

PRIORITIES OF ISLAMIC WORK IN THE WEST

by
Sheikh Abdurrahman Abdul-Khaaliq

أولويات العمل الإسلامي في الغرب
للشيخ عبد الرحمن عبد الخالق اليوسف



جمعية احياء التراث الاسلامي

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جمعية أحياء التراث الإسلامي

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**IN THE NAME OF ALLAH
THE MERCIFUL THE COMPASSIONATE**

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Introductory Note

All thanks are for Allah, Lord of the Worlds, and the prayer and blessings of Allah are upon His slave and honorable Messenger. Mohammad was sent as a mercy to all creation, as a warner and bearer of good tidings to all mankind. Also, the prayer and blessings of Allah are upon Mohammad's family, his companions and those who followed their lead till the Day of Judgment.

This is a research, written during a limited amount of time available, on the basics and priorities of Islamic activities in the West. In this research, I included the basics that must be taken care of and preserved by Muslims of the West in particular, and the rest of Muslims of the world. Also, some of these basics apply to the countries that have Muslim majorities. These Muslims must extend their helping hand to their oppressed brothers who are facing Fitnah (calamity) in the religion, and the danger of losing their Islamic identity or outright extermination and expulsion.

I ask Allah that He accepts this work for His Sake, and that He leads us all to His Pleasure, and to resurrect this nation to its mighty and victorious past. Then, the Word of Allah will be the highest, and the word of the disbelievers the lowest. Indeed, Allah is the All-Mighty, All-Wise.

Abdul Rahman Abdul Khaliq
6/18/1993

Explanation

What we mean by ‘the West’ in this research is: Europe and the Americas. This term, ‘the West’, applies also to European settlements of the East, like Australia. Europeans settled in these areas and became the majority of the population there.

What we mean by ‘Priorities’ is to explain the major areas of activities where Muslims of the West must concentrate their efforts. It also means the responsibilities other Muslims have towards their Muslim brothers of the West.

The large population of Muslims in the secular countries of the West face many difficulties. While living among the Kuffar, they face the danger of losing their Muslim identity in belief and worship. It is a must upon all Muslims to help the cause of Islam everywhere, to strive to raise Allah’s Word on earth, to enjoin good, to believe and to be patient. This research should be of help to a large portion of Muslims who face persecution.

Chapter I

Introduction

1 -- The Goals of Islam

A -- Worshipping Allah Alone

This is the reason behind Allah's creating all that exists: Angels, Jinn, mankind, heavens, earth and animals. Allah created everything only to worship Him alone. He said, what translated means: *﴿See you not that to Allah prostrates whoever is in the heavens and whoever is on the earth, and the sun, and the moon, and the stars, and the mountains, and the trees, and the animals, and many of mankind? But there are many (men) on whom the punishment is justified. And whomsoever Allah disgraces, none can honor him. Verily! Allah does what He will.﴾* [22:18].

﴿ألم تر أن الله يسجد له من في السموات ومن في الأرض والشمس والقمر والنجوم والجبال والشجر والدواب وكثير من الناس وكثير حق عليه العذاب ومن يهن الله فما له من مكرم إن الله يفعل ما يشاء﴾ (الحج-18).

He also said about the angles, what translated means: *﴿Surely, those who are with your Lord (angles) are never too proud to perform acts of worship to Him, but they glorify His praise and prostrate before Him.﴾* [7:206].

﴿إن الذين عند ربك لا يستكبرون عن عبادته ويسبحونه وله يسجدون﴾ (الأعراف/206).

And, *﴿There is not a thing but glorifies His praise. But you understand not their glorification.﴾* [17:44].

﴿وإن من شئ إلا يسبح بحمده ولكن لا تفقهون تسبيحهم﴾ (الإسراء/44).

There are many other Ayat with this meaning.

Allah sent the Prophets and sent down revelations to them for the above reasons. He said, what translated means: ﴿And verily, We have sent among every nation a Messenger (proclaiming): “Worship Allah (Alone), and avoid Tagh’ut (all false deities).﴾ [16:36].

﴿ولقد بعثنا في كل أمة رسولا أن اعبدوا الله واجتنبوا الطاغوت﴾
(النحل/36).

Our Prophet, Mohammad, is the last Messenger sent by Allah to reach the goal of worshipping Allah alone. He was sent to call upon humanity to do what they were created for, worshipping Allah alone taking no partners with Him in worship.

B -- Establishing Allah’s Proof

Allah’s Sunnah (way) in His creation is that not all humans, rather, a few of them are rightly guided. The most important role for the Messenger is to warn the disbelievers and rebellious Muslims. Allah said, what translated means: ﴿Verily, We have inspired you (O Mohammad) as We inspired Noah and the Prophets after him; We (also) inspired Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac, Jacob, And Al-Asbat (the twelve sons of Jacob), Jesus, Job, Jonah, Aaron, and Solomon, and to David We gave the Psalms. And Messengers We have mentioned to you before, and Messengers We have not mentioned to you, and to Moses Allah spoke directly. Messengers are bearers of good news as well as of warning in order that mankind should have no plea against Allah after the Messengers. And Allah is Ever All-Powerful, All-Wise.﴾ [4:163-165].

﴿إننا أوحينا إليك كما أوحينا إلى نوح والنبيين من بعده وأوحينا إلى إبراهيم وإسماعيل وإسحاق ويعقوب والأسباط وعيسى وأيوب ويونس وهارون وسليمان وآتينا داود زبوراً . ورسلاً قد قصصناهم عليك من قبل

ورسلاً لم نقتضهم عليكم وكلام الله موسى تكليماً . رسلاً مبشرين ومنذرين
 لئلا يكون للناس على الله حجة بعد الرسل وكان الله عزيزاً حكيماً ﴿
 (النساء/163-165) .

What Allah meant by: ﴿In order that mankind should have no plea against Allah after the Messengers.﴾ is that, on the Day of Judgment, they will not be able to use the excuse of not having a warner from Allah during their lifetimes. This excuse will not justify their keeping on their disbelief. Allah's sending the Messengers will invalidate all excuses that the Kuffar may use on the Day of Resurrection.

Allah said to His Messenger, what translated means: ﴿Your duty is to convey (the Message).﴾ [42:48].

﴿إن عليك إلا البلاغ﴾ (الشورى/48) .

Also, ﴿The Messenger's duty is but to convey the Message.﴾ [5:99].

﴿ما على الرسول إلا البلاغ﴾ (المائدة/99) .

This applies to the Prophet's Message to the Kuffar. He only had to deliver the Message that Allah sent him with, explain to them their obligations to Allah and what they will face of torment if they insisted on rebellion and Kufr.

Allah said, what translated means: ﴿Say: Obey Allah and obey the Messenger, but if you turn away, he is only responsible for the duty placed on him (to convey the Message) and you for that placed on you. If you obey him, you shall be on the right guidance. The Messenger's duty is only to convey (the Message) in a clear way.﴾ [24:54].

﴿قل أطيعوا الله وأطيعوا الرسول فإن تولوا فإنما عليه ما حمل وعليكم ما حملتم وإن تطيعوه تهتدوا وما على الرسول إلا البلاغ المبين﴾ (النور/54) .

This Ayah explained the goals of the Message, what it contains and what the Messenger, and whom he was sent to, must do. The role of the Messenger is to deliver the Message. The role of those receiving the Message is to hurry to the obedience of Allah and His Messenger, if they refused then Allah's

punishment will be justly theirs. Allah said, what translated means: *﴿Say (O, Mohammad to the disbelievers): My Lord pays attention to you only because of your invocation to Him. But now you have indeed denied (Him). So the torment will be yours forever.﴾* [25:77].

﴿قل ما يحبؤ بكم ربي لولا دعاؤكم فقد كذبتم فسوف يكون لزاما﴾
(الفرقان/77).

Meaning the punishment of Allah will certainly be felt by those who reject the Messages of the Prophets after being aware of them.

C -- Establishing a Muslim Nation

Allah said, what translated means: *﴿He it is Who sent among the unlettered ones a Messenger (Mohammad) from among themselves, purifying them, and teaching them the Book (this Quran), and Al-Hikmah (the Sunnah). And verily, they had been before in manifest error.﴾* [62:2].

﴿هو الذي بعث في الأميين رسولا منهم يتلوا عليهم آياته ويزكيهم ويعلمهم الكتاب والحكمة وإن كانوا من قبل لفي ضلال مبين﴾ (الجمعة/2)

The Message of Prophet Mohammad was an fulfillment of the prayers of Abraham and Ismael. They said, while raising the building of the Kaa'bah in Makkah: *﴿Our Lord! Send amongst them a Messenger of their own, who shall recite unto them Your Verses and instruct them in the Book (the Quran) and Al-Hikmah, and sanctify them. Verily! You are the All-Mighty, the All-Wise.﴾* [2:129].

﴿ربنا ابعث فيهم رسولا منهم يتلوا عليهم آياتك ويعلمهم الكتاب والحكمة ويزكيهم إنك أنت العزيز الحكيم﴾ (البقرة/129).

Allah accepted their prayer and sent this honorable Prophet, Mohammad, and established for him the best nation ever, as Allah Himself proclaimed: *﴿You (true believers in Islam) are the best of peoples ever raised up for mankind, you enjoy*

righteousness and forbid evil, and you believe in Allah. ﴿3:110﴾.

﴿كنتم خير أمة أخرجت للناس تأمرون بالمعروف وتنهون عن المنكر وتؤمنون بالله﴾ (آل عمران/110).

Allah praised the Prophet's companions in many Ayat in the Quran: ﴿*Mohammad is the Messenger of Allah, and those who are with him are severe against disbelievers, and merciful among themselves. You see them bowing and falling down prostrate (in prayer), seeking Bounty from Allah and (His) Good Pleasure. The mark of them is on their faces (foreheads) from the traces of (their) prostration (during prayers). This is their description in the Torah. But their description in the Gospel is like a (sown) seed which sends forth its shoot, then makes it strong, it then becomes thick, and it stands straight on its stem, delighting the sowers -- that He may enrage the disbelievers with them. Allah has promised those among them who believe and do righteous good deeds, forgiveness and a mighty reward.*﴾ [48:29].

﴿محمداً رسول الله والذين معه أشداء على الكفار رحماء بينهم تراهم ركعاً سجداً يبتغون فضلاً من الله ورضواناً سيماهم في وجوههم من أثر السجود ذلك مثلهم في التوراة ومثلهم في الإنجيل كزرع أخرج شطئه فأزره فاستغلظ فاستوى على سوقه يعجب الزراع ليغيظ بهم الكفار وعد الله الذين آمنوا وعملوا الصالحات منهم مغفرة وأجرًا عظيماً﴾ (الفتح/29).

D -- Making Islam Dominant

The fourth reason for sending Prophet Mohammad is to establish Islam as the dominant religion above all, till the Day of Judgment. Allah said, what translated means: ﴿*He it is Who has sent His Messenger (Mohammad) with Guidance and the Religion of Truth (Islam), that He may establish (make) it (Islam) superior over all religions. And All-Sufficient is Allah as a Witness.*﴾ [48:28].

﴿هو الذي أرسل رسوله بالهدى ودين الحق ليظهره على الدين كله وكفى

بإله شهيدا ﴿ الفتح/28 ﴾ .

Also, *﴿It is He Who has sent His Messenger with Guidance and the Religion of Truth to establish (make) it superior over all religions even though the Polytheists hate (it).﴾* [9:33].

﴿هو الذي أرسل رسوله بالهدى ودين الحق ليظهره على الدين كله ولو كره المشركون﴾ (التوبة/33).

To establish it means to make apparent its domination above all religions.

Allah made this promise a reality whenever Muslims were seeking victory by being well-prepared with the right belief and material needs. Muslims dominated all the powers and religions of the world with reasoning first and then using the sword. Above mentioned are a short summary of the goals of the Message of the Prophet Mohammad.

2 -- Being Different From the Dis-believers

Allah has obligated the Muslim nation to be different in belief and practice from all nations of Kufr. Allah told us to say in every prayer: *﴿Guide us to the straight way. the way of those on whom you have bestowed your grace, not (the way) of those who earned your anger, nor of those who went astray.﴾* [1:5-6].

﴿إهدنا الصراط المستقيم. صراط الذين أنعمت عليهم غير المغضوب عليهم ولا الضالين﴾ (الفاتحة/5-6).

The Prophet said, what translated means: "*The Jews (are the ones who) earned the anger and the Christians are who went astray.*" [At-Tirmithi]

The Message of Islam is the right belief, sent also to all other Prophets, containing worshipping Allah alone and

rejecting all of what results in being far from His religion. Therefore, Allah ordered Muslims not to obey other than what was sent down to them by Him, for the Jews and the Christians corrupted the Messages of Moses and Jesus. That's why Allah ordered the Prophet to call upon Jews and Christians to follow the religion of truth, Islam. He said, what translated means: ﴿Say (O Mohammad): "O People of the Scripture: Come to a word that is just between us and you, that we worship none but Allah, and that we associate no partners with Him, and that none of us will take others as Lords besides Allah." Then if they turn away, say: "Bear witness that we are Muslims."﴾ [3:64].

﴿قل يا أهل الكتاب تعالوا إلى كلمة سواء بيننا وبينكم ألا نعبد إلا الله ولا نشركه به شيئا ولا يتخذ بعضنا بعضا أربابا من دون الله فإن تولوا فقولوا اشهدوا بأنا مسلمون﴾ (آل عمران/64).

Also, ﴿So if they believe in the like of that which you believe, then they are rightly guided, but if they turn away, then they are only in opposition.﴾ [2:137].

﴿فإن آمنوا بمثل ما آمنتم به فقد اجتدوا وإن تولوا فإنما هم في شقاق﴾ (البقرة/137).

Also, ﴿Truly, the religion in the Sight of Allah is Islam.﴾ [3:19].

﴿إن الدين عند الله الإسلام﴾ (آل عمران/19).

And, ﴿And whoever seeks a religion other than Islam, it will never be accepted of him, and in the hereafter he will be one of the losers.﴾ [3:85].

﴿ومن يبتغ غير الإسلام ديناً فلن يقبل منه وهو في الآخرة من الخاسرين﴾ (آل عمران/85).

Allah made Islam the only authority in every aspect of people's lives in all matters; belief, interactions and punishment for crimes. Allah forbade Muslims to implement other than what He has revealed to His Messenger. He said, what translated means: ﴿And We have sent down to you (O Mohammad) the Book (this Quran) in truth, confirming the

Scripture that came before it and dominant over it. So judge between them with what Allah has revealed, and follow not their vain desires, diverging away from the Truth that has come to you. To each among you, We have prescribed a Law and a clear way. If Allah willed, He would have made you one nation, but that (He) may test you in what He has given you; so strive as in a race in good deeds. The return of you (all) is to Allah; then He will inform you about that in which you used to differ. ﴿ [5:48].

﴿وَأَنْزَلْنَا إِلَيْكَ الْكِتَابَ بِالْحَقِّ مُصَدِّقًا لِمَا بَيْنَ يَدَيْهِ مِنَ الْكِتَابِ وَمُهَيِّمًا عَلَيْهِ فَاحْكُم بَيْنَهُمْ بِمَا أَنْزَلَ اللَّهُ وَلَا تَتَّبِعْ أَهْوَاءَهُمْ عَمَّا جَاءَكَ مِنَ الْحَقِّ لِكُلِّ مِنْكُمْ جَمَلْنَا شَرْعًا وَمِنْهَا جَاؤُا لَوْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ لَجَعَلَكُمْ أُمَّةً وَاحِدَةً وَلَكِنْ لِيَبْلُوَكُمْ فِي مَا آتَاكُمْ فَاسْتَبِقُوا الْخَيْرَاتِ إِلَى اللَّهِ مَرْجِعُكُمْ جَمِيعًا فَيُنَبِّئُكُمْ بِمَا كُنْتُمْ فِيهِ تَخْتَلِفُونَ﴾ (المائدة/48).

Muslims are forbidden from resorting to other than Islam, for following and rulings. What Allah has sent to Mohammad has not been altered or changed. The Prophet said, what translated means: “*I brought it (The Message of Islam) to you white (clean) and clear.*”

Allah has protected this religion from alterations and change. The Quran still exists today in its original form. The Sunnah of the Prophet is also preserved by those who kept it from alterations and conveyed it to us, exactly as they heard it from the Prophet, without any change.

Muslims must not seek guidance in the Books that Jews and Christians claim to be from Allah. They changed their Books and related falsehood to Allah. The Prophet prohibited Omar ibn Al-Khattab from reading the Torah when he saw him reading from it, saying, what translated means: “(Are you reading) *this (The Torah) while I am still among you? I have brought it (the Message) to you white (clean) and clear. By Allah if Moses was alive he will have no choice but to follow me!*”

The Prophets were sent with perfect belief. Allah has rendered null and void all rulings of the Messages of the Prophets before Mohammad. If any Prophet were to be alive at the time of Mohammad, he would have to follow the Prophet Mohammad and not his own Shari'ah (laws and legislation). Jesus will follow the Shari'ah of the Quran during his second coming, not the Torah nor Al-Injil (Gospel).

As for following, taking as an example, learning, participating or seeking guidance in the ways or beliefs of the Kuffar; that is considered a Kufr that will nullify Iman (belief). Whoever reveres a religion other than Islam is a Kafir (disbeliever). Whoever worships other than Allah is also a Kafir. Whoever believes in that which opposes Islamic belief is also a Kafir. There can only be one truth (in religion). To revere the cross is Kufr and to revere the religious symbols, celebrations or feasts of the Kuffar is also Kufr.

Allah ordered this nation to be different from the nations of Kufr in all aspects. The Prophet said, what translated means: *"I was sent with the sword just before the Hour. My sustenance was provided (for me) from under (or by using) the shadow of my spear, and whoever imitates a nation is one of them."* [Ahmad]. By being different from the nations of Kufr, the Muslim nation will preserve its religion and beliefs and will not be corrupted by nations of Kufr.

3 -- Reasons Behind Muslim Presence in the West

Many reasons are behind the Muslim presence in the West today. Islam was first introduced to Southern Europe at the time of the Umayyad rule when Muslims conquered Spain

(Al-Andalus) in the 8th century. Muslims, then, reached Southern France. Centuries later, Muslim Ottomans conquered much of Eastern Europe. The Ottomans reached Vienna in what was the Golden Age of Islam in Europe. During the long rule of the Ottoman Empire, many of the people of the Balkans became Muslims. What befalls the Muslim nations of Eastern Europe, like Bosnia, is a direct result of the dissolution of Muslim rule in that area. As a result, Muslims in Europe live in a sea of Christian, anti-Islamic Europe.

History tells us that Muslims, not Columbus, first discovered America. Muslims crossed the Atlantic Ocean in 1150 and reached Brazil. Al-Sharif Al-Idrisi, a known Muslim historian, mentioned in one of his books that a group of Muslims sailed to the Atlantic Ocean even before that date, in the 9th century. Many educated, known Westerners, attest to this fact. Europeans, however, were the first to settle in the Americas and establish permanent settlements there.

In this century, Muslims emigrated to America for many reasons. The majority of those who emigrated to America were driven by economic reasons, although a few emigrated for religious reasons and to escape unjust rulers and dictators.

Emigration may be a must on Muslims to escape religious persecution in their homelands. Muslims, in this case, escape to a country that will allow them to freely practice their religion. Emigration may be encouraged in other cases, like traveling to seek religious knowledge or to protect and aid Muslims. Also, emigration may be permissible to seek economic advantages. Emigration may be impermissible if a Muslim emigrated to a country where he cannot practice his religion. Finally, emigration may be an act of disbelief if one settled among the unbelievers and changed his belief for the sake of this life.

Sheikh Abdul Aziz ibn Baz said about emigrating to the West: *“When a Muslim is prevented from practicing his religion publicly and does not feel safe for his religion, family honor or possessions, then emigrating to a safe country is a must. There, he will freely practice the religion without fear of persecution. The evidence to the above is taken from the Ayat of the Quran and the Hadiths.”*

4 -- The Future of Islam in the West

Many scholars and Islamists differ on the future of Islam in the West. Many think that Islam will rise, anew, from the West and that the West will convert to Islam and that Islam will dominate using the technological advances and material strength of the West. Other scholars disagree. They think that the West lived and will still live as a Christian world and that Islam cannot rise from such a corrupt world.

Al-Faruqi, a Professor of Islamic studies in an American university, said: *“The best of Islamic victories will be conquering America through its conversion to Islam. But is this feasible? Will America, with all its material strength and economic vitality, become a Muslim country and become a part of the Muslim world one day? Can we hope that the hundreds of millions of Americans will one day convert to Islam and turn America into a Muslim nation that will strive to raise the flag of Islam and follow the Sunnah of the Prophet? Yes. This vision can and must be a reality one day.”*

Dr. Kamal Abdul-Hamid Nimr, another professor with the Saudi Academy in Washington, disagrees. He said: *“Those who dream of the rise of the Islamic state from America and the rise of Jihad from there are misguided. The religious*

freedom, that they experience in America and were prevented from in their own homelands, is misleading. The rise of Islam from America, a swamp, is but a sweet dream!."

Dr. Faruqi thinks that America will certainly be Islamic one day. The failure of Christianity and materialism may lead to that end, according to Dr. Faruqi. Islam will be a necessity and America's destiny according to him. Dr. Nimr, meanwhile, thinks that it is impossible that Islam can be established in such a swamp, in a society so deeply involved in sin and materialism. America, according to Dr. Nimr, will not know its way to God. He said: "*The rise of Islam from America, a swamp, is but a sweet dream.*"

An Islamic activist, Mohammad Al-Khalid, who resides in Germany, said: "*The rise of Islam in the West is but a dream or a mirage invented by people who do not know the West. They repeat words I used to hear in Germany, and now said in the Arab world too, that Islam will rise from the West. I say that the West was Christian and still is. Some Westerners only believe in coexistence with other religions.*"

Those who think that Islam will rise from the West are driven by the failure of Western civilization and of its reaching bottom, in terms of morality and honor. They think that the West will soon seek another alternative to its way of life. Also, they see that many Western scholars are converting to Islam and trying to introduce Islam to the West. Dr. Murad Hoffman, Germany's ambassador to Morocco, wrote a book he called, "**Islam is the Alternate Solution.**" This book caused a stir in the West. He wrote: "*I think that the movement to revive Islam will come from Europe in the 21st century.*" Also, when Rogeh Jarordy (a French philosopher) became a Muslim, Europe was shocked because a materialist and a communist thinker became a Muslim! As for those who think that the West will stay as it

is, an enemy of Islam, they are driven by what the West has become. They see the collapse of morality, disbelief and rejection of faith that the West is experiencing. They think that calling such people to Islam is like: *«These (disbelievers) are they who are called from a place far away (so they neither listen nor understand).»* [41:44].

﴿أولئك ينادون من مكان بعيد﴾ (فصلت/44).

They think that the call to Islam, however loud, will not be heard in the West. They think that the effect of Western Civilization and the huge number of misconceptions about Islam will prevent them from answering the call to Islam.

I say that whatever the case, Muslims are ordered to call to Islam everywhere. They are obligated to call upon all mankind to enter Islam, the final and most complete of Messages. Victory for Islam will come from a source that only Allah knows. Allah gave Arabs the duty of carrying the Message when they were a mediocre nation. He gave them victory and they became masters of the earth. When they abandoned carrying the Message, Allah brought those who were once the Arabs' servants, to carry Islam. Later, the Turks, who also were a mediocre nation, always on the move, became masters of the world when they carried the Message. Allah knows whom are qualified to carry His Message. Allah said to the Arabs, what translated means: *«And if you turn away (from Islam and the obedience of Allah), He will exchange you for some other people, and they will not be your likes.»* [47:38].

﴿وإن تتولوا يستبدل قوماً غيركم ثم لا يكونوا أمثالكم﴾ (محمد/38).

In any case, there are millions of Muslims who live in the West today. The duty of Muslim nations towards them is great. Their duty upon themselves is also great. They must preserve and protect their faith, tradition and Islam. This is a duty upon Muslim nations that must be addressed. The results of such efforts are only a matter of Allah's knowledge, for He is the One who guides whoever He wishes to His path.

Chapter 2

The Priorities

1 -- Belief in the Oneness of Allah

The first priority, Muslims of the West must preserve, is Tawhid. Believing in the oneness of Allah and worshipping Him Alone is the reason behind creation. Tawhid is what makes a Muslim different from the disbelievers. Muslims who live in the West are different from the disbelievers because of their Islam. Iman (faith) is the way to success and the true Path of Allah. Iman is what Allah chose for the righteous. Whoever concentrates on this life and ignores the next life will be the one who loses both.

Belief in Allah (Iman) must be the most important matter to the Muslim. It must be what his life, his hopes and dreams revolve around. Muslims must forsake everything in the sake of preserving and satisfying the demands of their belief. Muslims must forsake their possessions, families, countries and everything that matters for the sake of their Iman.

Preserving Iman can be done by doing the following:

A -- Learning Iman

The belief in Allah is a knowledge that must be implemented after one accepts it with the heart. There are six cornerstones of Iman: The belief in Allah, His angles, His Books He revealed to His Messengers, the Messengers He sent, the Last Day and the good or bad that predestination brings

from Allah. The major aspects of these cornerstones must be learnt, understood and taught to our Muslim youth. All this must be accomplished in total accordance with the Quran and the Sunnah and on the understanding of the companions of the Prophet. The companions are praised in the Quran and the Sunnah for their righteousness. Allah informed Muslims that he is pleased with the companions and Allah gave victory to Islam because of their Jihad. Following are the most important aspects of the above mentioned cornerstones:

1 - Allah's Existence

Muslims must believe that Allah is the True and Only Lord of all creation.

2 - The Oneness of Allah

He is One and has the Most Magnificent attributes: Allah Is settled on His Throne in such a manner that is relevant to His Might, as He said in many Ayat in the Quran. Allah is the First and nothing was before Him. Allah is the Last and nothing will be after Him. He is the Most High and nothing is above Him. He is the Most Near and nothing is nearer than Him. All His attributes are eternal. Allah is the Eternal.

Allah's existence is nothing like the existence of His creation. He said, what translated means: *«Nothing is like unto Him, and He is the All-seer, All-Hearer.»* [42:11].

﴿ليس كمثله شيء وهو السميع البصير﴾ (الشورى/11).

Allah is the One, the Only, the Self-Sufficient and He begets not nor was He begotten. Allah is not mixed in any of His creation nor any of His creation is mixed with Him. All, except Him, is created by Him.

3 - The Oneness of Allah's Attributes

Allah is the Self-Sufficient, who sustains all, including the Mighty Throne, the Heavens and earth, and everything that exists therein. There can be no existence without Him, nor can there be support for the Throne, the Heavens and earth, the angles, the Jinn, mankind or everything, without His sustenance and protection. Everything is in need of Him.

Allah is the All-Knowing whose knowledge contain all the knowledge of the creation. Allah knows all that exists including every atom, whether it exists in the earth or in the Heavens. Every movement in the universe is recorded and known to Him even before it occurs. Allah does not forget or get confused. He is the Lord and King of everything, without partners or helpers. Allah is the Most Merciful, Most Gracious whose Mercy involves everything. He is the All-Wise, who has a wisdom behind every action of His. Allah gets pleased or displeased, laughs or gets angry, hates and or dislikes what His slaves do. In all of His attributes, He is not anything similar to His creation.

Muslims believe that Allah is the Most Merciful and that He saves His believing slaves, while He Punishes and takes revenge on the disbelievers. He also punishes those who plan evil with His Plans. Allah speaks as to whom He wishes: *﴿And to Moses Allah spoke directly.﴾* [4:164].

﴿وكلم الله موسى تكليماً﴾ (النساء/164).

Allah also comes near His Slaves as He wishes. The Prophet said, what translated means: *“Our Lord descends every night to the first Heaven in the last third of the night.”* [Al-Bukhari & Muslim]. Allah has a Face, *﴿And the Face of your Lord Full of Majesty and Honor will abide forever.﴾* [55:27].

﴿ويبقى وجه ربك ذو الجلال والإكرام﴾ (الرحمن/27).

Also, He has a Hand, *﴿What prevents you (O Iblis) from prostrating yourself to one whom I have created with Both My Hands?﴾* [38:75].

﴿ما منعك أن تسجد لما خلقت بيدي﴾ (ص/75).

And that Allah has a Foot. The Prophet said, what translated means: *“Then Allah puts His Foot on it (Hell).”* [Al-Bukhari & Muslim]. And that Allah has a Leg as the Prophet said, what translated means: *“Allah shows His Leg (on the Day of Judgment).”* Muslims must believe that all these attributes do not resemble the attributes of the creation.

Muslims believe that Allah is the Most Powerful, the Most Mighty. He is capable of anything He wishes to do. Nothing escapes His grip. Sustaining the heavens and earth does not tire Him. No one has any power or capability, but from Him. Allah does what He wishes. Allah is the Most Generous who has tremendous bounties on His creation, and all bounties come from Him. What Allah wishes to give of bounty cannot be prevented.

Allah is the Most Wise and His Knowledge is perfect. He said, what translated means: *﴿And they will never compass any of His Knowledge.﴾* [20:110].

﴿ولا يحيطون به علما﴾ (طه/110).

Allah’s rule over His kingdom is perfect. Only Allah can rightly praise Himself for He alone knows the extent of His Might.

4 - The Wisdom Behind Creation

We believe that Allah only created angles, Jinn, mankind, the Heavens and the earth for the sole purpose of worshipping Him alone. Everything that exists praises the Lord by deed or by living under His Authority. All who refuse to worship Allah will be barred from His Mercy. Whoever claims to be a god or

calls upon people to worship him will be punished by Allah, *﴿And if any of them should say: "Verily, I am a god besides Him," such a one We should recompense with Hell. Thus We recompense the wrongdoers.﴾* [21:29].

﴿ومن يقل منهم إني إله من دونه فذلك نجزيه جهنم كذلك نجزي الظالمين﴾ (الأنبياء/29).

Allah only accepts total obedience in every order of His, whether one knows or does not know the wisdom behind it. Worship of Allah must be done with total love and humiliation to Him.

The religion in the Sight of Allah is Islam. *﴿And whoever (an angle, a Jinn or a human) seeks a religion other than Islam, it will never be accepted of him, and in the Hereafter he will be one of the losers.﴾* [3:85].

﴿ومن يبتغ غير الإسلام ديناً فلن يقبل منه وهو في الآخرة من الخاسرين﴾ (آل عمران/85).

Islam means total obedience to Allah.

We believe that when Allah created the universe he gave everything its place in the creation. Angles have their grade in the Sight of Allah and Jinn and mankind also have their grades and positions. Each must not seek to upgrade his position.

Allah ordered the Jinn and mankind to worship Him. He only created them for this purpose. Allah tests the Jinn and mankind with good and bad. The Jinn and humans choose what they want to do and are treated accordingly. No one can perform good or bad but through the will of Allah, and not without His intervention.

We believe that Allah created Adam from clay with His own Hands. Adam is a separate creation, and did not evolve. Then, Allah ordered the Holy Ghost, the Angle Gabriel, to blow

life into Adam's body. Adam became alive with Allah's permission. This happened in Heaven. Allah then ordered all Angels and Satan to bow down in prostration to Adam. Satan refused in arrogance and Allah expelled Him from Heaven and from His Mercy. Allah then created Eve from a rib in Adam's back and made her Adam's wife. Allah tested them with the forbidden tree. They failed the test and were sent down to earth, as a consequence. The offspring of Adam are still living on this earth and are also tested by Allah. Humans are required to obey Allah and whoever does that will enter into Paradise. Hell is the destination for those who disobey Allah.

5 - Tawhid Al-Uluhiyah

This Tawhid involves the intentions and seeking refuge only in Allah. No one will ever reach pure Tawhid unless his fear, hope, reverence, love and dependence are totally to Allah alone. He is enough a Helper for the believer. We attest that bowing down in Ruku' or Sujud, sacrificing, fasting, swearing and pledging can only be given to Allah. Whoever gives any of the above acts to other than Allah will be committing a Shirk.

We attest that circling can only be done around the Kaa'bah and that kissing the Black Stone is an act of worship. Traveling, for the sole purpose of praying in a Masjid other than the three Grand Mosques, in Makkah, Madinah or Jerusalem, is not allowed. We testify that to go to fortunetellers and believing in them is a disbelief in what Allah has revealed to Mohammad. We believe that only Allah knows the future and whoever claims to know the future is Mushrik.

We attest that the Prophet protected Tawhid and made known all acts that may lead to Shirk. He prohibited building around graves. He also prohibited us from giving him

undeserved praise as the Christians did to Jesus. The Prophet prohibited the use of pictures or statues.

The believers can perform miracles (Karamah), but also Allah may test the disbelievers or lead them astray by letting them perform abnormal acts. Whoever knows the religion, can differentiate between those loyal to Allah and those loyal to Satan.

We attest that Allah is the Most Honorable and that He is the Arrogant. No one can intercede on behalf of others except if Allah gives permission. No one can challenge Allah's Might, force things on Him, reject and defuse His orders or challenge His Arrogance.

6 - Tawhid Ar-Rububiyah

Allah's rule is perfect and just. He said, what translated means: *«And the Word of your Lord has been fulfilled in truth and in justice.»* [6:115].

﴿وتتمت كلمة ربك صدقاً وعدلاً﴾ (الأنعام/115).

We attest and believe that absolute rule is with Allah, the Owner of the creation. Legislation in all matters is exclusively for Allah. It is He who legislates and makes rules for His slaves. Whoever rejects and challenges Allah's rule is a Mushrik. Whoever obeys anyone, be he a ruler, a king or a parent, in the disobedience of Allah, believing it is permissible to put Allah's orders aside, is a Mushrik. There is no obedience for anyone in the disobedience of Allah.

7 - The Belief in the Angles

Followers of Ahlu As-Sunnah Wa Al-Jama'ah believe

that Allah created the Angels, from light, to worship Him. He said, what translated means: *«They speak not until He has spoken, and they act on His command. He knows what is before them, and what is behind them, and they cannot intercede except for Him with whom He is pleased.»* [21:27-28].

﴿لَا يَسْبِقُونَهُ بِالْقَوْلِ وَهُمْ بِأَمْرِهِ يَعْمَلُونَ . يَعْلَمُ مَا بَيْنَ أَيْدِيهِمْ وَمَا خَلْفَهُمْ وَلَا يَشْفَعُونَ إِلَّا لِمَنْ ارْتَضَى وَهُمْ مِنْ خَشْيَتِهِ مُشْفِقُونَ﴾ (الأنبياء/27-28) .

We believe that Allah orders Angels to do many tasks other than praising Him. Angels descend with revelation from Allah to His Messengers. Allah sends Angels to reassure the believers in battlefields. Angels record the deeds of the Jinn and mankind. Angels protect, by the order of Allah, people from what Allah did not want to happen to them. They capture the souls after death, lead the clouds into designated areas by Allah's order, blow life unto fetuses and perform other tasks Allah orders them to perform.

We love and respect the Angels because they love and believe in Allah and because they love the believers and pray for them. We do not differentiate between the Angels, loving some and hating some, as do the Jews. We love them for their total obedience and worship of Allah.

8 - The Belief in the Books Sent by Allah

We believe that Allah sent down books and revelations to His messengers. We believe in all of them. These books, in their original forms, were perfect. We believe that such books were changed, except the Quran. Allah protected the Quran from being changed or altered. The Quran will stay in its pure and original form till just before the Day of Judgment, when Allah will lift it from earth to Him.

We attest that the Quran is the true word of Allah and it is not created, and that falsehood will never befall it. We believe that the Quran is the eternal miracle and that Allah challenged the Jinn and mankind to produce something similar to it. No one, however resourceful, can produce such a book that is so powerful in its meaning, yet, perfect in the truth that it contains. Allah sent down the Quran as a way of life and it contains all what humans need to lead a successful life. There are no contradictions between the verses of the Quran. Allah had ordered us to read it with care and implement it in our lives. The best Muslims are those who learn and teach the Quran.

9 - The Belief in Allah's Messengers

We testify that Allah chooses, from mankind, whom He wishes to send as Messengers. They are sent to guide humanity to the Path of Allah. The first Prophet Allah sent was Adam and the last was Mohammad. All Prophets are brothers in religion and guide to Allah. Their belief is always the same, but they have different commandments to convey.

We believe that all Prophets are immune from lying about Allah or from ruling with their desires. They are immune from sinning or from omitting from, or expanding on, the Messages they were sent with. Allah helps His Messengers to do their best and to reach the best of decisions, in matters left to them to decide.

Messengers are only humans. Allah created them from this earth, and none of them was created from Allah's light or the light of His Throne, as some disbelieving Muslims believe about Mohammad. They were not created from the Word of God as Christians claim about Jesus. They live and die like other humans. They forget, get sick, suffer and feel like other humans.

We believe that Messengers do not know the future unless Allah conveys it to them. Prophets conveyed their Messages, in a perfect manner, to their nations.

We believe that Prophet Mohammad is the last and best of Messengers ever. He is the Messenger who has the highest grade. He conveyed the Message as he was supposed to, without any change in it. No one will attain Iman unless he loves the Prophet more than he loves himself, his parents, his children and all humans. Iman can be attained through the belief in the honor of the Prophet and total obedience to him, and not to any other human.

We believe that Prophet Mohammad will be given the right to intercede on behalf of Muslims who sin, but only by Allah's permission. We believe that Allah sent Mohammad to all mankind and the Jinn, and that his Message is the last till the Day of Judgment.

We believe that Allah gave Prophet Mohammad miracles, including the biggest miracle, the Quran, and that Allah made him truthful and honest. Allah transported Mohammad from Makkah to Jerusalem in one night and ascended him to Heaven on the night of Al-Israa. Then, the Prophet saw the Angels and the Messengers and spoke directly to Allah. Allah then made the five daily prayers obligatory to the Muslim nation.

We believe that water flowed from between the Prophet's fingers and that he fed hundreds with enough barley for only tens of people. When he stood at another podium (Minbar), the old Minbar cried for him. While in his hands, stone and food said words of praise for Allah. Even a camel complained to him because of harsh treatment from its owner.

We believe that the Prophet was given victory and dominance, permitted to confiscate in war what his enemies possessed, that all the earth can be used as a Masjid and to perform purification (Tayammum) with its soil. We believe that Prophet Mohammad is the mightiest of all Prophets of Allah and that his way of speaking was powerful and genius. Allah sent him to all mankind and made him the last Prophet and gave him the river of purity, Al-Kawthar, on the Day of Judgment. We ask Allah that we are among those who drink from it.

10 - The Belief in the Last Day

We believe that death will befall every created being. Life on earth will end when the Angel Israfil blows in the Horn for the first time. He will blow a second time and mankind will rise to face Allah for questioning. We believe that Paradise and Hell exist today. Also, that they are eternal by Allah's order. We believe that those who will enter Paradise, will surely enter it. And that the people of Hell will surely enter it and will have no way of escaping from it. We believe that Muslims, whose sins outnumber their good deeds will one day leave Hell to Paradise, when they are punished enough for their sins. The pleasure of Paradise is physical and not mental. The punishment in Hell is also physical and not mental. Allah and His Messenger described both in detail.

We believe that the people of Paradise will find in it what none imagined or heard of, in pleasure and joy. Further, that the people of Hell will taste a punishment that no one heard of or could have imagined. Allah said, what translated means: **﴿So on that Day, none will punish as He will punish. And none will bind as He will bind.﴾** [89:25-26].

﴿فَيَوْمَئِذٍ لَا يُعَذِّبُ عَذَابَهُ أَحَدٌ. وَلَا يُوثِقُ وِثْقَاهُ أَحَدٌ﴾ (الفجر/25-26).

We ask Allah that we are not of those whom Allah punishes.

We believe that whoever is destined to go to Paradise and dies, will be tasting joy in his grave. And that the people of Hell will taste the punishment of the grave, and the difficult questioning by the two Angels. We believe that between now and the Day of Judgment there will be signs, major and minor, for its coming. Allah mentioned some of them in His Book and the Messenger mentioned others in his Sunnah. Of the major signs: The animal that will speak, Al-A'war Ad-Dajjal (the false Messiah), the people of Ya'juj and Ma'juj, the fire that appears in Aden to gather the creation for the Day of Judgment and the second coming of Jesus in Damascus. He will rule by the Quran, kill the pigs, prohibit Jizyah (because only Islam will be accepted from everyone) and break the cross. Of the minor signs: Time will be shortened, calamities will befall all, women outnumbering men and the great war between Muslims and Jews, till: "*The stone and the tree shouts: O you Muslim! There is a Jew behind me, kill him.*" [Al-Baihaqi]. Also, Muslims will fight, along with the Christians, an enemy and then Muslims will fight the Christians and defeat them.

We believe that Rome will be conquered by Muslims before the Day of Judgment, as was Istanbul before it. The Mahdi, a descendant of the Prophet, will rule Muslims. His name will be Mohammad ibn Abdillah. He is not the Mahdi of the Shiites.

We believe that the Day of Judgment will be 50,000 years in length, and that all humans and the Jinn will be gathered to face questioning by Allah. Their suffering or joy, then, will depend on their deeds. The scale of good deeds vs. bad deeds is true, the path above Hell that everyone must cross (As-Sirat) is also true. The Pool of the Prophet is true and his intercession on behalf of sinful Muslims is also true. Also true, is the right of intercession that Allah grants to some righteous believers on behalf of sinful Muslims.

11 - The Belief in Qadar (Predestination)

Allah created everything to meet a destiny he recorded long before the creation. 50,000 years before the creation started, Allah recorded all of what will happen till the Day of Judgment, and after that. Nothing happens on earth that Allah does not know of. Allah's Knowledge involves everything.

We believe that Allah knows and recorded the people of Paradise and the people of Hell. This will not change after the Day of Judgment. The books of records are closed and the pens have gone dry. Allah's Will can never be changed by anyone.

We believe that good or bad incidents happen by the Will of Allah. Each person will choose his destination by doing good or evil. Good or evil can only happen through the Will of Allah, but according to what humans choose to do. We do not believe as the Jabriyyah claim, that humans are forced to do what they do and that they have no choice. We do not attest to what the Qadariyah say, that every human creates his deeds and that Allah's Will is second to human's will.

B -- Knowing the Difference Between Tawhid and Shirk

What strengthens Tawhid is knowledge of what opposes it, especially with today's ideologies that many propagate. It is a must for Muslims who live among the Kuffar to know their beliefs in order to avoid what opposes Tawhid. To know the beliefs of the Kuffar will ensure safety from their disbelief, misguidance and doubts they may raise in the minds of the believers. Whoever lives among the Kuffar is not immune from being exposed to their ways.

Many may feel closer to the way the Kuffar live and may even like their ways. Many think the success of the disbelievers in material life is proof to their righteousness in belief. It is a must to know the beliefs of the Kuffar to avoid them. Allah ordered us to disbelieve in Al-Tagh'ut; that is everything that people take as a deity other than Allah. He said, what translated means: *«Whoever disbelieves in At-Tagh'ut and believes in Allah, then he has grasped the most trustworthy handhold that will never break. And Allah is All-Hearer, All-Knower.»* [2:256].

﴿فَمَنْ يَكْفُر بِالطَّاغُوتِ وَيُؤْمِنُ بِاللَّهِ فَقَدِ اسْتَمْسَكَ بِالْعُرْوَةِ الْوُثْقَىٰ لَا انْفِصَامَ لَهَا وَاللَّهُ سَمِيمٌ عَلِيمٌ﴾ (البقرة/256).

It is obligatory upon all Muslims to learn what they can of Islamic belief to avoid the ways of the disbelievers they live among.

C -- Doing Righteous Good Deeds

Belief increases with the increase of evidence to its truthfulness. The heart lives with good deeds one performs. Belief in the heart is like a plant. One must take care of the plant by watering it, otherwise it will die. The heart is like a plant. If one performs righteous good deeds like praying, fasting, giving charity, performing Hajj, being good to others and adhering to the Islamic code of conduct, then that will be the proof to the belief one has in his heart. Iman increases with the increase in good deeds one performs. Iman decreases with the decrease in good deeds, and with sins. Every Muslim should revive his Iman all the time, otherwise it will fade and may disappear altogether.

Iman is what one has in the heart, proclaims with his tongue and performs in deeds. Deeds are a part of Iman. The

Prophet said, what translated means: “*Iman is some and sixty parts. The best of which is to say: La Ilaha Illa Allah* (there is none worthy of worship except Allah). *And the lowest of which is to move harm from the way* (or street), *and shyness is a part of Iman.*” [Muslim].

2 -- Enforcing Walaa’ and Baraa’

One of the basics of Iman is Al-Walaa’, that is, loyalty for the believers and Al-Baraa, that is, disowning for the disbelievers. The nation of the believers is one from the time of Adam till the last believer to live on earth. All Prophets were sent with the same belief, which is, to call people to worship Allah alone. All who believed in the Messages of the Prophets are members of one nation. Allah said, what translated means: **﴿Truly! This, your Religion (Islam) is one Religion, and I am your Lord, therefore, worship Me (Alone).﴾** [21:92].

. ﴿إن هذه أمتكم أمة واحدة وأنا ربكم فاعبدون﴾ (الأنبياء/92).

All who disbelieved in Allah are Mushrikeen and enemies of Allah. That is because they followed the enemy of Allah, Satan, and whoever obeys Iblis (Satan) is an enemy of Allah. Allah said, what translated means: **﴿Will you then take him (Iblis) and his offspring as protectors and helpers rather than Me while they are enemies to you? What an evil is the exchange for the unjust!﴾** [18:50].

﴿أفنتخذونه وذريته أولياء من دوني وهم لكم عدو بئس للظالمين بدلا﴾ (الكمف/50).

Whoever takes Satan as a Wali (loyal friend) makes Allah his enemy. Whoever makes Allah his enemy must be disowned (Bara’ah), by the believers. Allah said, what translated means: **﴿O you who believe! Take not My enemies and your enemies as friends.﴾** [60:1].

﴿يَأْيأها الذين آمنوا لا تتخذوا عدوي وعدوكم أولياء﴾ (الممتحنة/1).
 And, ﴿You (O Mohammad) will not find any people who believe in Allah and the Last Day, making friendship with those who oppose Allah and His Messenger, even though they were their fathers, or their sons, or their brothers, or their kindred...﴾ [58:22].

﴿لا تجد قوما يؤمنون بالله واليوم الآخر يوادون من حاد الله ورسوله ولو كانوا آباءهم أو أبناءهم أو إخوانهم أو عشيرتهم...﴾ (المجادلة/22).

Allah made Abraham and his followers a good example for every believer. Abraham made Bara'ah (disowned) his people and family who were disbelievers. He only made Walaa' (friends) with the believers. From his family, only Abraham's wife and nephew believed in him. Allah said, what translated means: ﴿Indeed there has been an excellent example for you in Abraham and those with him, when they said to their people: "Verily, we are free from you and whatever you worship besides Allah, we have rejected you, and there has started between us and you, hostility and hatred for ever -- until you believe in Allah Alone..."﴾ [60:4].

﴿قد كان لكم أسوة حسنة في إبراهيم والذين معه إذ قالوا لقومهم إنا برءاء منكم ومما تعبدون من دون الله كفرنا بكم وبدا بيننا وبينكم العداوة والبغضاء أبدا حتى تؤمنوا بالله وحده...﴾ (الممتحنة/4).

No believer should be loyal to, or friends with, other than believing Muslims. Muslims must be disloyal to the Kuffar and the hypocrites. To do otherwise is Kufr. Allah said, what translated means: ﴿O you who believe! Take not the Jews and the Christians as friends, they are but friends to one another. And if any amongst you takes them as Awliyaa', then surely he is one of them. Verily, Allah guides not those people who are unjust.﴾ [5:51].

﴿يَأْيأها الذين آمنوا لا تتخذوا اليهود والنصارى أولياء بعضهم أولياء بعض ومن يتولهم منكم فإنه منهم إن الله لا يهدي القوم الظالمين﴾ (المائدة/51).

And there are many other Ayat with this meaning.

3 -- Abiding by the Commandments of Islam

Of the priorities that must be addressed is that, Muslims have their own laws and legislation that are different from the laws of those who are friends with Satan. Of those laws, we mention the following:

A -- Establishing Prayer

The most important obligation of the believers is to establish regular prayer. Prayer is what distinguishes belief and Kufr. The Prophet said, what translated means: "*Between the man and Kufr is the shunning prayer.*" [Muslim]. Praying in a group (Jama'ah) is so important that mosques must be built for that purpose. Calling for prayer, Athaan, must also be performed, as well as, praying with the group. Allah said, what translated means: *﴿In houses (mosques), which Allah has ordered to be raised, to be cleaned, and to be honored, in them His Name is glorified in the morning and in the afternoons or the evenings. Men whom neither trade nor sale diverts them from the Remembrance of Allah, nor from offering the prayer perfectly, nor from giving the charity. They fear a Day when hearts and eyes will be overturned (from the horrors of the Day of Judgment).﴾* [24:36-37].

﴿فِي بَيْوتِ أَذْنِ اللَّهِ أَنْ تَرْفَحَ وَيَذْكَرَ فِيهَا اسْمَهُ يُسَبِّحُ لَهُ فِيهَا بِالْغُدُوِّ وَالْآصَالِ رِجَالٌ لَا تُلْمِئُهُمْ تِجَارَةٌ وَلَا بَيْعٌ عَنْ ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ وَإِقَامِ الصَّلَاةِ وَإِيتَاءِ الزَّكَاةِ يَخَافُونَ يَوْمًا تَتَقَلَّبُ فِيهِ الْقُلُوبُ وَالْأَبْصَارُ﴾ (النور/36-37).

Muslims of the West must establish mosques and perform Jama'ah prayer, calling for it by the Athaan. Mosques must be made the center of activities for Muslims, and where

Muslims meet regularly. All other Muslims must help their brothers in the West by establishing such mosques, and by providing them with the good Du'aat (the ones who perform Da'wah) and teachers of Islam. Muslims must help establish a library and a guest house, like the house the Prophet established in Madinah beside his mosque. Other Muslims must help Muslims of the West establish Islamic schools and other types of services.

B -- Enforcing Islamic Code of Dress

An important aspect of the religion that must be observed is the Islamic code of dress for both men and women. The appearance is a sign of what one has in the heart. Muslims must be different in their ways than the Kuffar. Muslims are prohibited from imitating the ways, traditions and outer appearance of the unbelievers.

Muslim women must wear Hijab because it is a sign of cleanliness and honor. Allah said, what translated means: *﴿O Prophet! Tell your wives and your daughters and the women of the believers to draw their cloaks all over their bodies. That will be better, that they should be known (as free Muslims), so as not to be annoyed. And Allah is Ever-Forgiving, Most Merciful.﴾* [33:59].

﴿يَا أَيُّهَا النَّبِيُّ قُلْ لَأَزْوَاجَكُمْ وَبَنَاتِكُمْ وَنِسَاءَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ يُدْنِينَ عَلَيْهِنَّ مِنْ جَلَابِيبِهِنَّ ذَلِكَ أَدْنَى أَنْ يُعْرَفْنَ فَلَا يُؤْذَيْنَ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ غَفُورًا رَحِيمًا﴾
(الأحزاب/59).

Also, *﴿And tell the believing women to lower their gaze (from looking at evil), and protect their private parts (from adultery), and not to show off their adornment except only that which is apparent (outer clothes), and to draw their veils all over their bodies... etc.,﴾* [24:31].

﴿وقل للمؤمنات يغضضن من أبصارهن ويحفظن فروجهن ولا يبدين زينتهن﴾

إلا ما ظهر منها وليضربن بخمرهن على جيوبهن ولا يبدين زينتهن إلا لبعوثهن أو آبائهن... ﴿النور/31﴾ .

Following is the description of the Islamic code of dress for women:

(1) Women's clothes must cover all the body except the face and the hands, although covering the face and the hands is better.

(2) The Khimar (head cover) must cover the entire head and neck and does not show other than the face: *﴿And to draw their veils all over their bodies.﴾* [24:31].

﴿وليضربن بخمرهن على جيوبهن﴾ (النور/31).

The Khimar is what covers the head and the neck and only shows the face.

(3) It is not permitted for Muslim women to wear something that draws attention to them, like wearing bright colored dresses or dresses that have colorful drawings or lines.

(4) To wear clothes that nuns wear is prohibited. Muslim women should be different in their appearance than Kafir women.

(5) Women are prohibited from wearing perfume outside of their homes. Women are prohibited from showing what is hidden of their adornment or to stamp their feet to show that they are wearing jewelry. Allah said, what translated means: *﴿And let them not stamp their feet so as to reveal what they hide of their adornment.﴾* [24:31].

﴿ولا يضربن بأرجلهن ليُعلم ما يخفين من زينتهن﴾ (النور/31).

C -- Marrying Jewish and Christian Women

Allah has permitted Muslim men to marry Jewish or Christian women. He said, what translated means: *﴿Made lawful for you this day are good (food that is permissible). The food (slaughtered eatable animals) of the people of the Scripture (Jews and Christians) is lawful to you and yours is lawful to them. (Lawful to you in marriage) are chaste women from the believers and chaste women from those who were given the Scripture (Jews and Christians) before your time, when you have given their due dowry, desiring chastity, not committing adultery, nor making them as girl-friends. And whosoever disbelieves in the Oneness of Allah (and in all other articles of faith), then fruitless is his work!﴾* [5:5].

﴿اليوم أحل لكم الطيبات وطعام الذين أوتوا الكتاب حل لكم وطعامكم حل لهم والمحصنات من المؤمنات والمحصنات من الذين أوتوا الكتاب من قبلكم إذا أتيتهم بآجورهن محصنين غير مسافحين ولا متخذي أخدان ومن يكفر بالإيمان فقد حبط عمله...﴾ (المائدة/5).

This Ayah excludes Jewish and Christian women from the other Ayah which states: *﴿And do not marry the Mushrik (women) till they believe﴾* [2:221].

﴿ولا تنكحوا المشركات حتى يؤمن﴾ (البقرة/221).

Women from the People of the Scripture are Mushrikeen and the Muslim nation is unanimous on this rule. To marry one of these women must be for the purpose of protecting one's self from adultery. Jewish or Christian women who date, dance with men or commit adultery are not clean nor honorable, and Muslim men must not marry them.

Also, when a Muslim man marries a Jewish or a Christian woman, he must weigh his action because sometimes what is permissible could lead to evil. Omar ibn Al-Khattab prohibited Muslim men from marrying Jewish women so that Muslim women were not left unmarried. Also, Omar thought that his action would protect Muslim men from Jewish

prostitutes. This happened when Muslims were victorious and when Jews and Christians respected honor. Nowadays, Jews and Christians are victorious, while Muslims are defeated, and they, Jews and Christians, do not care for honor. Many of them do not believe in the Torah or the Gospel, and Muslims cannot marry such women. For the above reasons we advise all Muslim men of the West not to marry a Jew or a Christian woman unless Islamic Laws are observed, and they are:

(1) That this woman believes in her religion and the Torah or the Gospel and is a follower of the Scriptures.

(2) That this woman does not believe in or practice adultery. Adultery is prohibited in all the Scriptures. If she accepts adultery, even if she believed in the Scriptures or even if she was a Muslim, then she is not clean or honorable. Muslims are not permitted to marry such women. Allah said, what translated means: *«The adulterer marries but an adulteress or a Mushrik. And the adulteress is not asked for marriage but by an adulterer or a Mushrik.»* [24:3].

﴿الزاني لا ينكح إلا زانية أو مشركة والزانية لا ينكحها إلا زان أو مشرك﴾ (النور/3).

(3) That she seeks marriage to escape from adultery, and for the lawfulness of marriage. If she wants marriage to be a means of befriending men only and not marriage that is honorable, then it is impermissible. Allah said, what translated means: *«Desiring chastity and not illegal sexual intercourse.»* [24:3].

﴿محصنين غير مسافحين﴾ (النور/3).

It is not permitted to marry women of the Scripture, but for the sake of honorable marriage. Girlfriends are prohibited to Muslim men.

4 -- Making Arabic One's First Language

Every Muslim, especially Muslims of the West, must make Arabic his first language. Arabic is the connection between Muslims and Islam. Islam can only be fully understood if one masters the Arabic language. Arabic is the language of the Quran and the Sunnah. Translations to other languages, however good they may be, cannot capture the full meaning of the Quran and the Sunnah. Arabic is the symbol of Islam, the Muslim nation and Islamic sciences.

Muslim youth can benefit greatly if the key to understanding Islam (Arabic) is given to them. They will know Islamic laws and become valid members of the Ummah (nation). If Arabic is not learned, then a barrier between one and the true knowledge of Islam will always exist. If Muslim youth are given the chance to learn Arabic, then Islam will be the culture that they learn and practice. All other languages are not Islamic in essence. The culture you are exposed to will be your language and your way of thought. If one's education is Islamic, then a great deal of his life will be formed according to the Islamic way of thinking. Likewise if one's culture is English, then it will be formed according to English culture and traditions.

In short, Arabic is the first step towards learning and implementing Islam. It is a vital way of showing and being loyal to everything Islamic. It is a means of pride to whoever masters it. All Muslims must use Arabic as their first language, and make second their national or adopted languages.

As for Arabs who emigrated to the West and ignored their mother tongue, their action is like shunning Islam.

Whoever ignores and disrespects Arabic while loving other languages is like the one who left Islam to other religions. If one shuns Arabic because of conversion to another religion, he is the true Kafir. Many Arabs have shunned their language in disrespect.

In the book "Those Who Speak in Al-Dhadh (Arabic) in South America" one reads: *"As a result of Muslim emigrants, to the country of their residence, being associated and taught in these countries' educational system and culture, they spoke Spanish and Portuguese. Their children do not know their ancestors' language, culture or history. This is in contrast with emigrants from other countries. They force their children to speak their language first and in their own schools. After that, they allow them to speak the language of the land. Arabs do the opposite. Arab children barely speak any Arabic, and if they do, they speak with accent."*

Here we mention a story about one such emigrant who used to live with a Jewish family. One day he returned home to find the father disciplining his son and forcing him to stand facing the wall on one foot. He asked him about the reason. The Jewish father said: *"He (his son) is a dog who deserves punishment. He is a rebellious and hardheaded boy. Many times I told him not to speak to his brothers but in Hebrew, but he insists on speaking in Portuguese to them. And for fear of losing Hebrew as his first language, I punished him!"*

5 -- Establishing Islamic Schools

Muslim children must be provided with Islamic education. The first years of life are the most important. During these years, one learns behavior, tradition and beliefs.

His mentality and first steps in life are developed. Later on, one will choose Islam or Kufr. The Prophet said, what translated means: *“Every newly born is born with the Fitrah (pure). Then, (Later on) his parents introduce him to Judaism, Christianity or Majosism (fire worshipping).”* [Al-Baihaqi]. After the first years of life, most attempts to correct and change are futile.

Pupils of the Western School

Today’s schools of the West do not produce other than materialistic, secular youth. They only believe in this life and how to enjoy it to the fullest. They are only taught how to work hard for money and to spend it on the joys of this life. Pupils of Western schools do not believe in God, tradition, rules, nor do they permit Allah to rule their lives. They shun the spiritual teachings of the Prophets and their teachers. Today’s way of life and philosophy teaches that man is his own master and that the source of his power and code of conduct lies with himself. His own self is the one that legislates, not what society considers taboo. There are no rules or limits to what one can do. Life and its joys are the ultimate goal.

This is how children of Western schools are raised. Educational systems legislate these ideas and encourage such attitudes. They seek to produce a generation of people who can defeat nature and enjoy life, without the limits set by religion. The majority legislate what they desire and their children are made into materialists in this system. Family and school collaborate to produce such a generation.

To send Muslim children to such an environment that will produce such a generation is explained in this example. It is like shaping a piece of clay in the shape of a pig or a donkey.

Then heat is used to harden the clay. When the maker (or the father) discovers that the final shape (or his child's ways) is unsatisfactory, he tries to change it. The result may be the clay will shatter, or that only a cosmetic change is successfully applied. The statue will not change in shape.

This is like those who send their children to Kafir schools. After their children reach adulthood, parents discover that their children are corrupt and are not what they wished them to be like. Many of those who taught in Western schools realize the danger of sending Muslim children to such schools. They wrote essays calling upon Muslims to establish Islamic schools, especially for the early years of the children's lives.

One such teacher in Germany said: *"To go to school in Germany is obligatory till age 16. It is also mixed (boys and girls). Also, they are mixed in swimming lessons and sports. When biology is taught, starting in the fourth grade, a film is shown to describe, in detail, sexual intercourse using live models! Children are introduced to sexual relationship between a man and a woman till the woman gets pregnant and gives birth to a baby. These materials concern parents. But when parents discover the cost of establishing private schools, their concern disappears."* Many Muslims do not realize the danger of sending their children to Kafir schools.

Also, one reads in the book **"Syrians in America"** the following: *"Muslims who emigrated to America do not show that they are aware of the danger of their children attending American schools. Few Syrian children go to private schools. The majority prefer public education. Yet, some preferred to send their daughters to a private school because they are taught dancing in public schools. These kinds of parents are worse than those who shun public schools to escape sin, adultery, smoking, drugs, sodomy or drinking that are popular*

in public schools between students and between students and teachers. American public schools are a true picture of the way the entire society lives and thinks. Public schools in America are dangerous to Muslim children's well-being. A teacher in a Detroit school was caught sodomizing a student in his office. When confronted he confessed that this student was the latest of thirty six students he sodomized. A principal in Ann Arbor, Michigan, only served warning to a group of drug smoking students on the premises of the school. A group of students raped their teacher in class. She later sued the government for one million dollars!?"

6 -- Protecting Muslim Minorities

Muslim minorities in the West have always faced one of two dangers: Losing their Muslim identity, or elimination. Losing the distinct Muslim identity can be done by corrupting the beliefs and traditions of Islam. Under communism, Muslims were forced to change their religion, native language, Islamic names and even prevented from marking the graves of Muslims as such. To circulate the Quran was a criminal act that may lead to execution!. Under Western democracies, corruption is done by the society. Sometimes laws were used to corrupt Muslims. For example, in France, girls wearing headscarfs were prevented from attending classes by the administrative authorities of the school.

After the defeat of Communism and the disintegration of the Communist Block, the West realized that a major cause for this defeat was Islam. The West fears Islam because it possess this unique power to defeat evil empires and corrupt ideologies. The West thought that its turn has come. They think that Islam that comes from the East will destroy the Democratic West, as

it destroyed the Communist East. Western countries feel that Islam is around the corner posing danger and threat. Many calls were raised to stop this imminent danger.

Muslim minorities of the West had to face the first blow. They had to receive the result of hatred and frustration by the Christian world. What Muslim Turks face in Germany, of expulsion and murder, toughening of immigration laws in France and the beginning of intimidation for Muslims in America, are but some examples. What Muslims face in Bosnia, ethnic cleansing and massacres, is a bloody example of the answer to the call started by Jews, and accepted worldwide, that the imminent danger is coming from Islam. This call claims that, after the fall of Communism, Islam is the danger to all humanity.

This is only the beginning of a long night of suffering for Muslims of the West. This calls upon the learned Muslims of the West to think of ways to protect their communities. We tried to explain, in this short research, the ways to achieve this goal.

Many people call upon the Muslim minorities of the West to seek the citizenship of their adopted countries, in order to protect their rights and to be safe from persecution on the hands of fundamentalist Christians. This call faced rigorous opposition by racist parties of Europe. Also, many Muslim scholars rejected this idea.

Sheikh ibn Baz and his fellow scholars of Dar Al-Iftaa, Saudi Arabia, were asked about an Imam of a mosque in France who wanted to take up French citizenship. Their answer was: *"It is not permitted for a Muslim to choose to take up the citizenship of a Kafir country because that will lead to the Muslim abiding by the rule of, and being loyal to, that Kafir*

state and seek justice in their courts. France is known as a Kafir state and a Kafir society. You are a Muslim. You are not allowed to take up Kafir citizenship. You have to be patient and anticipate your reward from Allah.”

Some Muslim scholars went to the extreme in answering this question. One of them said that whoever takes up a citizenship of a Kafir country becomes a Kafir, treated as a Kafir, not allowed to marry Muslim women, Muslims do not inherit from him and is not to be washed after death or buried in Muslim graveyards.

Sheikh Abu Bakr Al-Jaza'iri refuted this Fatwa. He stated his view of the matter and gave some answers to problems faced by Muslims in the West. He has firsthand knowledge of one of the biggest Muslim minorities of the West, the North African minority in France. He visited those communities many times and heard their views and complaints. Following is the full Fatwa issued by Sheikh Al-Jaza'iri: *“What is taking up citizenship? Taking up citizenship is to seek the nationality of a country of today. If one is granted citizenship, he is a legal citizen of that country abiding by the laws, economic and monetary systems and social structure of that country. Since secularism is the rule of the day, following and practicing religion is a matter of free choice. Citizens of such countries do not necessarily become Christians if they become British nor will Britons necessarily be Muslims if they take up Pakistani citizenship. Such is the case for the French who takes up a Moroccan or Tunisian citizenship, he does not automatically become a Muslim, but he will keep his religion. If the above is known, how then can one say that if a Muslim takes up American, Belgian, French or British citizenship, while he is still a practicing and believing Muslim, he nullified his Islam? The answer is reserved for those of knowledge. As for me, I do not agree with such an idea. I seek refuge in Allah*

if I consider a Muslim to be a Kafir. I disown those who nullify the Islam of the one who is a citizen of a Kafir country, while still proclaiming Tawhid, believing in the Messenger, praying, paying Zakah, fasting in Ramadhan, performing Hajj, doing what Allah permitted and shunning all impermissible foods, drinks or contracts.

If the Sheikh (who gave such a Fatwa that they are Kuffar) thinks he is solving the problem of Algerians in France by proclaiming their Kufr if they take up a Kafir citizenship, I proclaim that this is no solution to this problem. This will only complicate matters.

Solving this problem needs the following measures: To call for the return of All Muslims who live in a Kafir country. A Question will arise here: Is it possible to repatriate all immigrants and those who converted to Islam from their Kafir countries? If the answer is no, what is the answer then and how can we resolve the problem of Muslims living in the West. The answer to this problem is certainly not to proclaim their Kufr.

*A high authority composed of Muslim countries should be established to protect the rights of Muslim immigrants. All Muslim countries should help this authority, to be called "**The Higher Authority for the Benefit of Immigrants**", financially as they can. This authority will do the following:*

- (1) Build mosques for those communities so they can pray in them and learn their religion.*
- (2) Supply these mosques with qualified Imams capable of teaching their brothers in Islam in material and spiritual matters. Provide the mosques and Imams with books that will benefit, unite, enlighten and educated them and not the opposite.*

(3) *Unite the Muslims in the country of their residence so they will act as one body that cooperates with the Authority for Immigrants.*

(4) *Teach immigrants' children what they need of Arabic, the language of the Quran and the Sunnah, belief, how to worship and codes of behavior and conduct in Islam.*

(5) *Strive to establish cooperation between immigrants that will:*

A -- Establish a butchery to buy meats and a graveyard to bury deceased Muslims.

B -- Establish a committee of three scholars in each city to:

** Solve any problems that may arise between immigrant Muslims so they avoid Kafir courts.*

** Conduct marriages, or divorces if marriages are irreconcilable and not working beneficiary to either side.*

** Legally, divide the inheritance of Muslims, to take effect after death, while still alive. This will be used to divide the inheritance without interference from the government.*

** Establish a charity fund in every mosque to help the needy and this should be run by the committee of the three scholars.*

** Establish Islamic banks to protect Muslim's*

possessions for investment and to prohibit Riba (usury) and allow permissible profit.

Above mentioned are some ideas on how to solve the problems of immigrant Muslims in the West. This solution, if implemented, will preserve the religion of millions of Muslims who are feared will lose their Muslim identity. This solution is also a way of Da'wah that is not costly and needs only some funds that are spent rightfully.

I hope that those, who's enthusiasm to Islam lead them to proclaiming Muslims who take up citizenship of Kafir countries as Kuffar, will do his duty and visit Muslim countries to call for the establishment of "The Higher Authority for the Benefit of Immigrants." This is a duty that has been long ignored, to save Muslims of the West from Kufr. Allah said, what translated means: ﴿Say (O Mohammad): "This is my way; I invite unto Allah (Tawhid) with sure knowledge."﴾ [12:108].

*﴿قل هذه سبيلي أدعو إلى الله على بصيرة أنا ومن اتبعني﴾ (يوسف/108).
The Prophet's followers are the individuals of the Muslim nation, are they not?!*

Before doing the duty of resolving the problems of Muslims in Kafir countries, I call upon Muslims, who emigrated for reasons other than religious persecution, to return to their homelands. Also, I call upon those whose religion was affected by their stay in Kafir countries to return. They must change their situation, if they will stay in Kafir countries, by doing the following:

- (1) Intend to increase the influence and numbers of Muslims in Kafir countries.*
- (2) Call for Islam in the best manner using wisdom.*

(3) *To correct their beliefs and to worship Allah as Allah wanted. To improve their behavior and the way they treat others. This is more effective than using the tongue as a means of Da'wah. All of the above can be done with the help of righteous and knowledgeable scholars to teach them the correct belief, the code of conduct and how to worship Allah. These scholars must be respected and obeyed in the obedience of Allah. If Muslims of the West enjoin righteousness and prohibit evil and think as a leading authority for the Muslim nation, then they can take up citizenship of the country of their residence. This act must be done, though, as a means of helping their Da'wah and will not be considered an act of religion.*

This is my Fatwa. I ask Allah that this Fatwa is one that pleases Him, benefits His believing slaves and that my reward for my Ijtihad (trying my best) is not withheld from me. Peace be on all Prophets and all praise be to Allah."

I must say that it is true what Sheikh Al-Jaza'iri said, in that, this problem is a difficult one that affects millions of Muslim immigrants in the West. Those Muslims had different reasons to immigrate and face difficult realities. Many of those immigrants are good practicing Muslims, as much as their capabilities permit them. Also, there are millions of Muslims in the Balkans and Eastern Europe, Black-American Muslims and converts to Islam in Europe and the Americas, who number by the hundreds of thousands. To say that all of these Muslims become Kuffar if they take up citizenship of their countries, is wrong and, undoubtedly, untrue. It is imperative that we analyze all sectors of Muslim communities of the West. One must study their situation carefully and according to Islamic laws. One must weigh the good and evil in these matters and act accordingly.

We mention here the Fatwa by Sheik Abdul Rahman Al-Sa'di. He called upon Muslims who live among the Kuffar to unite in a way that will preserve their rights and safety and permit them to practice their religion. He explained the Ayah: ﴿They (the People of Prophet Shua'ib) said: "O Shua'ib! We do not understand much of what you say, and we see you a weak among us. Were it not for your family, we should certainly have stoned you and you are not powerful against us."﴾ [11:91].

﴿قالوا يا شعيب ما نفقه كثيراً مما تقول ولو لم تك لرحمتنا وما أنت علينا بحزير﴾ (هود/91).

Sheikh Al-Sa'di said: "Of its meanings, is that Allah defends the believers in many ways that one may not know of. Allah may defend the believers because of their Kafir families or tribes, as was the case with Shua'ib. Allah protected him from stoning, because of his family. These ties of kinship that Allah created to protect Muslims with, are permissible means to seek. They may become a must. To enjoin good is a must. Therefore, it is permissible if Muslims, who live among the Kuffar, strive to make the country they live in free for them, to practice their religion. This is in contrast with those who will submit to oppressive regimes that will prevent them from practicing their religion, treat them as servants or try to exterminate them. If Muslims can establish an Islamic state, it is obligatory. If they cannot do that, then to strive to protect their religious freedom comes first."

We say: "That this Fatwa takes into consideration the general rule in Fiqh that says: 'To do the lesser evil.' It is better for Muslims to strive to join the Kuffar in governing their affairs and protecting their religion, safety and possessions, than to live among the Kuffar unprotected in their religion or possessions."

Summary

First: Introduction and General Information

1 -- Muslims of today exist either as a majority that lives with a non-Muslim minority or a Muslim minority, that numbers in the tens of millions, living with a non-Muslim majority. More than twenty million Muslims live in Europe and America today.

2 -- The reasons behind Muslim existence in the West are many. Muslims of the Balkans became Muslims as a result of Muslim Turks conquering their areas. Many Muslims of North Africa migrated to the colonial countries that occupied their homelands, Moroccans and Algerians to France, Indians and Pakistanis to Britain and Turkish workers to Germany after World War II. Many Europeans also converted to Islam. Many Muslims migrated for the sake of this material life feeling admiration for the Western way of life. Many Muslims sought safety or religious freedom in the West.

3 -- Muslims of the West face two major dangers: Losing their Muslim identity and traditions and the danger of extermination and expulsion. The second danger is expected to take its toll in the future.

4 -- Many reasons are behind the difficulties that Muslims of the West face. Among them:

a -- The non-existence of an Islamic Caliphate that will take the responsibility of protecting the rights of Muslim minorities, preserving their freedom and defending them against any danger or extermination.

b -- Muslims feel powerless and weak in the face of Western power and dominance.

c -- The constant fear of the West, proud of its Christian heritage and its nationalism, from Islam and its presence in the West.

5 -- The number of Muslims are on the increase in the West. This is due to the continuous immigration by Muslims to the West and the high number of newborns. Also, many native Europeans and Americans are converting to Islam. The Muslim world is living through a universal awakening. All of these reasons together increase Western fears of Islam.

6 -- Islam is on the rise again. Islam is quickly appearing as a world power. Muslims played an important role in the demise of communism. All these reasons increase the fear of Islam in the West. The West fears the resurgence of Islam, in Europe, as a power to reckon with. Christians of the West are demanding that the West deal with this imminent danger. The new Crusaders are furious, and as a result, dealing harshly with Muslim minorities has begun.

Second: Priorities of Islamic Activities in the West

Muslim minorities in the West need urgent help to

preserve their identity, religion and their very existence. To achieve this, Muslims must:

1 -- Re-establish unity in this nation all over the world. Muslims must be loyal to other Muslims and disloyal to all Kuffar. This unity must be implemented by deed and not only by tongue.

2 -- Affirm the basic belief that Muslims are members of the best nation ever that was introduced to humanity. Affirm the correct Islamic beliefs that will make Muslims feel pride in their religion and feel the sweetness of Iman in their hearts. This can be accomplished by teaching the correct belief and knowing the ways of the Kuffar, to avoid them. Muslims must feel the great bounty of Allah that He guided them to the correct religion. Religion must be understood and believed in. Muslims must study Christian beliefs. The struggle between Islam and Christianity will last till the end of time. Muslims must also preserve the Islamic code of dress, Islamic foods and marry Muslim women and, if they wish, only pure and good Christian women.

3 -- Arabic must be the first language for all Muslims again. Learning Arabic during childhood and giving it its due place in the religion is a must. Arabic is a necessity of Islam that must be preserved.

4 -- Muslims must Perform Da'wah (propagate Islam) wherever they be, *﴿Let there arise out of you a group of people inviting to all that is good, enjoining righteousness and forbidding evil. And it is those who are the successful.﴾* [3:104].

﴿ولتكن منكم أمة يدعون إلى الخير ويأمرون بالمعروف وينهون عن المنكر وأولئك هم المفلحون﴾ (آل عمران/104).

Religion must be held to be the reason behind our existence,

﴿And I (Allah) created not the Jinn and mankind except they should worship Me (Alone).﴾ [51:56].

﴿وما خلقت الجن والإنس إلا ليعبدون﴾ (الذاريات/56).

5 -- Ahlu As-Sunnah Wa Al-Jama'ah and the way and understanding of the companions are what Muslims should call for. Muslims should warn of all misguided groups and define the one righteous group. To fight against misguided groups and off-shoot sects is a necessity. This means that Muslims will fight against all five major misguided groups who have corrupt beliefs: Al-Khawarij, Shiites, Al-Jahmiyah, Al-Qadariyah and Al-Murji'ah.

6 -- Muslims of the West must be united in every matter. They must call to Islam and preserve their loyalty to Muslims and be disloyal to the disbelievers. Arabic must be their first language. Muslims should seek to socialize with, marry from and meet other Muslims in lectures, mosques, universities, picnics and general activities. Muslims must not be isolated from other Muslims.

7 -- Muslims must be concerned with Islamic education for their children from primary to secondary education. Muslims must establish Islamic schools that will preserve and teach Islam to their children in their first years. The first years of life are what will shape the beliefs and ways of later years.

8 -- Muslims must seek to preserve Muslim presence in Eastern Europe and strengthen this presence. Muslims in Albania and Bosnia must be provided with material help so they can defend themselves. Muslims must also help Muslims of Eastern Europe using all means possible. Also, Muslims everywhere must seek to protect the religious, educational and social rights of Muslim minorities in the West. Muslims of the

West must not be prevented from practicing and propagating Islam, the true religion.

9 -- A higher authority for the benefit of Muslim immigrants must be established to protect the rights of Muslim minorities. This authority will coordinate between all Islamic organizations that operate in the West. Coordination will benefit and organize the activities of Islamic organizations and will provide them with vital and firsthand information about needs and the situation of Muslim minorities.

10 -- Establish committees composed of Muslim scholars that will teach the religion to Muslim immigrants and solve their problems according to the Quran and the Sunnah. These committees will have firsthand knowledge of the situation of Muslims and provide answers to their problems. These solutions will seek to preserve the religion, identity and existence of Muslim immigrants.

11 -- Establish a sound economic system that will benefit Muslim immigrants in the West. This economic system will provide an honorable life and financial independence for Muslims. This is better than the way that many Muslims of the West live, by seeking the help of the Kafir government or engaging in usury, prostitution, gambling or dishonorable acts.

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شهادة الإنجيل أن عيسى بن مريم عبد الله ورسوله

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إنطلاقاً من قول الله عز وجل ﴿ولتكن منكم أمة يدعون إلى الخير ويأمرون بالمعروف وينهون عن المنكر وأولئك هم المفلحون﴾، وقياماً بأمر الدعوة إلى الله وفق منهج أهل السنة والجماعة كما فهمه السلف الصالح، فقد تأسست دار التراث الإسلامي في سنة 1412هـ الموافق 1991م بمدينة ميامي - ولاية فلوريدا الأمريكية، وهي مؤسسة إسلامية مستقلة تسعى بحول الله وقوته إلى تحقيق أهداف الدعوة السلفية بصفة عامة وتعريف غير المسلمين بالدين الإسلامي ودعوتهم للدخول فيه بصفة خاصة.

The *Daar* of Islamic Heritage (DIH) is a non-profit organization established in the year of the Flight 1412, corresponding to the year 1991, in Miami, Florida. Our objectives are:

- To project a clear image of the religion of Islam in accordance with the *Qur'ān*, and *Sunnah* as understood by *As-Salaf As-Saalih* (our pious predecessors).
- To warn Muslims of all types of *Shirk* (Association), and *Bid'ah* (innovation) in religion, and fabricated weak *hadeeths* which mar the beauty of Islam.
- To refute advent tenets and ideologies such as atheism, communism, and sectarianism.
- To propagate Islam amongst non-Muslims.

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