that.

CNN continues to support false propaganda about intervention in Afghanistan and Iraq, portraying the Muslims resisting occupation as terrorists and the American empire's militarist interference as 'humanitarian intervention' in the name of peace. It is a modern form of the same propaganda that was used during the Crusades by the Catholic Church where Muslims were portrayed as savage barbarians dedicated to spreading their religion by the sword. The history books today bear testimony that the show was on the opposite foot. Today we know that is still the case, as we need to do is analyze the evidence, but contextualized and false tidbits of lopsided propaganda continues to allow these same old myths to perpetuate.

For our part then our religion does not allow us to remain silent no matter how severely the mainstream media may twist our words or message. Classical Islamic scholar, Ibn Taymia explained the importance Muslims hold for defending their lands, people and religion from external aggression where he said famously that, "The first obligation after being a Muslim is to repel the enemy tyrant oppressor who assaults the religion and the worldly affairs." This places resistance to occupation as more important than our prayers, our fasting, our charity, or our trips to the Holy Land. It is inconceivable that a Muslim will ever sit idle while we witness everyday as more of our brothers and sisters are killed. This is exactly what reports like this are to do, intimidate those that contemplate speaking out against the empire, portray those that do in a negative light and continue to manipulate the masses away from the idea that wars waged for control of our soil, the imposition or maintenance of corrupt despots, or the theft of our natural resources are in fact not a war against Islam. Indeed our way of life will never be maintained without sovereignty and self-determination and that is something every human being on Earth should understand. As Abdullah Azzam, famous for his efforts to educate the Muslims about these realities as well once said in regard to those that demand we remain peaceful while they slaughter us everywhere,

It has become a crime to carry the sword, being armed has become barbarism and savageness. The Westerners and the Americans are like a man dressed in white who slaughters a sheep and if that sheep's leg shudders as its soul departs its body then that is a rude sheep. Likewise they want to slaughter us while dressed in white garments and if our limbs shudder as we die we are barbaric. Look, look, look at them they are uncivilized, they are terrorists, they are beasts, they are from a Jihad group protecting ones honor has become barbarism and cruelty.

The Prophet Muhammad's life is an ideal representation of struggle against an aggressive, boorish and reckless society. For 13 years he never raised a weapon, his message was twisted, he was called insane, branded a magician, boycotted, persecuted and tortured. Then for ten years he fought against his oppressors eventually replacing them with one of the longest lasting and most productive civilizations the world has ever known. After World War I, Western powers arbitrarily drew lines over the map of what was once that civilization, creating nation states, in actuality colonial mandates, that began a process of destroying the role Islam plays in politics, economics and the everyday affairs. Like the Prophet Muhammad, Muslims have been working, predominately through non-violence to wrest themselves from this foreign oppression for over 90 years. Like the Prophet Muhammad Muslims are now fighting their enemies where they occupy land and in so doing are increasing the likelihood that Islam will play an even larger role in the future and hopefully replace the authoritarian regimes, corrupt despots, or proxy colonial masters with a return to that great, classical civilization.

A recent poll conducted by the Pew Research Center finds that Muslim publics overwhelmingly welcome Islamic influence over their countries politics. The survey found people in Indonesia (95%), Egypt (95%), Pakistan (88%) and Nigeria (88%) are on the top the list of Muslim-majority countries which said that Islamic Shari'ah would be good for their countries. These four countries were followed by Lebanon (72%), Jordan (53%) and Turkey (45%). News outlets like CNN would have you think however that people of the Muslim world are begging for American intervention. It is an absolute joke.

Philosophically I and Revolution Muslim have always promoted the notion that citizens of the West, whether Muslim or non-Muslim, have a moral and rational obligation to oppose Western imperialism wherever it roams. We have held firmly to the axiomatic principle that in the situation of expansion we see unfolding before us there can be no real activism for peace without direct opposition to the continuation of the paradigm of domination now led by pax-Americana. Addressing local issues and remaining silent about the aggressive wars and interventions abroad is, in our opinion, akin to consent. We believe it is this incessant silence that compels those most affected by oppression to rely on terrorism to attempt to promote change. We are ready, willing and able to condemn acts of indiscriminate violence against civilians to effect political change, but unwilling to do so in a climate where those engaged in disproportionate attacks against civilians are regarded as the upholders of law as a consequence. Thankfully, more and more people are starting to come to this conclusion, although they are pale in comparison to the majority that remains blinded by the mainstream press.

Chris Hedges, fired by that bastion of freedom the New York Times for opposing the rhetoric of war leading up to the Iraq debacle recently proclaimed rightfully that, "Innocence, as defined by law, makes us complicit with the crimes of the state. To do nothing, to be judged by the state as an innocent, is to be guilty. It is to sanction, through passivity and obedience, the array of crimes carried out by the state." We concur with this sentiment. The majority of Americans and Westerners generally continue to sit unaffected by continuous wars and troop surges, domestic suppression of civil liberties, intervention in more and more countries, and etcetera and I will remain persistent on the path of resistance as long as this is the case.

On August 17th, 2007 Raed Jarrar, a California-based Iraqi peace activist and US permanent resident, was forced to cover a t-shirt he was wearing that said *We Will not be Silent* in Arabic and English. He was informed by JFK Airport security officials and Jet Blue Airways that he could not board the plane to return to his home in California unless he complied. The inspiration for the T-shirt was the White Rose movement of Nazi Germany, a group of students and a professor that opposed the Nazi regime

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I actually enjoyed reading through this posting. Many thanks. Training Courses Dubai

Usmani wrote...
Mankiw-- This is a great article. I really appreciate the way you have describe the teething economic system.

Egyptian Brother wrote...
Remain Strong Younous. By Allah, you will not be forgotten. By Allah you will not be forgotten. By Allah you will not be forgotten. Allah is my witness I make duaa for you in my sujud. You and my...
[Continue >>](#)

Anonymous wrote...
Feel free to leave. Most americans are puzzled why islamists come here, then spend 24 hours a day threatening and complaining. Seriously, we can take up a collection and get you fellas a plane ticket...
[Continue >>](#)

Ljansen wrote...
Thank you for this trenchant essay. I have been thinking about this also. I just added this to my gmail signature - For pete's sake: Work against the empire, don't vote for it! may try...
[Continue >>](#)

IslamPolicy wrote...
Please feel free to publicize this case on your behalf. Thank you

Support Israel wrote...
As you can see, for every American soldier killed, we have killed over a thousand. Keep it up! I love the score!

and spoke out against it. They signed off on several of their documents with the words, *We Will not be Silent* and showed bold courageousness in a time of horrendous atrocities the likes of which have not been seen again until today. Today, turning a t-shirt inside out is nothing compared to the personal cavity searches, x-ray checkpoints, no-fly lists and other repressive procedures that have become the norm of American travel. While CNN can falsely portray us as terrorists with the typical logical fallacies of the contemporary mainstream media's approach to journalism, we too refuse to remain silent in the face of what we consider to be Hitlerian aggression.

CNN and other media outlets like them are terrorists. They are guilty of an intellectual terrorism: the use of psychological terrorism to cast a populace into entropic indifference in order to further the political objectives of a rogue state. Slowly and slowly however, people are waking up, but this struggle must not stop at discrediting the press as it exists and operates in the now. Instead, it must also offer alternative media, and form the basis by which nightly news is sandwiched in between corporate advertisements that breed consumerist ignorance, self-indulgence and hate. Only the establishment of press that gives credence and stimulates discourse that includes all views could ever be called free or fair. Otherwise it's all just 'extremist rhetoric.' For our part, Revolution Muslim is now islampolicy.com, and we will continue striving to improve our coverage of the issues. I strongly doubt we will ever be able to say the same for CNN and media like it; all the more reason to persist and refuse to be silent.

Posted by IslamPolicy



+1 Recommend this on Google

3 comments:



Anonymous December 14, 2010 10:53 AM

Great Article. Muslims are in a sorry state, funny thing is most dont even give a crap about what is happening to the Ummah, they are busy with their lives.

Reply



Anonymous December 14, 2010 11:16 AM

salamu alikum brother Yonus

I hope you are well and in good health. I was just reading you artilce about CNN and thier regarding your self and current situation about Yusuf Al Khattab. it is not surprising that the infidels would stoop so low to and cut out a particular statement from an interview in order to incriminate an individual. I dont trust the infidel meadia. However, watching the CNN vedio clip about Yusuf Al Khattab and his apparent change of tune in renouncing his previous islamic vewipoint i just find it bizzare and fasinating. I was recently listening to shaykh Faisal and he was elabarating how people come to the truth and then they have a relapes and end up on a deviant creed. I dont want to pass any judgement about Yusuf Al Khattab because i have never met him and Allah knows best his position. however, i can talk about the UK and say that there is no doubt that there are individuals here who were so called extremists following a militant doctrine. who suddenly changed and started to work for the infidles and sell deen for a misreable price of the dunyah. whats the point of apostating from Islam and jepordising your ahkira only to end up in the hell fire for eternity. Allah clearly says in the Quran never will the jews and Christians be happy with you till you follow thier way. so even if an individual decides to apostate he just a poor fool because even then the infidels will not accept him.iA i will be in touch with you brother, is there any other way of making donation other then the site.

May Allah guide us upon the truth and the correct aqeedah.

your brother in Islam

Abu Qital

Reply



Anonymous December 14, 2010 12:21 PM

ALLAH AKBAR YONUS may allah be please with yall work brothers we all know CNN is the shaytan net work they well as others only report whats suite em yet brothers continue the jihad against em all mxlaqaida@yahoo.com shaykh muhammad al sa'ud ALHUMDU'ALLAH

Reply

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Porn in the USA - By

Kawtar Nasri
100 Susquehanna Ave,
Selinsgrove, PA 17870

April 10, 2012

The Honorable Judge Liam O'Grady
401 Courthouse Square
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Dear Judge O'Grady,

I am writing to ask for leniency when it comes to the sentencing of my husband, Jesse Morton. My name is Kawtar Nasri, I'm 29 years old and originally from Casablanca, Morocco. Your Honor, I lived with my husband for 7 years. I guarantee you that he never thought that his views through writing and speech could lead to his arrest, conviction and sentencing, but I assure you that he is very aware now that the way he expressed his views could have been interpreted in a negative way. My husband never had any intention to incite or commit violence as has been portrayed by the prosecutors. I'm so glad that I can today ask you to try to see the real side of who Jesse Morton is your honor. I'm hoping for fair and merciful justice to be established in his case.

My husband was always successful professionally, academically, and personally. When he worked as a social worker, he dedicated all his time to his clients. He assisted people in managing their daily lives, coping with issues, navigating relationships, and solving personal and family problems. When he worked as an English instructor in Morocco, he was an excellent instructor and many of his students were able to pass the TOFL and GRE exam that allowed them to enroll in American Universities.

In terms of his academia, my husband could be a great bridge between the west and the east because he understands both cultures very well and he can help get the two closer and take the wool from the eyes. He can be a great academic and advisor to the U.S who understands the root matter of the conflict. He has done many productive interviews on different TV channels about current events and the global economy. He had been selected to be a speaker in a big economics conference in Indonesian University. He has good analysis skills and has so much to offer to the society and to the government.

I testify that Jesse Morton was also a good family man, compassionate husband and great father. After we got married, and just after he got his Bachelor's degree, Jesse showed a great interest to exceed in his learning and pursued a master's degree at Columbia University which could have secured our coming future to our kids.

I and Jesse decided to work hard and live a simple lifestyle so that we could save all the income to pay his graduate tuition. He did, we sacrificed all leisure so that he could pay his tuition and we hoped that his degree would pay off at the end. Months after Jesse graduated, I gave birth to a little baby boy and we learned that he had down syndrome. This was very shocking to us, but Jesse was a very great supportive man that any woman would have needed at that difficult time.

We promised each other to work together and love the baby and secure him a healthy upbringing so that he can have an equal opportunity.

We moved to Morocco after Jesse had a great job opportunity to teach English in an American school "Amideast".

Our life in Morocco started to flourish and everything went very smooth and comfortable. I gave birth to a second healthy baby boy and we were so grateful to the lord for this gift. Everything started to come together and we felt everything was working out the way we planned. He had a good job. We were planning to purchase a home and spend more time together as a family .

On May 25, 2011 the Inter-police came to our house in Morocco and took my husband for a event that happened in April 2010 about South Park communicating threat. At that moment everything around us changed, we had no explanation for what was going on. Our dreams vaporized, and we woke up in the nightmare that continues until today.

My husband was taken away from us and back to the U.S. facing an unknown prison term. Your honor, my husband will be sentenced, he will sit in prison. it is me and my two kids who will face the harsh life. I don't know where to head with a child with disability and another little boy. We are now living back in America, in a very expensive, hard economy that takes two incomes to survive. I am now alone and with disabled child that needs supervision and delicate care. I wish if my situation was different, but this is my reality for now.

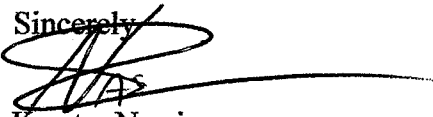
I will need my husband to be behind my back and be a support for me emotionally, spiritually and financially. I need my husband to be in my kids life. Nobody will treat my down syndrome kid with the care and compassion of his real father. I'm sure Jesse will work to provide for a better existence for his family. I beg your mercy to forgive him and give him one more chance to be with us. He may have done irresponsible things, but I promise you that he regrets them and he learned his lesson. Please take into consideration that despite his charges, no actual material or human damage happened.

Please sentence him to a term of imprisonment that will send him back to raise his kids in a few years. Giving him a harsh sentence will not help in this matter, and will only serve to keep a good man away from his family for far too long. I also ask that you request that he be housed close to us in Pennsylvania so my boys can see their father.

Jesse Morton has two children, all of whom need their father around. We all miss him terribly. I hope you will consider my letter when determining the sentence. For further assistance, I can be reached at (570)374-9414

Thank you very much for reading my letter,

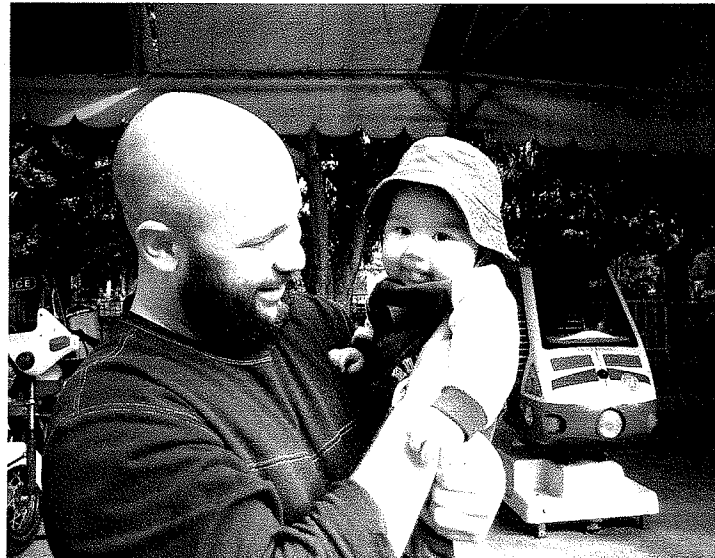
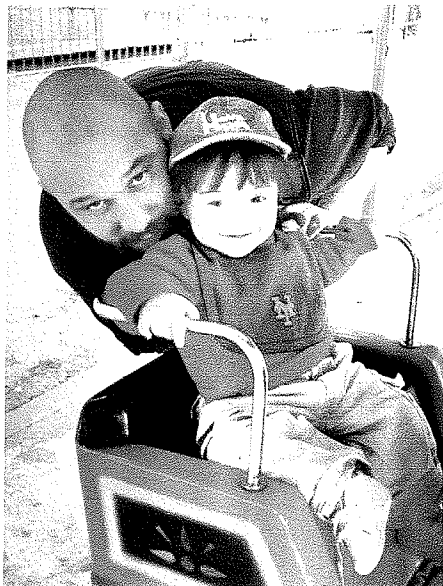
Sincerely,


Kawtar Nasri



Abdulhaqq- 2 year and 1/2

Zubair- 1 year and 1/2



The last picture Jesse took with the boys in Morocco

~Rebecca Morton
505 Beaver Road
Selinsgrove, PA 17870
570 556 0005

March 14, 2012

Honorable Liam O'Grady
United States District Court, Eastern Virginia
Albert V. Bryan U.S. Courthouse
401 Courthouse Square
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Judge O'Grady,

As you know, Jesse Morton will be facing sentencing before United States District Court in connection with his guilty plea on May 18, 2012. Jesse Morton is my brother. I have a strong desire to write you a letter knowing full well that it cannot change the current circumstance Jesse is in. However, perhaps you will kindly take the time to read my point of view.

Jesse Morton is someone I'm very proud to call my brother. I have admired him my entire life. I don't know what I would have done without Jesse during our childhood. We were the victims of child abuse for many years. Unfortunately, our abuser was our mother who would bite, punch, choke, spit, and act out other terrible forms of physical abuse. We were also victims of verbal abuse. It was not uncommon for me to hear my mother call Jesse stupid, a loser, druggie, etc. Our father, who was often absent from the home, chose to ignore the situation knowing full well that his son was being abused. Our father claims that he didn't know my younger brother Garret and I were also being abused. He admits to knowing Jesse was abused. The reason for this is because Jesse had the courage to speak out. He always did. Even when Jesse told a guidance counselor in school that his mother was abusing him, no one including myself, had the courage to help him. I was too afraid that my mother would kill me or another member of our family. She often told me this is what she would do if I ever told anyone. She remains unstable to this day. I write this because no one will ever truly be able to understand the pain my brother went through during his childhood but me. It took me until I was 20 years old to speak out about the abuse. This was because I was in the hospital recovering from anorexia after having internal surgery on my intestines. For me, the silence of the abuse almost killed me. Jesse too suffered trying to cope with the emotional pain caused by the abuse. We both found a way to numb the pain of the abuse we endured throughout our childhood.

Page 2
Honorable Liam O'Grady
March 14, 2012

When Jesse sets his mind to something he always strives in order to achieve his goals. Jesse worked extremely hard while attending Metropolitan College of New York and was valedictorian of his class. He then went on to work in the social services sector helping others overcome similar problems he had been through. While continuing this work he went on to earn his Master's in International Affairs at Columbia University. I do not think society would benefit from sending Jesse Morton to prison. He has intellectual and compassionate capabilities that would enhance many work environments.

One of the reasons I admire Jesse is because he has never been afraid to stand up for what he believes in. I see my brother as a leader in this world when others often turn a blind eye. Jesse is not a violent person. There is a difference in acting out violence and speaking out in situations that are unjust and inhumane to a civilization.

With all respect, I want you to know that I understand the trouble Jesse is currently in. We have been writing each other since he has been in solitary confinement and he knows he has made mistakes in the past. I believe Jesse wants to go forward with his life. He now has a family of his own, a wife and two young children. Both his children being two and one years of age need their father in these crucial developmental times. It would be detrimental to all concerned if he were sentenced to a long period of incarceration. It is with a sister's heartfelt sincerity and love for my brother that I implore this Honorable Court to consider the lesser sentence.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rebecca Morton".

~Rebecca Morton

April 23, 2012

Judge Liam O'Grady,

It is with great pride, appreciation and hope that I am writing you this letter. I am the brother of Jesse Morton, and his fate rests primarily in your hands. A quick search of the Internet will paint my brother as a "terrorist", "uneducated", and a "thoughtless" human being. Even reading the affidavit, statement of fact and the plea agreement, you will not truly know Jesse. The purpose of this letter is not to convince you that Jesse is innocent, instead I'd like to present the truth about Jesse, who he is as a person and illustrate the hero that he has been in my life.

From before I could walk, I admired my brother. Whether on the baseball field at our grandmother's house or his graduation from Columbia University, I was enamored by his every move. As a child, I admired his talents - he taught me how to play baseball; he excelled at everything he tried. I wanted to experience the same success as him. I emulated the way he walked, his mannerisms and the clothes that he wore.

As I grew older and more independent in my thinking, I soon realized that it was not Jesse's talent that caused me to idolize him. Instead it was his passion. Whenever Jesse began a task, big or small, he approached it with vigor and desire. When he discovered Islam, his approach was no different.

As an adult, Jesse has taught me so many of life's lessons. He is a devoted husband and a tremendous father to his two young boys. Being at the hospital soon after the birth of his son, Jesse was in awe of his experience. Knowing for the first time that his baby boy has Down syndrome, Jesse's excitement remained the same. He boasted about his son, and immediately began talking about the future genius sitting in front of us. Since their births, Jesse has committed his life to his boys. Suddenly, that has all been taken away.

Jesse's approach to life is incredible. I do not know anyone who values education more than him. Nor do I know anyone who approaches life with such commitment. Whether it is a job, school or general life, Jesse commits himself whole-heartedly to the cause. As an educator myself, my purpose is to push my students to realize the value of education and develop a work ethic to match. Jesse has both of these qualities. As a drug counselor in New York City, Jesse's devotion to his clients was unmatched. Again, this is due to his commitment and passion to life even other's lives. When I hear Mahatma Gandhi's famous words, "*Be the change you want to see in the world*" I cannot help but feel Jesse is a true example of this statement. Jesse has repeatedly educated and empowered individuals and inspired them to make changes to better this world; myself included.

In May 2011, Jesse's life would drastically change and so would his family's. Being incarcerated in Morocco, Jesse was ripped from his family and unable to support the growth of his boys and wife. This has been the case for nearly a year. As the boys begin to walk and talk, it saddens me to think that their father is not present to enjoy such monumental events.

On May 18, Jesse and his family's future rests predominately in your hands. Prison is not a place for Jesse. In a world with so many faults, it's hard to imagine that Jesse faces a future behind bars while so many others walk the streets free of detainment. Although I am not a lawyer, I cannot help but feel as though Jesse is being blamed for others' actions. Throughout the statement of fact, Jesse is being connected to others; nowhere does it state that Jesse is responsible for any harm to another individual. If every website was held responsible for the people who visit, the Internet would not exist. Media personalities, such as Nancy Grace and Rush Limbaugh repeatedly express opinions that develop harsh consequences (even murder and suicide); however they do not face criminal charges. Andrew Adler goes unpunished for writing a direct threat to President Obama in his *Atlanta Jewish Times*. In April, Ted Nugent insinuated that he would execute the president if he was reelected – again, he faces no charges. Why, Judge O'Grady, is there such an unequal treatment when one could argue that the charges against Jesse are less severe than the actions of these people?

In a world where musicians write songs such as "Cop Killer", video games are created where people steal cars, shoot others and destroy the world, soldiers urinate on the Quran and pose amid dead bodies, Sgt. Robert Bales murders 16 individuals in Afghanistan, and the 'Kill Team' collected body parts of innocent Afghan civilians, Jesse is far from a danger to society. Instead, Jesse's primary goal has always been to provide an education, not to invoke violence – if anything his goals were just the opposite. The media has painted Jesse in a very different light than his true actions and words. Jesse has been unfairly judged and has been portrayed as guilty without ever getting the opportunity to explain his innocence.

Judge O'Grady, I am honored to have you read my letter and hope that you find the information valuable to your decision. In a country founded on the famous words of our Declaration of Independence, where everyone is entitled to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" I beg you to not rob my brother of these rights. His family deserves to have him as a part of their lives. We have suffered enough. I would be grateful for the opportunity to speak directly to you as May 18 approaches and you process your decision. I'm holding faith that the judicial system in the United States will come to a fair and just decision. Please feel free to contact me at (570)850-6470 or by email at mortong@lmsd.org.

Thank you for your time.



Garret Morton

March 25, 2012

Honorable Liam O'Grady
401 Courthouse Square
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Honorable O'Grady,

My name is Kay Morton. I am the mother of Jesse Curtis Morton. It is with great sorrow and hope that I write this letter pleading mercy for my son.

Jesse has always been a caring person from small child on. He was a joy while growing up. He was a good athlete. He helped his grandparents more than any of their grandchildren did. They had a special bond with Jesse. He made a few mistakes during the late high school years but did turn his life around. I was the cause of those mistakes. I am very sorry and wish I could go back and change some things. Jesse was well liked by other parents and children. I wish his United Church of Christ minister (Reverend George Henry) was alive to write about Jesse. He would tell you how intelligent he was, how much he knew about religion even at a young age. He used to tell me all the time how much of a pleasure it was having someone in catechism as intelligent as Jesse.

He went to Salvation Army ARC in Syracuse, N Y. They made him leave because he was of Muslim faith and you had to be Christian. When I left him there, we had to leave enough money for a bus ticket. After being forced to leave because of his faith, he, on his own, got into the Salvation Army in New York, educated himself at the Metropolitan College of New York and graduated as valedictorian of his class in May of 2006. From there he met his wife, Kawtar. He worked as a drug and alcohol counselor in NYC while attending Columbia University where he received his masters degree in International Affairs. He graduated with honors. He and his wife lived frugally while he made monthly payments to the university. His grandmother loaned him the remainder of the money, which he is still paying back to her. He was devoted to his work as a drug and alcohol counselor while attending Columbia University.

I would like to explain my mistake that I mentioned above. I hit Jesse many times while he was growing up. I hate myself for it. I was in a terrible marriage and Jesse suffered for it. I do not know how I could have done such a horrid thing but I did. I should have gotten counseling and help. I was a good mother but sometimes I would lose control. I wish I could go back and change so many things. I am very sorry and could not live with Jesse's younger years ruining his life at present. He made something of himself and I am very proud of him. He should be given credit for his life. God forgive me for what I have done to that child. It is me who should be punished. I will suffer for it forever.

My son is a good person. He has been a good provider for his wife Kawtar Nasri and his children, Abdulhaqq and Zoubair Morton. When he learned Abdulhaq was a Down's baby he was unfazed by it. He worked hard with Abdulhaq building up his strength. He was very proud of him and stated he would be the first down's student to graduate from Harvard. When we visit Jesse at the Alexandria Detention Center, Abdulhaqq at 2 ½ goes to the window and puts his hand against the glass to Jesse's hand and puckers his lips against the glass to give him a kiss. As Zoubair grows from a baby to a little boy it

saddens me to think what Jesse is missing with both his sons. A long incarceration will be very hard on the boys, their mother and Jesse.

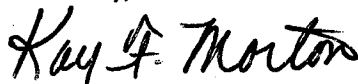
Jesse and his wife moved to Morocco in July of 2010. He was teaching English for an American Company in Morocco and was hired as a Professor of Business and Finance at Sunderland University, in Casablanca Morocco when the U.S. Government had him incarcerated on May 25, 2011. When my mother and I visited Casablanca we met some of his students. He was very well liked as a teacher and the local people he befriended in Casablanca. They were living a normal family life. He worked many hours doing hard classes that others would not accept, working weekends, and private tutoring many of his students.

Your Honor, I beg for minimal time as punishment. Jesse was speaking to educate others what was happening in the Muslim world. If Jesse is guilty of anything it is his intense commitment to what he believes in. I beg you to give him a second chance. Everyday millions of people speak out on the internet and write blogs. Do they go to prison for it? I pray you look very closely at the Statement of Facts; the "whole" interview with CNN, not the 2 minute cut and paste Anderson Cooper chose to show on TV. Jesse is nothing like the internet portrays him. Jesse is a brilliant mind who was only trying to educate others about foreign policy and Muslim beliefs. I've read many of his articles and had many discussions with Jesse. Never did he speak of harm. Mostly he spoke of world peace. I actually think if the US government would really listen to Jesse and talk with him and understand what he is saying, they would perhaps work with him in his teachings not against him.

Please restore my hope in justice and send Jesse home to his family. I plead with you for minimal time in prison if that is your choice. If by some chance you would consider "at-home" arrest, Jesse and his family can reside with me. I would fully cooperate with the legal system as would Jesse. I would help Jesse in every way possible. My mother is 82 years old. She has been to every visit we were allowed to make at Alexandria Detention Center. I am 57 years old. I cannot imagine living the rest of our lives without touching Jesse or having him present with his family in our surroundings.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration. If you need to speak to me I can be reached at 570-374-9414. Please look at all the good that you will find in Jesse. I beg for you to give him another chance.

Sincerely,



Kay F. Morton

May 2, 2012

Honorable Judge James O'Grady

Re: criminal No. 1:12cr35

United States vs. Jesse Morton

From his early years on Jesse was and is a very compassionate person. He cared for his brother and sister even before the abuse began. Both my older children Rebecca and Jesse were physically and mentally abused. So was I. They were told if they told me their mother would kill them. This began when they were young. I sir, am at fault for doing nothing to truly stop it. I saw it first hand at 12 for Jesse. Only now, do I hear how awful it was for them. I never realized how the abuse of being called a "druggie" a "loser" would penetrate his being as much as it did. I only know now how much it affected me. Now I am ~~again~~ affected by her - Jesse's wife and 2 children are there. Because of this situation lots of truths need to be told!

I love Jesse immensely - I am proud so proud of his accomplishments - to go from being thrown onto a bus out of a Salvation Army detention center in Rochester (1 way ticket) to New York City - Jesse

was in detention center as a step out from prison sentenced for drugs some 10 years ago. On his own he found a faith to believe in - to educate himself - from undergraduate at Metropolitan University in New York - to graduate school at Columbia. He found a wife - and 2 children - And besides all - to be in Morocco - miles away from his mother - to teach and write - To be heard -

Jesse in total is all good - He does not desire to suffer more days in believing he is a loser - Please read his writing He writes truth - His anger comes from his own pain - Does he want the creators of South Park to be killed - absolutely not - Jesse wants no one to have anything less equal to anyone else - Because of his life - his foundation - he has chosen a faith that is directly different than the typical American culture "faith" - religion - I believe Jesse would have embraced the American Indian in the 1800's - the Black Americans in the 900's - I ask you to please let Jesse defend himself - legal suicide - maybe I have no doubt Jesse has no legal help - Now, again, Jesse is pictured as the evil one.

"Jihad Joe" as I have seen on the internet. Not the truth at all - please let Jesse tell it - Your honor no one that I know or have read - in some time - feels the pain in the human condition - that Jesse does. That is why he speaks out for the Afghan and Iraq people - they are people - and no one else here does - He does as he also feels their pain - people pain not American.

Thank you

George Morton
505 Beaver Road
Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania
17870

04-24-2012

From: Helen Fetzer

To: Judge Liam O'Grady

Dear Judge Liam O'grady,

My name is Helen Fetzer and I am Jesse Morton's Grandmother. I am a widow aged 82 from Pennsylvania. I have 5 grandchildren. Jesse was always my special grandchild. I'm honored today to speak about Jesse's character and I pray you will take this letter into account when making your decision sentencing my beloved grandchild.

Jesse has always been kind, caring and generous with others. Despite his busy life in New York, Jesse was the only grandchild that always called and asked about me. He even promised me that he would never let me go to the nursing home and that he and his wife will take care of me until I meet my lord.

All these past years, I witnessed Jesse growing and developing in a very positive way, He did experience some challenges growing up as a typical teenager, which was mainly caused by the painful childhood that Jesse lived which was caused by his mother. Yes, my daughter, I tried to deny this reality but the truth has to be said. Jesse lived in a very dysfunctional family and he was victimized and domestically abused by his parent. I always saw bite marks all over his body, He run to me many times complaining about the abuse from his mother. The only time Jesse was able to live in peace was when he moved by himself. He got his life back together. Those challenges that he had in the past turned to play a major role helping him help others when he worked as a social worker. Jesse enjoyed and felt proud every time his clients overstepped the challenges and showed improvement.

Jesse's achievement was successful because Jesse had a strong sense of duty, commitment, intelligence, compassion and bravery, which he also too his education, job, family and his belief.

Jesse went to Metropolitan college in New York and was valedictorian, I went to his graduation and I was so proud of him. He later went to Columbia University and I promised him that I was going to invest some money toward his tuition as he struggled and saved all his money to pay for his school. I was so proud to help him getting his master's and seeing my grandchild succeeding.

In December 2010, I and his mother flew to Morocco to visit him and his little family as his wife gave birth to another precious little boy. We were received kindly and we had

a great time in Morocco. Jesse was happy and excited about his new life in Morocco. Alas, that was the last time I held my grandchild around my arms, today I'm writing you this letter, and I doubt it if I can live enough to hold him again. But one thing that I don't doubt is that Jesse had a great deal of integrity and humanity. He always strives to make sure he is doing the right thing and that the whole world lives in peace and liberty.

My grandchild never was violent, nor was he a terrorist. He is against the war and so am I and many Americans people. I and my husband worked tooth and nail in this country, we accomplished our duty as good American citizens toward our nation and we retired in our 60's. We believed America to be the land of democracy and freedom of expression. I'm kindly hoping that you can bring justice on my grandchild's case and not punish him for something this country stands for which is freedom of expression.

It may be difficult for you to make decisions on my grandchild's case when you don't actually know the person standing in front of you, but I hope you consider my letter and the other family letters and understand that Jesse is far from being a wicked man and surely he is a man of dignity and bravery.

My grandchild Jesse has two little boys and a wife waiting for him every day, I would appreciate if you send back to his home to his family as soon as possible. I believe that there is still fair justice in this land. I will be forever grateful for your merciful sentencing decision toward my grandchild. Please feel free to contact me at (570)374-8772. Thank you for taking your time reading my letter.

Judge Liam O'Grady may the lord bless you and your family.

Sincerely,

Helen Fetzer

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Helen Fetzer". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

May 14th, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Jesse Morton a year ago where I met him in AMIDEAST “an American non-profit organization engaged in international education, training and development activities in the Middle East and North Africa”. He used to be my professor for the GMAT preparation classes, which I took last year in order to prepare for the access to one of the prestigious universities in the US.

To be honest, I can only say that Jesse was a special teacher. At the beginning of the courses, we had a different teacher who was extremely careless about the class. When we have talked to the administration, they have then brought Jesse to teach the class. Frankly, they couldn't have brought a better teacher. Jesse was simply the best to teach the course.

Jesse is organized, efficient, extremely competent, and has an excellent rapport with people of all ages. His communication skills, both written and verbal, are excellent. He is also a very humble person who shows high level of humility, who feels happy when helping people.

Despite the huge workload that he has both in teaching different classes in AMIDEAST, and also the time that he spends preparing for his academic economical journals; Yet, He has never come unprepared to the class, on the contrary, we were learning everyday something new with him.

In summary, I can clearly say that Jesse would be a valuable asset for any country who values great minds.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at abdessamad.mardi@gmail.com

Sincerely,

Abdessamad

Rodney Shakespeare
Binary Economist, Barrister

Dear Judge Liam O'Grady,

I saw Jesse Morton speaking on a television program and, for the first time in my life (I am now seventy three and live in the UK), decided to make direct contact with somebody seen on television. This was because it was apparent that Jesse Morton not only upheld markets and private property for everybody but also had a strong sense of social and economic justice. His analysis was lucid and his solution very akin to that of binary economics (www.binaryeconomics.net).

My decision to contact Jesse Morton was the more remarkable because he is a Muslim but I am not (being a member of the Christian Council for Monetary Justice). Since then we have been in frequent contact and I asked him to submit a paper for a major conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The paper delighted me and the conference organizers who accepted the paper and invited him to speak. Alas, his arrest prevented him from giving what I believe would have been one of the great seminal papers for a world needing new thinking and, in particular, co-operation between the faiths. The paper upholds true markets, private property and social and economic justice; has not a trace of violence; and seeks to spread economic power to everybody in society. More than anything I know, it provides a practical way forward for people of faith, and of good faith, to co-operate with each other.

It should be said that I have not met Jesse Morton in person but have followed some of his activities via the internet noting that he is intellectually fearless, a most effective public speaker and, completely unlike other Islamic 'radicals', embraces analysis and policy that is profoundly democratic, practical and peaceful.

In particular, Jesse Morton exhibits qualities indicating that he will become a major Islamic leader and it is crucial to good relations between the West and Islam that there develop (via people such as Jesse Morton) Islamic thinking which is truly democratic and not, unlike much of the thinking of Islamic hotheads, imbued by concepts of authoritarianism, bigotry and violence. Indeed, I have no doubt that Jesse Morton has many enemies among Islamic radicals precisely because he is NOT imbued by authoritarianism, bigotry and violence.

I do not know the details of the case against Jesse Morton and so do not comment. However, it can be said that if the USA wishes to cultivate a future leader of a genuinely moderate Islam who deeply embraces democracy and wishes to forward markets and private property, I suggest that it could be wise to minimise any punitive sentence and then help him in every way in his work.

Thank you for reading this.

Rodney Shakespeare, MA Cantabridge;
Barrister (Middle Temple);
Visiting Professor of Binary Economics, Trisakti University, Jakarta, Indonesia.