

Preface

By David Horowitz

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David Horowitz Freedom Center
PO Box 55089
Sherman Oaks, CA 91403
(800) 752-6562
Elizabeth@horowitzfreedomcenter.org

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People argue whether Islam is a religion of moderation and peace or an imperial creed which calls on its followers to kill infidels or subdue them. Put this way, there can be no definitive answer to the question. As in other religions, there is a difference between the content of Islam's sacred texts and the way those texts are interpreted and applied by believers. There are 1.5 billion Muslims in the world today. For the majority, Islam is not a global call to arms but a faith that guides them in the course of their daily lives and leads them on a path of individual salvation.

What cannot be disputed are two disturbing facts. The first is that a number of passages in the sacred texts of Islam call on Muslims to kill Jews and other non-believers. These passages include a Hadith which specifically says that the Day of Judgment will only come when there is an extermination of the Jews: "The prophet, prayer and peace be upon him, said: The time [of judgment] will not come until Muslims will fight the Jews and kill them; until the Jews hide behind rocks and trees, which will cry: O Muslim! There is a Jew hiding behind me, come on and kill him!"¹ This Hadith is regularly cited by leaders of the Islamic jihad in Palestine, Iran, Lebanon and other Muslim and Arab states.

The second disturbing and indisputable fact is that the most powerful movement within Islam today is the radical jihad whose zealots control Iran, Palestine, Saudi Arabia and Yemen, threaten the regimes in Lebanon, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iraq and have established mosques all over the world including the United States. As the following text by Robert Spencer documents, it is the genocidal texts of Islam that form the core of this movement's belief.

In this situation it is dangerous denial to ignore the incitements of Islamic doctrine to genocide against the Jews and other non-Muslim faiths. I urge Muslims and non-Muslims alike to read Spencer's text to understand the dangers that confront us and to sign the Declaration Against Genocide which is appended to this text.

Plan for Genocide

By Robert Spencer

The modern Islamic jihad which has led to the creation of al-Qaeda and the Islamic Republic of Iran began with the Muslim Brotherhood, which was founded in Egypt in 1928. Its founder, Hassan Al-Banna, declared that “it is a duty incumbent on every Muslim to struggle towards the aim of making every people Muslim and the whole world Islamic, so that the banner of Islam can flutter over the earth and the call of the *Muezzin* can resound in all the corners of the world: God is greatest [Allahu akbar]!”

Today, the Brotherhood is an international force. Hamas identifies itself in its Charter as the Palestinian branch of the Muslim Brotherhood, and al-Qaeda is another of its offshoots. Organizations created by the Muslim Brotherhood include the Muslim Students Association, the Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR), Islamic Society of North America and the Muslim American Society.

The global jihad or holy war spawned by the Muslim Brotherhood aims to eradicate or subjugate all non-Muslim peoples, and to destroy and efface not only all non-Muslim governments, but all societies and cultures that are not Islamic.

The Islamic jihad spans the globe, and its aim is, ultimately, genocidal.

First target: Israel

The founder of the Muslim Brotherhood Hassan al-Banna said: “Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it.*”

Since then other leaders of the Islamic jihad, including Yasir Arafat have repeatedly affirmed their goal that the Jewish State cease to exist, itself an act of genocide. Mahmoud Ahmedinejad has promised that “the annihilation of the Zionist regime will come,” and has noted that it was predicted by the Ayatollah Khomeini: “The Imam said this regime occupying Jerusalem must vanish from the page of time.”

The Islamic holy war to eliminate a non-Muslim state from the

Arab Muslim Middle East is the cause of the Middle East conflict, not the size of Israel, its occupation of this or that territory, or the need to create a Palestinian state. In the words of Ahmadinejad: “The Islamic umma (community), will not allow its historic enemy [Israel] to live in its heartland.” Israel’s end is near: “There is no doubt that the new wave [of attacks] in Palestine will soon wipe off this disgraceful blot [Israel] from the face of the Islamic world.”

Can there be a negotiated peace between the Palestinians and Israel? No: “The issue of Palestine is not one which we could compromise on.... This would mean the defeat of the Islamic world.” The only resolution of the conflict can be “when all of Palestine comes under stringent Palestinian rule.”

The Charter of Hamas (the Islamic Resistance Movement) also explicitly rejects negotiated settlements: “There is no other solution for the Palestinian problem than jihad. All the initiatives and international conferences are a waste of time and a futile game.”

Khalid Mashal, who is one of the principal leaders of Hamas, openly exults in what he sees as Israel’s inevitable destruction: “You [Jews] will be defeated with God’s help. Victory’s day is approaching with God’s help. Before Israel dies, it will not escape humiliation and surrender. Before they die, with God’s help they will witness humiliation and surrendering.” He also frames the conflict in explicitly religious terms: “Today you are fighting against the army of Allah. Today you are fighting against people who care for dying for Allah, dying for honor and prestige more than they care for life itself.”

Mahmoud Zahar has said: “I dream, of hanging a huge map of the world on the wall at my Gaza home which does not show Israel on it.” A negotiated peace is unthinkable: “Even if the U.S. gave us all its money in return for recognizing Israel and giving up one inch of Palestine, we would never do so even if this costs us our lives.” Zahar has also declared: “It’s our land. Nobody among our sons and grandsons will accept Israel as a legal state.... Israel is a foreign body. Not in this generation, not in the next generation, will we accept it here.”

Yahya Raheem Safavi, an Iranian Revolutionary Guards

Commander, declared on July 30, 2006: “In light of the Zionists’ crimes and oppression, I ask God to hasten the years when this regime will no longer exist. ... There is a need to topple the phony Zionist regime, this cancerous growth [called] Israel, which was founded in order to plunder the Muslims’ resources and wealth.”

Hassan Nasrallah, the leader of Hizbullah (party of Allah), has said that the destruction of Israel is a “sacred” goal: “When an Egyptian journalist visited me after the liberation and asked me if the destruction of Israel and the liberation of Palestine and Jerusalem were Hizbullah’s goal, I replied: ‘That is the principal objective of Hizbullah, and it is no less sacred than our [ultimate] goal....’ We cannot acknowledge the existence of a state called Israel, not even far in the future, as some people have tried to suggest. Time does not cancel the legitimacy of the Palestinian claim.”

In accord with this, the Hizbullah Founding Statement includes a section titled “The Necessity for the Destruction of Israel,” which declares:

We see in Israel the vanguard of the United States in our Islamic world. It is the hated enemy that must be fought until the hated ones get what they deserve. This enemy is the greatest danger to our future generations and to the destiny of our lands, particularly as it glorifies the ideas of settlement and expansion, initiated in Palestine, and yearning outward to the extension of the Great Israel, from the Euphrates to the Nile. Our primary assumption in our fight against Israel states that the Zionist entity is aggressive from its inception, and built on lands wrested from their owners, at the expense of the rights of the Muslim people. Therefore our struggle will end only when this entity is obliterated. We recognize no treaty with it, no cease fire, and no peace agreements, whether separate or consolidated. We vigorously condemn all plans for negotiation with Israel, and regard all negotiators as enemies, for the reason that such negotiation is nothing but the recognition of the legitimacy of the Zionist occupation of Palestine.

Even an Arab member of the Israeli Knesset, Abd-Al Malek Dahamshe, has declared that he would like to see Israel destroyed:

“Our problem with Israel is not a border problem, but an existential one.” What, then, calls for a negotiated peace? “We exaggerate when we say ‘peace’... What we are speaking about is *Hudna*” – that is, a temporary agreement to give the Muslims the chance to gather strength to defeat and crush their enemies.

Many believe that Fatah, the so-called moderate Palestinian faction headed by Mahmoud Abbas represents a hope for a peaceful accord between Israel and the Palestinians. However, Fatah and its parent organization, the Palestine Liberation Organization, have never made any secret of sharing the same goal as that being pursued by Hamas. Fatah states its principal goal as the “complete liberation of Palestine, and eradication of Zionist economic, political, military, and cultural existence.” How is Zionism to be eradicated? Through violence: “Armed public revolution is the inevitable method to liberating Palestine....[T]he Palestinian Arab People’s armed revolution is a decisive factor in the liberation fight and in uprooting the Zionist existence, and this struggle will not cease unless the Zionist state is demolished and Palestine is completely liberated.” As such, there can be no acceptance of “any political solution offered as an alternative to demolishing the Zionist occupation in Palestine.”

Sakher Habash, senior Central Committee member of Fatah, admitted in 1998 that Fatah’s ultimate goal was the destruction of Israel: “To us, the refugee issue is the winning card which means the end of the Israeli state.” This is in line with the 1964 Charter of the Palestine Liberation Organization, which states that “Palestine, with the boundaries it had during the British Mandate, is an indivisible territorial unit” – which means that there is no room for a Jewish State of any size whatsoever. The “liberation of Palestine” will “destroy the Zionist and imperialist presence and will contribute to the establishment of peace in the Middle East.”

The founder of the PLO and Fatah, Yasir Arafat, declared: “We plan to eliminate the state of Israel and establish a purely Palestinian state. We will make life unbearable for Jews by psychological warfare and population explosion....We Palestinians will take over everything, including all of Jerusalem.” Negotiate peace? No: “Peace for us means the destruction of Israel. We are preparing for an all-

out war, a war which will last for generations....The victory march will continue until the Palestinian flag flies in Jerusalem and in all of Palestine.”

Demonizing and dehumanizing the victim

Iran’s Ahmadinejad employs the genocidist’s classic technique of demonizing and dehumanizing those whom he wishes to destroy: “They [the Jews] have no boundaries, limits, or taboos when it comes to killing human beings. Who are they? Where did they come from? Are they human beings? ‘They are like cattle, nay, more misguided’. A bunch of bloodthirsty barbarians. Next to them, all the criminals of the world seem righteous.” [a quote of Qur’an 7:179]

Hassan Nasrallah uses the same rhetoric: “If we searched the entire world for a person more cowardly, despicable, weak and feeble in psyche, mind, ideology and religion, we would not find anyone like the Jew. Notice, I do not say the Israeli.”

Nasrallah roots this Jew-hatred in Islamic doctrine: “Anyone who reads the Qur’an and the holy writings of the monotheistic religions sees what they did to the prophets, and what acts of madness and slaughter the Jews carried out throughout history ... Anyone who reads these texts cannot think of co-existence with them, of peace with them, or about accepting their presence, not only in Palestine of 1948 but even in a small village in Palestine, because they are a cancer which is liable to spread again at any moment.”

Not surprisingly, therefore, Nasrallah has also said that “there is no solution to the conflict in this region except with the disappearance of Israel.”

Nor does he intend to stop there: Nasrallah has also made no secret of his desire to destroy all Jews, not just those in Israel. He has said: “[I]f they [the Jews] all gather in Israel, it will save us the trouble of going after them worldwide.” Similarly, a 1992 Hizballah statement vowed “open war until the elimination of Israel and until the death of the last Jew on earth.”

Ahmadinejad has threatened Iran’s foes with nuclear action: “Today, the Iranian people is the owner of nuclear technology. Those

who want to talk with our people should know what people they are talking to.”What if Israel were to retaliate after an attack? No matter. Hashemi Rafsanjani, former President of Iran, has airily dismissed the prospect of Muslim casualties: “The use of a nuclear bomb in Israel will leave nothing on the ground, whereas it will only damage the world of Islam.”

Endorsing suicide killing

In pursuit of the goal of the total destruction of Israel, religious authorities have sanctioned the murder of Israeli civilians.

The Grand Sheikh of Cairo’s Al-Azhar University, the most respected institution of higher learning in the Islamic world, has endorsed jihad/martyrdom suicide attacks against civilians in Israel. According to the Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI): “The great Imam of Al-Azhar Sheikh Muhammad Sayyed Tantawi, demanded that the Palestinian people, of all factions, intensify the martyrdom operations [i.e. suicide attacks] against the Zionist enemy, and described the martyrdom operations as the highest form of jihad operations. He says that the young people executing them have sold Allah the most precious thing of all. [Sheikh Tantawi] emphasized that every martyrdom operation against any Israeli, including children, women, and teenagers, is a legitimate act according to [Islamic] religious law, and an Islamic commandment, until the people of Palestine regain their land and cause the cruel Israeli aggression to retreat...”²

Egypt’s former Mufti, Sheikh Ahmad Al Tayyeb, stated: “The solution to the Israeli terror lies in a proliferation of Fidayi [martyrdom] attacks that strike horror into the hearts of the enemies of Allah. The Islamic countries, peoples and rulers alike, must support these martyrdom attacks.”

Sheikh Yousef Al-Qaradhawi, president of the International Association of Muslim Scholars (IAMS) -- a respected “moderate” who has been entertained as a guest by London Mayor Ken Livingstone and hailed as a “reformist” by jihad apologist John Esposito -- has also endorsed such “martyrdom operations,” saying: “We are fighting in the name of religion, in the name of Islam, which makes this Jihad

an individual duty, in which the entire nation takes part, and whoever is killed in this [jihad] is a martyr. This is why I ruled that martyrdom operations are permitted, because he commits martyrdom for the sake of Allah, and sacrifices his soul for the sake of Allah.”

Bloodlust on Palestinian TV

Islamic sermons broadcast on Palestinian Authority have also been openly genocidal, while grounding their bloodlust in Islamic traditions:

- “We the Palestinian nation, our fate from Allah is to be the vanguard in the war against the Jews until the resurrection of the dead, as the prophet Mohammed said: ‘The resurrection of the dead will not arrive until you will fight the Jews and kill them...’ We the Palestinians are the vanguard in this undertaking and in this campaign, whether or not we want this...” (Palestinian TV, July 28, 2000)

- “Blessed is he who fights jihad in the name of Allah, blessed is he who [goes on] raids in the name of Allah, blessed is he who dons a vest of explosives on himself or on his children and goes in to the depth of the Jews and says: ‘Allahu Akbar, blessed be Allah.’ Like the collapse of the building upon the heads of the Jews in their sinful dance-hall, I ask of Allah that we see the Knesset collapsing on the heads of the Jews.” (Palestinian TV, June 8, 2001)

- “The battle with the Jews will surely come...the decisive Muslim victory is coming without a doubt, and the prophet spoke about in more than one Hadith. And the day of resurrection will not come without the victory of the believers [the Muslims] over the descendents of the monkeys and pigs [the Jews] and with their annihilation.” (Official P.A. newspaper, Al-Hayat Al-Jadida, May 18, 2001)

- “O Allah, destroy America as it is controlled by Zionist Jews... Allah will avenge, in the name of His Prophet, the colonialist settlers who are the descendents of monkeys and pigs [cf. Qur’an 2:62-65; 5:59-60; 7:166]...” (Ikrim Sabri, Mufti of

the Palestinian Authority, from weekly sermon in the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem. Voice of Palestine, July 11, 1997)

- “The Jews are the Jews. There never was among them a supporter of peace. They are all liars... the true criminals, the Jewish terrorists, that slaughtered our children, that turned our wives into widows and our children into orphans, and desecrated our holy places. They are terrorists. Therefore it is necessary to slaughter them and murder them, according to the words of Allah... it is forbidden to have mercy in your hearts for the Jews in any place and in any land. Make war on them anyplace that you find yourself. Any place that you encounter them -- kill them. Kill the Jews and those among the Americans that are like them... Have no mercy on the Jews, murder them everywhere...” (Palestinian TV, October 13, 2000)

America and the world

At the “World Without Zionism” conference held in Tehran in October 2005, as the crowd chanted “death to Israel, death to America, death to England,” the Iranian President again recalled Khomeini’s words: “Once, his eminency Imam Khomeini...said that the occupation regime of Qods [Jerusalem, or Israel] must be wiped off from the map of the world, and with the help of the Almighty, we shall soon experience a world without America and Zionism, notwithstanding those who doubt.”³

Hizbullah’s Hassan Nasrallah would also like to see America as well as Israel destroyed: “Let the entire world hear me. Our hostility to the Great Satan [America] is absolute. ... Regardless of how the world has changed after 11 September, ‘Death to America’ will remain our reverberating and powerful slogan: ‘Death to America.’”

This desire to obliterate America along with Israel is in line with Osama bin Laden’s 1998 “Declaration of Jihad Against Jews and Crusaders,” which states that “in compliance with God’s order, we issue the following fatwah [ruling on Islamic law] to all Muslims: The ruling 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 it ... to comply with God’s order to kill

the Americans and plunder their money wherever and whenever they find it.”

In a videotape broadcast on Al-Jazeera on July 27, 2006, Ayman Al-Zawahiri, the chief Lieutenant to Osama bin Laden, exhorted Muslims: “Jihad seeks the liberation of Palestine, the entire country of Palestine and to liberate every land that used to be a territory of Islam, from Spain to Iraq. The entire world is an open field for us... With the grace of God, we have now returned to the field....Dear Muslim brothers everywhere, today we must target the Jewish and the American interests everywhere.”⁴

Such targeted attacks may be chemical, biological, or even nuclear, and jihadists hope they will kill as many Americans as possible. Suleiman Abu Gheith, an al-Qaeda spokesman, railed against America in a June 2002 manifesto: “America is the head of heresy in our modern world, and it leads an infidel democratic regime that is based upon separation of religion and state and on ruling the people by the people via legislating laws that contradict the way of Allah and permit what Allah has prohibited. ... America is the reason for all oppression, injustice, licentiousness, or suppression that is the Muslims’ lot.” As a result of all this, American civilians could legitimately be targeted for genocide: “We have the right,” Abu Gheith proclaimed, “to kill 4 million Americans -- 2 million of them children -- and to exile twice as many and wound and cripple hundreds of thousands. Furthermore, it is our right to fight them with chemical and biological weapons. ... America is kept at bay by blood alone.”

Before he left Britain one step ahead of law enforcement and returned to his native Lebanon, the jihadist Sheikh Omar Bakri Muhammad boasted of his intention to “transform the West into Dar Al-Islam” and establish Islamic law on British soil. “I want to see the black flag of Islam flying over Downing Street,” he said.⁵ Bakri’s fellow British jihadist, the now-imprisoned Sheikh Abu Hamza Al-Masri, explained that this was a universal imperative: “Allah is the only one that must be worshipped on Earth, and the only way to guarantee this is to control all the land masses, air and sea and give Islam the proper channel to be heard by the people.”⁶

Realizing Allah’s promise

Jihadists routinely ground such statements in Islamic religious terms. Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the al-Qaeda leader in Iraq before he was killed by American forces in June 2006, explained his goal: “As for our political agenda, as some people call it, we find it summarized richly in the saying of the Prophet (peace be upon him), ‘I have been sent with the sword, between the hands of the hour, until Allah is worshipped alone.’”⁷

The Charter of Hamas, declares that it “aspires to the realization of Allah’s promise, no matter how long that should take.” Which promise? A genocidal vision of the end times enunciated, according to Islamic tradition, by Muhammad himself, and quoted approvingly in the Charter:

The Prophet, Allah bless him and grant him salvation, has said:

“The Day of Judgement will not come about until Muslims fight the Jews (killing the Jews), when the Jew will hide behind stones and trees. The stones and trees will say O Moslems, O Abdulla [slave of Allah], there is a Jew behind me, come and kill him. Only the Gharkad tree, (evidently a certain kind of tree) would not do that because it is one of the trees of the Jews.” (related by al-Bukhari and Moslem).⁸

The Hamas Charter also carries the epigraph from the founder of the Muslim Brotherhood: “Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it.”

Sheikh Yousef Al-Qaradhawi, president of the International Association of Muslim Scholars (IAMS), and a respected “moderate” who has been entertained as a guest by London Mayor Ken Livingstone and hailed as a “reformist” by Georgetown jihad apologist John Esposito, emphasizes that the jihad against Israel is a religious war: “We are fighting in the name of Islam....They fight us with Judaism, so we should fight them with Islam....Religion must lead the war. This is the only way we can win.” And like the Hamas Charter, he has invoked the notorious tradition in which Muhammad predicts that Muslims will engage in a wholesale massacre of Jews at the end

of the world: “Everything will be on our side and against Jews on [Judgment Day]; at that time, even the stones and the trees will speak, with or without words, and say: ‘Oh servant of Allah, oh Muslim, there’s a Jew behind me, come and kill him.’ They will point to the Jews. It says ‘servant of Allah,’ not ‘servant of desires,’ ‘servant of women,’ ‘servant of the bottle,’ ‘servant of Marxism,’ or ‘servant of liberalism’... It said ‘servant of Allah.’” Consequently, “There is no dialogue between us [Muslims and Jews] except by the sword and the rifle.”

Persecution of Christians

Christians are targeted as well as Jews: intolerance and persecution of Christians is common in the Islamic world. In early 2003 the Saudi government reaffirmed that there was not and would never be a Christian church in the Saudi Kingdom: “This country was the launchpad for the prophecy and the message, and nothing can contradict this, even if we lose our necks,” said Prince Sultan, the Saudi defense minister. Responding to complaints that American military and diplomatic personnel were not allowed to practice their faith, he called them “fanatics” and declared: “There are no churches — not in the past, the present or future...Whoever said that [churches should be established] must shut up and be ashamed.”⁹

This is because Christians are, according to Muhammad’s command and Islamic law, “forbidden to reside in the Hijaz, meaning the area and towns around Mecca, Medina, and Yamama, for more than three days.”¹⁰ In fact, the highways in Saudi Arabia that lead to Mecca and Medina feature, a good distance away from the holy cities, exits marked “Non-Muslims Must Exit Here.”

In March 2007, Islamic gangs knocked on doors in Christian neighborhoods in Baghdad, demanding payment of the jizya, the tax for non-Muslims.¹¹ Christians all over Iraq live increasingly in an atmosphere of terror. Women have been threatened with kidnapping or death if they do not wear a headscarf.¹² In accord with traditional Islamic legal restrictions on Christians “openly displaying wine or pork” (in the words of a legal manual endorsed by Cairo’s venerable Al-Azhar University), liquor store owners in Iraq have likewise been

threatened.¹³ Many of their businesses have been destroyed, and the owners have fled. A onetime Iraqi liquor store owner now living in Syria lamented that “now at least 75% of my Christian friends have fled. There is no future for us in Iraq.”¹⁴ Half of the nation’s prewar 700,000 Christians have now fled the country since the fall of Saddam Hussein.¹⁵ Iraqi Christians today are streaming into Syria or, if they can, out of the Middle East altogether.

This is true of Christians all over the Islamic world. In Egypt, Coptic Christians suffer terribly at the hands of the Muslim majority. In June 2007, rioters in Alexandria vandalized Christian shops, attacked and injured seven Christians, and damaged two Coptic churches. Police allowed the mob to roam free in Alexandria’s Christian quarter for an hour and a half before intervening. The Compass Direct news service, which tracks incidents of Christian persecution, noted: “In April 2006, Alexandria was the scene of three knife attacks on churches that killed one Christian and left a dozen more injured. The government appeared unable or unwilling to halt subsequent vandalism of Coptic-owned shops and churches...”¹⁶ In February 2007, rumors that a Coptic Christian man was having an affair with a Muslim woman — another violation of Islamic law — led to the destruction of several Christian-owned shops in southern Egypt.¹⁷

In Pakistan the situation for Christians is no better. According to Pakistani Christian Catherine Shaheen, herself the victim of threats and false charges in her homeland: “It’s horrible for Christians in Pakistan. The Muslims take our land, rob our homes, try to force us to accept Islam. Young girls are kidnapped and raped. Then they’re told that if they want a husband who will accept them after that defilement, they must become Muslim.”¹⁸ In one attack in October 2001, eighteen Christians were murdered during a worship service.¹⁹

In Muammar Qaddafi’s Libya, “the majority of the Christian churches were closed following the revolution of 1969, despite the fact that the words of the Constitution guarantee the liberty of religion. After expelling the Italian and Maltese Catholics, Qaddafi turned the cathedral in the capital into a mosque.”²⁰

The same dispiriting story is repeated throughout the Islamic world. In June 2007 Christians in Gaza appealed to the international

community for protection after jihadists destroyed a church and a school.²¹ In Nigeria, Muslim mobs have torched churches and even enforced Sharia codes on Christians, horse-whipping female Christian college students whom they deemed to be dressed improperly.²²

Even in Lebanon, traditionally the Middle East's sole Christian land, Christians suffer persecution -- marked most notably by the ongoing series of assassinations of Christian political leaders, including the bombing in a Christian suburb of Beirut in September 2007 that killed Antoine Ghanem of the Christian Phalange party.²³ This has led to declining numbers and declining influence -- which in turn encourages yet more persecution. Christian communities that date back to the dawn of Christianity have been steadily decreasing in numbers; now the faith is on the verge of disappearing from the area altogether.

Christians are today streaming out of Palestinian Authority-controlled areas -- including some of the holiest sites in Christendom. Muslim thugs beat a Christian cab driver in Bethlehem, George Rabie, just for displaying a crucifix in his cab. Rabie noted: "Every day, I experience discrimination... Many extremists from the villages are coming into Bethlehem." Sometimes this discrimination turns lethal: several years ago, Muslims shot dead two Christian women for not wearing the Islamic veil. The Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades took responsibility and explained: "We wanted to clean the Palestinian house of prostitutes." Samir Qumsiyeh, owner of a private Christian television station, observed in January 2007: "The situation is very dangerous. I believe that 15 years from now there will be no Christians left in Bethlehem. Then you will need a torch to find a Christian here. This is a very sad situation."²⁴ A Bethlehem hotelier, Joseph Canawati, said simply: "There is no hope for the future of the Christian community. We don't think things are going to get better. For us, it is finished."²⁵

It's a slow-motion, surreptitious genocide -- yet while all this has gone on the world has turned a blind eye. The UN has issued no resolutions calling upon the Palestinians to stop mistreating their Christian minority. Human rights organizations have likewise been silent. And in the West, where Islamic advocacy groups and student

groups profess to reject and abhor "extremism," the oppression of Palestinian Christians has likewise not registered on the radar screen.

Cultural genocide

The consequence of Islamic supremacism and the hostility of jihadists toward non-Muslim societies and cultures has resulted all too often in Islamic history in the eradication of those societies and cultures. This cultural genocide proceeds from the assumption that anything non-Islamic is worthless. This is a core vision of the jihad as expressed in the works of Sayyid Qutb, whose works inspire the Muslim Brotherhood. In his jihad manifesto *Milestones*, which has been published in well over a thousand editions, Qutb wrote: "Islam cannot accept any mixing with the society of unbelievers [Jahiliyyah] ... Either Islam will remain, or the society of unbelievers: Islam cannot accept or agree to a situation which is half-Islam and half-infidel.... The foremost duty of Islam in this world is to depose the infidels from the leadership of man, and to take the leadership into its own hands and enforce the particular way of life which is its permanent feature."²⁶

This means that anything understood as part of the world of unbelievers is valueless and dangerous.

The most notorious recent example of the cultural genocide conducted by the Islamic jihadists is the Taliban's dynamiting of the fifteen-hundred-year-old Buddhas of Bamiyan in 2001. The jihadists believed that these ancient statues were idolatrous and offensive to Allah and so they destroyed them. Countless other Christian and Hindu artworks, in churches throughout the areas conquered by Islam in Europe, Africa, and the Middle East, and in Hindu temples in India, have been destroyed throughout history by Muslims who held the same views of non-Muslim cultural artifacts. Now, in Europe, those with the same views are gaining in numbers, power, and influence -- in the home of the *Pieta*, the *David*, the *Last Supper*, and the *Mona Lisa*.

While Islamic law for non-Muslims is not strictly genocidal - allowing non-Muslims to live under Islamic rule if they submit

to humiliating and discriminatory regulations, which insure their submission -- the jihadist vision of the end times is. Thus the only way to end the Muslim persecution of non-Muslims is for peaceful Muslims to reject the genocidal goal of the Islamic jihad. As for non-believers, it is vital that they understand the threat that confronts them, and take measures to defend themselves before it is too late.

Robert Spencer is a scholar of Islamic history, theology, and law and the director of Jihad Watch. He is the author of seven books, eight monographs, and hundreds of articles about jihad and Islamic terrorism, including the New York Times Bestsellers The Politically Incorrect Guide to Islam (and the Crusades) and The Truth About Muhammad. His latest book is Religion of Peace?.

Footnotes

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* Quotations from contemporary jihadists are taken from the following two sources unless otherwise noted.

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Appendix

Declaration Against Genocide

Whereas genocide – the murder, or plan to murder, an entire people – is a crime against all humanity;

Whereas genocide is a crime that has metastasized in the modern era, leading to the murders of millions of Armenians, Cambodians, Tutsis, Sudanese Christians, Albanian Muslims and others;

Whereas the largest and most devastating genocide on record is the Holocaust of European Jews;

Whereas a new genocide of the Jews is being prepared by Islamofascists in the Arab Middle East;

Whereas global forces are being mobilized by the Iranian regime to eliminate the Jewish state;

Whereas the genocide of the Jews is called for in Islamic sacred texts and echoes through sermons in the mosques today, and is proclaimed by leaders of the Islamic religion;

Whereas Catholicism and other Christian denominations have condemned the Holocaust and repudiated anti-Jewish pronouncements that have stained their religious past;

We call on all Student Governments and campus Muslim groups to:

1. Condemn and repudiate the Hadith which reads: “The prophet, prayer and peace be upon him, said: The time [of judgment] will not come until Muslims will fight the Jews and kill them; until the Jews hide behind rocks and trees, which will cry: O Muslim! There is a Jew hiding behind me, come on and kill him!”

Sahih Muslim book 41, no. 6985

2. Condemn and repudiate the Hamas Charter which says: “Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it”

3. Condemn Ahmadinejad who has said “The accomplishment of a world without America and Israel is both possible and feasible.”

4. Condemn Hezbollah and its leader Hassan Nassrallah who has said:

“The Jews are a cancer which is liable to spread again at any moment.”

“There is no solution to the conflict except with the disappearance of Israel.”

“If they all gather in Israel, it will save us the trouble of going after them worldwide.”

5. Affirm:

- The right of all people to live in freedom and dignity
- The freedom of the individual conscience: to change religions or have no religion at all
- The equal dignity of women and men
- The right of all people to live free from violence, intimidation, and coercion

We call upon all campus political, cultural, ethnic and religious groups to stand with us in opposing all forms of religious supremacism, violence and intimidation.