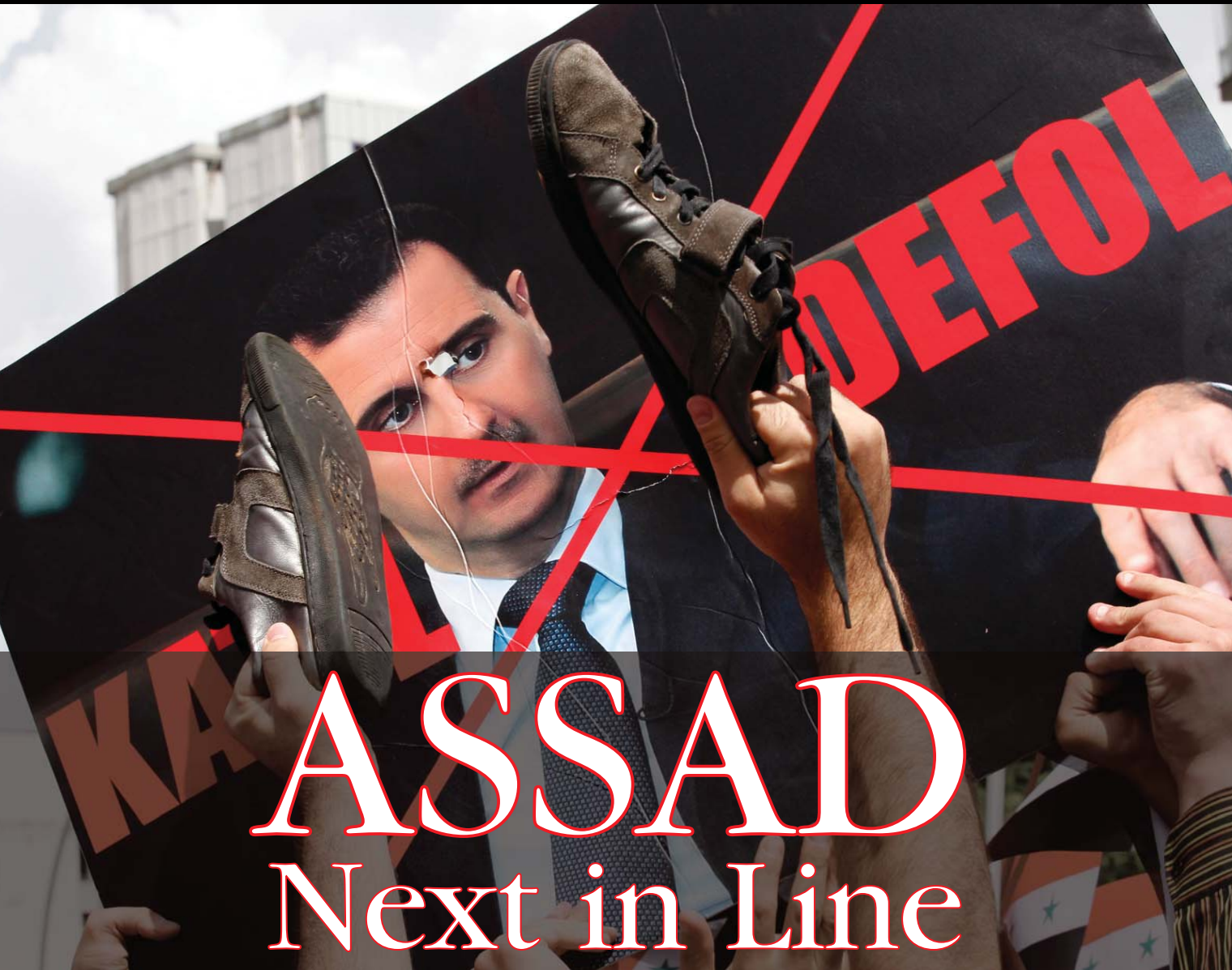


O you who believe, respond to the call of Allah and His Messenger when He calls you to that which would give you life...

# Khilafah

THUL-QEDAH 1432 A.H - THUL-HIJAH 1432 A.H. ... OCTOBER 2011 ... ISSUE: 18

## magazine



# ASSAD

## Next in Line

NORWAY'S TRAGEDY ILLUSTRATES EUROPE'S POLITICAL PARADOXES - WHO WILL RESCUE THE SYRIAN PEOPLE FROM ASSAD'S BLOODY REGIME? - HOW SHOULD MUSLIMS RESPOND TO THE PREVENT STRATEGY? - THE FAMINE CRISIS IN EAST AFRICA IS A RESULT OF POOR FOOD SECURITY POLICIES - WESTERN HEGEMONY AND THE ARAB WORLD: RECONSTRUCTING THE ARAB POLITICAL ORDER IN THE 21ST CENTURY - THE UK RIOTS - IS PAKISTAN'S ECONOMY DEPENDANT ON WESTERN AID?



## THE UGLY TRUTH OF BRITISH COLLUSION WITH GADDAFI'S TORTURERS

While the UK government boasts about its "humanitarian intervention" in Libya, the depth of British and American complicity in the torture and rendition of Libyan opposition figures has been exposed with the capture of documents from the offices of Moussa Koussa former regime security chief and right-hand man of Moammar Gaddafi.

London's involvement in the rendition of Abdel-Hakim Belhaj, the military commander of rebel forces in Tripoli, was revealed in the letter from an MI6 officer in which he stresses to Moussa Koussa that it was British intelligence which led to the capture of Mr Belhaj, then leader of the Libyan Islamic Fighting Group, before he was sent to Libya (rendered) by the Americans. The Independent on Sunday reported that the senior UK intelligence official then sought information obtained from the Islamic leader by "enhanced interrogation technique". Mr Belhaj confirmed that he was tortured during questioning.

When confronted with these revelations, UK foreign secretary William Hague tried blaming the previous government saying he does not comment on security matters though only a few months ago, Cameron's government was arming and supporting the brutal Gaddafi regime and maintaining a 'close security relationship' with it."

## ERDOGAN CALLS FOR A SECULAR EGYPT

Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan made his colours absolutely clear by calling on Egyptians to adopt a secular constitution, in early September. A secular state respects all religions, Erdogan said in an interview with the private satellite TV channel Dream before heading to Egypt for a two-day visit.

"Do not be wary of secularism. I hope

there will be a secular state in Egypt" Erdogan said.

Erdogan said Egypt needs to meet some requirements for establishing a modern state, including better management of human resources, more attention to education, improved management of financial resources and eliminating corruption. He stressed that people have the right to choose whether or not to be religious, adding that he is a Muslim prime minister for a secular state.

These statements shocking they may be, are nothing less than typical when we examine the sorry record of Erdogan in Turkey. Despite promises of movement towards the implementation of Islam in society, Turkey falls well short of what is required and Erdogan is simply confirming that he has little understanding of and even less intention of implementing Islam.

## WIKILEAKS: IRAQI CHILDREN IN US RAID SHOT IN HEAD, U.N. REPORTS



A U.S. diplomatic cable made public by WikiLeaks provides evidence that U.S. troops executed at least 10 Iraqi civilians, including a woman in her 70s and a 5-month-old infant, then called in an airstrike to destroy the evidence, during a controversial 2006 incident in the central Iraqi town of Ishaqi.

This cell phone photo was shot by a resident of Ishaqi on March 15, 2006, of bodies Iraqi police said were of children executed by U.S. troops after a night raid there. A State Department cable obtained by WikiLeaks quotes the U.N. investigator of extrajudicial killings as saying an autopsy showed the residents of the house had been handcuffed and shot in the head, including children under the age

of 5. McClatchy obtained the photo from a resident when the incident occurred. The unclassified cable, which was posted on WikiLeaks' website last week, contained questions from a United Nations investigator about the incident, which had angered local Iraqi officials, who demanded some kind of action from their government. U.S. officials denied at the time that anything inappropriate had occurred.

## COURT MIFFED BY ISI'S LACK OF 'SERIOUS EFFORTS'



The Islamabad High Court (IHC) in early September expressed anger over the lack of serious efforts by the Inter Service Intelligence (ISI) for the recovery of missing Hizb ut -Tahrir (HT) activists who went missing in July. Chief Justice Iqbal Hameedur Rehman in his judgment observed that "no serious efforts are being made towards the recovery of the missing detainees and the respondent Director General (DG) ISI has not submitted a reply so far". The ISI was ordered to submit a full response to their findings.

Relatives of the missing HT activists had filed writ petitions before the court in July, maintaining that security agencies were responsible for the disappearances. The missing activists include Osama Hanif (telecom engineer), Hayyan Dawar, dental Surgeon Dr Abdul Qayyum, and deputy spokesman of HT Imran Yousafzai (whose last speech prior to abduction is provided in this issue of the magazine).

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# Editorial

## As the world transforms, the Arab revolution moves forward

The world is in a state of flux. The Dollar, the main reserve currency in the world, is in decline with governments and investors around the world stocking up on gold. The Euro project, attempting to unify mainland Europe upon a single currency, is on the brink of collapse.

Capitalism is in crisis, and the world has no other model to look to in order to solve its problems.

But in another place - a place that has been the victim of capitalist colonial policies that propped up brutal tyrants - the Muslim world is still moving through a revolution.

Gaddafi, the butcher of Libya, is the third tyrant to be toppled this year. May Allah (SWT) reward the brave Libyan people for their efforts. To be sure, the involvement of NATO in the region could be said to have soiled this momentous event, and brings significant dangers for the people of Libya. NATO has swiftly gone beyond its Security Council brief and decided it is staying to patrol the skies of Libya. It has secured oil contracts for some of its member states and also seeks to influence Libya's future. The statement by Mustafa Abdul Jalil talking about Islam's role in the future of Libya has alarmed some

commentators - especially since former members of the Libyan Islamic Fighting Group are prominent in the leadership of the NTC, alongside some very secular and compliant figures, who had links to the former regime.

In Yemen and Syria, the violence suppression of the Islamic people, standing up week after week to face the guns and bullets of regimes with their words and bare chests, has escalated. We pray this is the darkness before the dawn; the hardship that precedes ease and the victory of Allah (SWT).

Even in Egypt - when Mubarak was removed in a coup by his own former allies in the military - the people have decided they have not seen the change they really wanted to materialise. They have, in the past few weeks, gathered up to a million people calling for Shari'ah to be the system in Egypt. They have taken unprecedented action against the Israeli 'embassy' in Cairo - removing the flag from the roof and then later storming the building, in protest at Israel's latest aggression.

People are hungry for a change - and every week old assumptions are challenged. One such assumption was that the Erdogan's AKP government in Turkey was a stepping-stone from

secularism to Islamic government. Several actors in the Middle East had expressed interest in replicating the AKP's methods - until Erdogan himself came to the Middle East preaching the virtues of secularism, alongside anti-Israeli rhetoric. His frank admission evangelising secular capitalist government sent shockwaves through Islamic groups; aside from the fact that it is the same secular capitalist system that is so in question in its homelands - where it created the global economic crisis; where we have seen rioting in Britain; the decline of family and community; and even a doubling of the suicide rate in Greece.

The changes in the Middle East, coupled with the crisis in Capitalism, are unprecedented. Once upon a time, Washington, London and Paris were trumpeted as role models for the Muslim world. Now this is not the case - and it means as the debates about the future of the Muslim world begin, Islam will take a central role.

We welcome these debates, and are confident that the future offers hope to all in form of refreshing and distinct ideas.

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# Norway's Tragedy illustrates Europe's Political Paradoxes



One man has committed mass murder, but exposed a host of contradictions and questions for an entire continent.

Norway has suffered a collective tragedy. Not only has its relative peace been shattered, but the casualties from this weekend's massacre includes a disproportionate number of its young active citizens.

It will be sometime before this small country, whose entire population is only 60% that of Greater London, recovers from a massacre the death toll of which is 2-3 times that of 7/7.

Such an event would be sadly common place in the destabilised places in the world, where the state is weak - such as Iraq or Pakistan. But it is a humiliation as well as a tragedy for Europe, where such destabilisation has not usually occurred

and where the writ of the state is strong.

Nonetheless there are many issues that emerge from this event, and it is conspicuous that Europe's political leaders are avoiding addressing them. They are, instead raising a series of much easier issues for themselves to address.

The issues the political class are choosing to address - the wrong ones - mainly surround questions of security: How do you secure a society from lone gunmen? Is there sufficient information sharing between governments? Is this threat comparable to the 'Al-Qaida' bogeyman? - To which William Hague replied - 'no', saying Al Qaida was still a bigger threat!

This last answer from Hague needs reflecting upon, as it explains the political response to this crisis. They hope to deflect attention from the serious

problem Europe faces from racist and xenophobic attitudes, the rise of the far-right, and a worsening economic situation. They hope to keep the domestic and international policy agenda firmly focussed on the Islamic world and Muslims. All of this shows the paradoxes and stark contradictions in policy making towards Muslims and non-Muslims.

## EUROPEAN XENOPHOBIA VS MUSCULAR LIBERALISM

The rise of the far-right across Europe has been noticed by many over the past few years - whether the rise of Jorge Haider in Austria, the right-wing parties in Eastern Europe some of whom are in conservative political groupings in the European Parliament, or the BNP and EDL in the UK.

Concerns about this stem from Europe's 20th century experience with fascism, and centuries of bloodshed. The nation state identity adopted by Europe could be argued to have institutionalised base tribal attitudes that are exhibited in contemporary nationalism, as well as 20th century European fascism.

Paradoxically, the policies adopted 30 years ago aimed to diminish such attitudes - the doctrine of multiculturalism - is attacked as having failed by politicians across Europe, who reinforce racist views demanding Muslims integrate and westernize, ban symbols of Islam [like hijabs, niqabs and minarets] and who frequently criticise immigration [even though their economies depend on

immigrant labour].

When British Prime Minister David Cameron addressed this issue in February 2011 at a security conference in Munich [of all places!], calling for a new 'muscular liberalism', he was praised by the leader of France's racist National Front, Marine Le Pen - illustrating the political affinity between 'muscular liberals' like Cameron and the extreme right wing.

Muscular liberals like Cameron, Blair before him, and Sarkozy, would doubtless argue from a different perspective. They have no problem, fundamentally, with non-European culture saturating Europe - whether from the United States or the Indian subcontinent. But they dislike the rise of Islam in Europe because they see a new value structure being adopted by Muslims [increasingly joined by European converts] in favour of liberal values. This is problematic for politicians who have, over the past ten years, endorsed military enforcement of these liberal values into the Muslim world - and who see the failure to intellectually convince Muslims of these values.

The far-right dislike all forms of foreign culture. Indeed, if they weren't so repulsed by the fact they view Islam as foreign, they might feel they have more in common with the socially conservative values exhibited by religious people generally. Moreover, these people have often opposed their troops being sent off to far away lands to kill and to die for causes that seem to have little to do with national security.

Both racist xenophobes and muscular liberals are unified on anti-Islamic rhetoric, and policies that would force Muslims to integrate. But they differ on social values and foreign policy.

### **MUSCULAR LIBERALS DOMINATE THE POLITICAL CLASS**

Europe's political class is dominated by politicians from the centre ground. Some of these are real muscular liberals. Others merely respond to public concerns about the economy and immigration.

Increasingly, this class of politician is seen as detached from the concerns and

aspirations of the masses.

Their solution to dealing with the concerns of their majority populations has been, historically, to push for greater economic growth, in the hope that economic prosperity will diminish the appeal of nationalist and right-wing groups.

That is, in part, why their policies continue to include colonial interference in far-away lands - which is why they have developed strategies to address Islam domestically and internationally - which includes aborting multiculturalism and adopting a more aggressive assimilationist approach.

It is also why they continue to appease and over-represent the interests of the 'wealth-creators' - the banks, financial institutions and big business.

But this policy, after the crash of 2008 and the current Eurozone crisis, alienates the political class even more from the masses - whose jobs, homes and benefits are less secure than they have been for years, and who are consequently ever more willing to listen to the far right.

### **EUROPE'S SOCIETIES BECOME MORE FRACTURED BY DOUBLE STANDARDS**

Not only is there a growing fault line between the ruling class and the majority population [fuelled by the double standard in how wealth creators are treated versus consumers], but Europe's Muslims find themselves caught between a far-right - that hates foreigners and anything foreign - and the political class, who dislike their adherence to their Islamic values, as it is part of a global revival of a rival ideology, which threatens the hegemony of capitalism in the Muslim world.

Hence, when Muslims [amongst others] see rank double standards in the way the Norway massacres have been covered, it alienates them further from politicians and the media.

They witness the media blaming 'Islamic terror groups' for the attacks. Later, when it was clear Muslims had nothing to do with it, they heard the self-confessed

murderer-for-political-ends described as a 'lone madman', and not a 'terrorist' by politicians and the media.

This double standard is all too obvious, as is the silence of politicians regarding the Islamophobic media coverage, which they helped to create in the first place.

But we will now see another double standard. The 7/7 bombings resulted in a hastily assembled series of workshops and discussion, after which [but not out of which] the Prevent strategy emerged. An argument rapidly dominated that the cause of the bombings was an Islamic political ideology that needed to be tackled. The argument evolved into not merely clamping down on 'violent extremist' ideas but any 'extremist' [Islamic] ideas. This is the current working model in the UK and elsewhere, leading to extrajudicial pressures on speakers, visitors to the UK and groups.

It is highly unlikely there will be any comparable strategy to deal with the philosophical ideas that may or may not have contributed to the ideology of Anders Behring Breivik - said to be a practising Christian, and Freemason. His links to the English Defence League are being questioned. But whatever actions politicians take regarding individuals and fringe groups, we are certainly unlikely to see the banning of right-wing conservative thinkers from the airwaves, who may or may not have influenced the ideas of the 'fringe'.

### **WHAT FUTURE?**

Decades after two world wars which emerged from the heart of Europe, and after centuries of bloodshed, the future does not yet look stable for Europe. To this day, it has not found a model that brings sustained harmony between states and between peoples. The looming economic problems only look likely to make the future less certain. This one man has committed mass murder, but exposed a host of contradictions and questions for an entire continent.

■

# Who will rescue the Syrian people from Assad's bloody regime?



*"You can't make war in the Middle East without Egypt and you can't make peace without Syria"* Henry Kissinger

After spending months observing the callous slaughter and atrocious carnage of innocent Syrians at the hands of Assad's brutal regime, the Western powers finally decided to call for Assad's departure. In August 2011, US President Obama said, "The future of Syria must be determined by its people, but President Bashar al-Assad is standing in their way. His calls for dialogue and reform have rung hollow while he is imprisoning, torturing and slaughtering his own people. We have consistently said that President Assad must lead a democratic transition or get out of the way. He has not led. For the sake of the

Syrian people, the time has come for President Assad to step aside". Cameron issued a similar joint statement with Sarkozy and Merkel that read: "Our three countries believe that President Assad, who is resorting to brutal military force against his own people and who is responsible for the situation, has lost all legitimacy and can no longer claim to lead the country. We call on him to face the reality of the complete rejection of his regime by the Syrian people and to step aside in the best interests of Syria and the unity of it". The EU foreign policy chief, Lady Ashton, said there had been a "complete loss of Bashar Assad's legitimacy in the eyes of the Syrian people".

It was no coincidence that the West's call

for Assad's departure came after the failed efforts of some Gulf Arab countries and Turkey. The rulers of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Kuwait somehow mustered enough strength to lift themselves from paralysis and did the ignoble deed of recalling their ambassadors from Damascus. Even in their terse statements, one finds little solace for the Syrian people. "The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia stands before its historic responsibility toward her brothers, demanding the stoppage of the killing machine and bloodshed, and the use of reason before it is too late", Abdullah said in a statement that was read on Saudi state television. The pitiful remark that took months to transpire is by all accounts another bloody stain on the three monarchs that not only share much of the same features as Assad's oppressive regime, but are exemplary masters in their own right at crushing domestic opposition. Hence the muzzled criticisms and restrained gestures dressed in velvet gloves are hardly going to halt Assad's rivers of blood. The same can be said for the West's condemnation of Assad's regime and pseudo smart sanctions that will invariably preserve the longevity of the regime a little longer, while a suitable alternative is groomed or found.

Then there is Turkey, which has been so boisterous in its chastisement of Assad that many poor souls in Syria have been longing for Erdogan to intervene and rescue them from the barbarism of Assad's Alawite clan. Some members of the clan are responsible for spearheading Assad's war machine and are notorious for their

hatred towards Sunni Muslims. They routinely torture and taunt their victims about their devotion and adherence to their deen prior to executing them in cold blood.

On August 9th 2011, the Turkish foreign minister Mr. Davutoglu visited Assad to supposedly deliver a stern message from Erdogan to stop the horrific bloodshed. He was bluntly told by Assad that Damascus "will not relent in pursuing the terrorist groups in order to protect the stability of the country and the security of the citizens". In other words leave us alone to kill whomsoever we like.

Out of all the regional countries and Western powers that have hitherto expressed their displeasure towards Assad's regime, Turkey is best place to put an instant stop to the carnage. This is because Erdogan domestically is stronger than ever before, and has achieved the near impossible feat of not only marginalizing the army's role in political life, but has replaced the army's leadership with handpicked generals. This means that under Erdogan's stewardship the executive, the judiciary, the army and much of the civic institutions can be galvanized to support an immediate intervention in Syria and put an end to the targeted massacre of Syrians. Recent history also bears testimony on Erdogan's side. In 1998, Turkey amassed 10,000 troops at the Syrian border and threatened to invade, unless Damascus surrendered the then PKK leader Abdullah Ocalan. Damascus quickly capitulated and asked Ocalan to leave, who was eventually apprehended in Kenya. If the military threat is not enough, then Erdogan could borrow a page from the so-called doctrine of humanitarian intervention invoked by Britain and France as a pretext to invade Libya. He is sure to find little international opposition should he opt for this route. Erdogan can easily divert Turkey's armed forces currently being used to disable PKK positions to immobilize Assad's security forces and slow down their advance. If Erdogan were only to take a small step in this direction, he would enjoy the whole hearted support of the Ummah.

With all of the odds stacked in his favour, Erdogan continues to drag his heels, as if the spilling of Muslim blood at the hands of Assad is novel spectator sport. This is

very reminiscent of the Jewish state's slaughter of its Palestinians in 2009, followed by Erdogan's fiery rhetoric against Shimon Perez, which in the end was capped by inaction.

In this respect, Erdogan is no different to other rulers of the Arab and Muslim world who are often found floundering at the time of the Ummah's need, despite the capability of their armed forces and the political reality of the situation being in their favour. This is because Erdogan and other Arab rulers do not serve the Ummah of the Messenger of Allah (sall Allahu alaihi wa sallam). Rather, they are servants of foreign powers and are the leading custodians of their master's interests in the region. They are merely puppets who speak and act when they are told and not before. For instance, Erdogan's timely expulsion of Israel's ambassador to Turkey, and the suspension of military agreements with the Jewish state is designed to increase pressure on Israel to resume peace talks with the Palestinians. This comes at a time when the Jewish state is extremely anxious about its border with Egypt and Syria. In this way, the US is using Erdogan, Egypt's military junta and the precarious situation in Syria to pressurise Netanyahu to restart peace talks.

As for Syria, both Erdogan and Khamenei acting under US patronage are covertly aiding and abetting Assad's regime, giving it enough time to put down the uprising. The toothless sanctions announced by the US underscores just how keen the Obama administration is for the current regime to stymie the domestic revolt. In the meantime, the US continues to explore alternative political solutions to Assad's regime - again with Turkey and Iran's full cooperation. This is the ugly reality of the situation that faces the innocent people of Syria. Erdogan's immediate remit, as stipulated to him by his American masters, is twofold: First, to gather the Syrian opposition in Turkey and develop a political alternative to Assad. The Syrian opposition has held several meetings since May 2011 under the auspices of the Turkish government. At the last meeting in Istanbul, the Syrian opposition managed to reach broad agreement on the 120 nominees for the transitional council. Second, is to enable NATO to arm Syrian militants and to use a similar approach that resulted in the ouster of Gaddafi from



Tripoli. "Turkey's military will protect the arms caches on their passage to Syrian rebels. Syrian protest leaders and army deserters have been training in the use of the new weapons with Turkish military officers at makeshift installations in Turkish bases near the Syrian border". As reported recently by Press TV, citing the Israeli intelligence front, Debka.

The only salvation for the people of Syria and for that matter the entire Arab and Muslim world is to cease in the engagement of useless pursuits such as the reliance on Western powers to rescue them from tyrant rulers who in the first place were handpicked and planted by the West.

Afghanistan, Iraq and now Libya are clear examples, where the West sought humanitarian excuses to intervene and engineered nation building solutions that cemented Western hegemony through subtly changing the face of the ruling regime. Neither the people nor the country has benefited to date. Instead, the people of the Arab world must work to find salvation in the restoration of the Khilafah Islamic State. For only the Khilafah - on the way of the Prophethood, can give them protection, dignity and justice as history has taught us. The Messenger of Allah (sall Allahu alaihi wa sallam) said, **"The imam is a shield behind whom the people are protected and behind which they fight"**. [Sahih Muslim]

# UPDATE: Global Economic Crisis – The Crises of Debt

The summer of 2011 was the 4th anniversary of the global financial crisis. However 2011 may go down in the history books for something very different. On the 5th August 2011 the communists of China gave the Capitalist world a dressing down. It was the day the communists told the capitalists in the west how to run their economies as America's lost its triple A credit rating. This time last year the global economy was struggling to grow, the multilateral approach that had characterized the early response to the financial crisis was beginning to unravel as more and more nations were turning to economic nationalism and the currency war between the US and China was reaching fever pitch.

Since the global financial crisis began in 2008 the end to the crisis appears as distant as ever and in 2011 further cracks have appeared. To remind us of how we have got here - growth in Western economies in the last decade was driven by the real estate bubble which stimulated the remainder of the economies of the West. The bubble reached colossal proportions because banks were able to create various financial products from debt which were then sold to other banks based upon the assumption that the housing bubble will continue to expand. The subsequent collapse in housing prices exposed gaping holes in lending practices of the world's largest banks, many banks were forced to write off billions in debt, as they on mass were being defaulted upon. As banks collect customer deposits and

lend to new businesses and projects all of this came to a grinding halt and due to this a crisis that was inherently financial, shifted to the real economy, hence production fell, many companies collapsed and unemployment soared.

The response of Western economies was to either nationalise failing banks, provide bailouts to others, and a new invention - quantitative Easing (QE) a new electronic way of creating money. The cost of this was huge and as a result this eventually led to a period of austerity - government cuts across the Western world to repay the money used to bailout the bankers. These measures were all meant to kick start economic growth and end the economic crisis, however the US debt ceiling debacle and the sovereign debt crisis in Europe show that the global economic crisis is far from over.

## US DEBT DEBACLE

The debacle that took place in the US between the Republicans and Democrats was over increasing the debt ceiling - the amount the government can borrow. The US government needs the permission of Congress to raise the ceiling re the amount of money it can borrow. If Congress didn't grant an increase then Obama's regime would have hit the debt ceiling limit and would have had difficulties in meeting its repayments. Ironically the US borrows to repay previous debts. This is not the first time the US has been forced to increase its debt ceiling. In February 2010 a

similar fanfare took place. This rather flexible "ceiling" has been raised 33 times since it first was raised over the \$1 trillion level in September 1981. Noble Laureate Paul Krugman outlined the fanfare: "The facts of the crisis over the debt ceiling aren't complicated. Republicans have, in effect, taken America hostage, threatening to undermine the economy and disrupt the essential business of government unless they get policy concessions they would never have been able to enact through legislation. And Democrats - who would have been justified in rejecting this extortion altogether - have, in fact, gone a long way toward meeting those Republican demands." And, oh yes, the President had some big skin in the game."

The debt impasse in reality concealed America's bankruptcy. America's fundamental problem is that it is <http://www.hizb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/top-ten-holders-of-US-Debt.jpg> drowning in a sea of debt. The US economy generates around \$14 trillion annually, however the national debt - the money the central and federal government owes to the US public and the world through the bonds (or IOU's) they have issued - stands at \$14.3 trillion. Interest payments on this debt alone was \$414 billion in 2010. Those who are expecting to be repaid by the US one day include governments such as China, companies and banks. This debt emanates from US citizenry's huge appetite for imports and credit cards and as a result consumer debt stands at \$2.4 trillion. The desire by American's to own their own homes has resulted in mortgage debts of \$13.2 trillion. The debts of US companies amount to \$20.8 trillion. This makes the US indebted to the tune of \$50.7 trillion - more than the combined economies of Japan, China, Britain, Germany, France, Brazil, Canada and Italy twice over. The US trade deficit also continues to balloon, the amount the US imports compared to the amount it exports - in essence the money the US owes to the world - stands at \$500 billion. And these figures exclude the future - so far unfunded - obligations of the American people including pensions, medicare/Medicaid and so on which amount to many trillions more.



With the US economy faltering and struggling to create sustainable growth, questions are being asked about the ability of the US to repay its debts. China who holds most of America's debt should duly be concerned as the credit rating of the US is being downgraded. Due to the size of America's economy, if it's not growing then this will also drag the global economy down, as the US is its largest constituent. China and other creditors are also highly worried by the constant devaluation of the dollar represented by the constant increase in gold prices and other precious commodities - caused by growing indebtedness and QE.

### EUROPE'S SOVEREIGN DEBT CRISIS

The European Union now has a growing list of states that are considered the sick men of Europe. European attempts at defence against a deep recession has now created a new crisis of unsustainable and un-serviceable sovereign debt. Much of this can be attributed to stimulus packages passed by European governments in order to blunt the effects of the economic crisis, especially in preventing massive employment layoffs. Europe's heavyweights spent massively on stimulation packages. This led to debt levels skyrocketing across the Eurozone, but especially in the PIIGS countries.

At the centre of the crisis is the fractional reserve banking system where a small amount of physical money in notes and coins can be used to create debts many folds over. The Greek debt crisis is a good example. Greece has debts of €300 billion, with an economy of only €240 billion and a government budget of only €91 billion. The Greek economy is in no better position today after 3 bailouts and massive public sector layoffs.

The Euro was hailed as the replacement to the dollar. However the financial crisis has brought a damning fact to the surface, whilst countries such as France and Germany will be able to service their debts, nearly all of the other eurozone nations have pitiful financial situations where they have spent well beyond their means and now when it has come to



repay this debt the feasibility of meeting the regular monthly repayments is looking impossible. The issue the Euro has faced from its inception is the fact that all the eurozone nations have very divergent economies and hence the strength of the euro is in the strength of the Eurozone economies and only as strong as the weakest link.

When the economic problems were confined to small countries such as Greece and Ireland, it was assumed that any fallout could be contained. Now however the crisis has threatened to engulf nearly all of Europe. Italy which is the eurozone's third-largest economy and the world's fourth-biggest debtor is also reaching breaking point

### ECONOMIC GROWTH

The crisis that engulfed the world in 2008 is clearly not over, this is why Western economies are being forced into austerity to balance books before economic growth can eventuate. The world's largest economies attempted to kick start economic growth via stimulus plans, however any stimulus was always a high-octane boost and a temporary measure. They are designed to kick-start stalled economies, not to fuel sustained economic growth. The growth that was achieved in late 2009 until now is really the inflated results of stimulus measures achieving their intended effect to be temporary.

With Western economies dominated by the service sector, and with the driving

engine being the financial industries it is difficult to see where economic growth will come from. Printing more money and bailing out the banks has not kick started growth, whilst the stimulus packages have had limited impact and failed to jump start economic growth.

### CONCLUSIONS

With the crisis of debt now firmly engulfing Europe and the US a double dip recession is being viewed as a certainty. Analysts have begun to cut their outlooks for growth, which were originally based on the premise that the worst of the economic crisis was over. The leg up's provided by the Capitalist world in no way dealt with the underlying economic problems of unsustainable growth, debt driven spending, casino finance and bubble economies. What such stimulus packages have done is kept Capitalist economies artificially afloat. Whilst the global economy has seen some growth for the last 18 months once all the temporary initiatives have worked their way through the economies of the West we will be back in the original position of how to create sustainable growth. With the core failure of a number of interventions is it not time that more radical alternatives be considered? Particularly with the unhealthy fractional reserve banking system and defence of banking interests coming before the needs of the common man.

# HOW SHOULD MUSLIMS RESPOND TO THE PREVENT STRATEGY?



Remember the story of Musa (AS) in [Surah Ghafir/Mu'min 40]:

*“And Pharaoh said: Let me go to kill Moses, and let him cry unto his Lord. Lo! I fear that he will alter your religion or that he will cause confusion in the land.” [40.v25]*

*“Moses said: Lo! I seek refuge in my Lord and your Lord from every scorner who believes not in a Day of Reckoning.” [40.v26]*

*“And a believing man of Pharaoh's family, who hid his faith, said: Would you kill a man because he says: My Lord is Allah, and has brought you clear proofs from your Lord? If he is lying, then his lie is upon him; and if he is truthful, then some of that wherever he threatens you with will strike you. Indeed! Allah guides not the one who is a prodigal, a liar.” [40.v27]*

## CONTEXT:

What was the context? There are many things we can relate to this believing man in the context that we live in today. The story is the story of Musa (AS) when he went to Pharaoh to invite him to the beautiful deen (way of life) of Islam. To liberate his people who had been enslaved by Pharaoh when Pharaoh said: *“I am your Lord, Most High” [79.v24]* And when he said who has more power than me, and enslaved the Children of Israel. Thus Allah (SWT) sent Musa (AS) to liberate his people from the Taghut (oppression).

*“Go to Pharaoh, for he has indeed transgressed all bounds” [79.v16]*

For indeed Pharaoh was a tyrant. So when Musa (AS) went to account him Pharaoh became worried as Musa (AS) came with a call, the call of 'la ilaha ilallah, Musa kalim ullah' the shariah of that time. As Pharaoh grew in worry he said: He said to his people, "let me go!" As if people were holding on to him.

"I will kill Musa (AS)"

"Let him call his Lord"; let us see if he saves him. Why?

"Indeed I fear he will change your way of life"

"Or he will bring much corruption in the land."

This was the response of Pharaoh in the court of Pharaoh. We need to understand that Musa (AS) was in a foreign land like many of us who today live in a foreign land.

#### **THE ACTION OF THE BELIEVING MAN:**

There are many parallels that we can draw here, so when Pharaoh said 'we have a terrorist, we have an extremist' called Musa who we have to deal with.

In his court there was man:

We need the Musa's (in the sense as Dawah carriers) to come out and speak the truth and say these are the Islamic values and articulate a convincing cogent argument for why the Islamic values are sublime and beautiful.

"There was a man in the court of Pharaoh from amongst Pharaoh who believed in the message of Pharaoh, but he had hidden his Imaan (Belief)". Up until that point he did not profess the fact that he was a follower and that he was from the Ummah of Musa (AS). But it came to a point, a critical juncture, the truth needed to be spoken; the atmosphere of fear was there in Pharaoh's court where he had declared that he will kill Musa (AS). But the truth must be spoken, we need to understand that the truth needs to be spoken at the right time, there is no use of it after it is too late, the courage one must have is at the critical juncture. Thus when Pharaoh said he was going to kill Musa (AS) the believing man stood up. He did not fight, but he spoke the truthful words: "Are you going to kill a man just because

of the fact that he says; 'My Lord is Allah'?" What crime has he committed? The only thing he has testified to is that Allah (SWT) is 'khaliq' i.e. the creator, not you O Pharaoh and he is the Master not you".

But also

"He has come to you with proof from his Lord; he is not just making it up."

"And if he is lying then all you will have to do is bear with his lie".

"But if he is telling the truth, then the punishment for rejecting the message will come to pass. And verily"

"Allah does not guide those who are reckless and those who lie." Thus we see this was the courage of the believing man, whose name we do not know, but we know his act. Today are we not in a similar situation where we need courage, like that believing man, because we are told that our values and our ideas need to change? The Prophet (SAW) said: "**Speak the truth even if it is bitter!**"

#### **THE AGENDA OF PREVENT:**

We need to speak the truth even if it sounds bitter. Today we are told that if you believe in hijab- you are an extremist. You believe in the role of women that her primary role should be that of a

mother and a wife, although she has a right to engage in the public affairs and work - you are an extremist. If you want to teach your children in your schools the difference between Kufr (disbelief) and Imaan (belief) and what it means to be a Muslim - you are an extremist. In fact they will even put cameras in your mosque to spy on you to check what you are teaching in your curriculum. This is our situation, the PREVENT agenda was recently released by the Government. Cameron spoke about a 'muscular liberalism' including the liberal western values of 'do what you like', this licentious value. Whereas Muslims believe in 'Ubudiyah' i.e. serving Allah (SWT) and controlling our hawaa (desires) and liberalism believes in unleashing the desires. These are the values they want us to teach to our children and consider the

word "muscular" i.e. meaning that you will be pressured into following this. There will be pressure, so if you have been receiving funding there will be no more funding. You will be pressured to give platforms to those who will extol the virtues of western liberalism in the guise of Islam, and those who call for the true, pure and sublime Islamic values will be branded extremist.

In the government PREVENT document they defined something called 'Islamism', something they wanted to attack, their 'public enemy number 1'. They said; "Islamism is a philosophy which in its broader sense promotes the application of Islamic values to modern government."

So if you want to bring Islamic values to modern government and politics, and that we in the Muslim lands not in the west, but in the Muslim lands want to bring Islamic values to how we live our lives- then you are an extremist. Even in this country (UK) if you want to bring the Islamic value of honesty in politics they will most probably call you an extremist. Their argument is that if you toe the line and say that you are not an extremist and always being in a state of defence it will not be enough but you must actively call for liberal values and abandon the Islamic values.

#### **OUR STANCE:**

Now like Pharaoh they are worried that there are those in the community who are saying 'no'! There are Musa's (not in the sense of Prophets, as there are no more Prophets, but in the sense of carrying the Dawah) in this community who are saying no and declaring that we will hold onto our deen while they are threatening to cut the funding. Our stance needs to be that they can keep their funding, we will hold onto our Imaan.

The Prophet (SAW) used to make du'a against certain things such as the punishment of the grave, or against the trials of the Dajjal, but he used to also make du'a against sins and debt. Aisha (RA) used to ask 'O prophet of Allah you are always making du'a against debt, we can understand why you make du'a against sins but why debt since it is



permissible to ask for a loan'. The Prophet (SAW) said: **'if you take a debt you will start lying'**. You will make promises of payment and you will break them and this is the reality of government funding, if you take the money, after you have used it they will then check your curriculum and tell you to stop teaching parts of Islam that are not befitting to them. So our message is clear that they can have their money we will hold onto Allah and his messenger. So at this critical juncture and these difficult moments we need two categories of people:

1. We need the Musa's (in the sense as Dawah carriers) to come out and speak the truth and say these are the Islamic values and articulate a convincing cogent argument for why the Islamic values are sublime and beautiful.

So when they say the hijab is oppressive, our response is no, it is progressive, it brings modesty to society. Look at the western society and the treatment of women; we want to bring real honour to women. In this way we need to answer these questions and we need the Musa's in the community to stand up.

2. But when Musa speaks there will be those who will call him an extremist, lock him up and cut off his funding with many other actions. Thus in this situation we need another type of person; the believing man, the ordinary man. There is no need for their name, but we need them to stand up and say: "Are you going to kill a man just because he says my lord is Allah?" Their response needs to be why do you want to arrest this man or lock him up? He is not calling for violence his call is simply: *"Who is better in speech than one who calls to Allah, works righteousness, and says: 'I am of those who bow in Islam'?"* [41.v33] The believing man which is every single one of us, whatever our names maybe our characteristic and sign of Imaan is more important in this situation. All of us who are in this foreign land have a duty to the non-Muslims here, who have been fed this propaganda that Islam is barbaric and that Muslims are terrorists, we need to explain and show to them the beauty of Islam through our character and speech. Every believing man needs to stand and defend the Musa, defend the call and say that he is on the truth and I am following this truth. But more fundamentally to take any of these two stands takes courage, because when the believing man stood up in the court of Pharaoh it was a risk for him to say 'you are going to kill Musa, what crime has he done?'. This courage has to come from our Imaan. How can cowardice and Imaan exist in the heart at the same time? We need to strengthen our Imaan and then speak the truth and hold onto the deen. Do not fear the blame of the blamers.

Our story of courage comes from Abu Bakr (RA). It has been reported by Ibn Kathir in his 'al bidayah wan nihayah' where he states that Imam Ali (RA) was standing on the mimbar and speaking to the people when he was Khaleefah. He asked the people 'who is the bravest from amongst the companions of the Prophet (SAW)'. They remained silent until Imam Ali said 'Lo I never entered into a duel with another man except that I became victorious over him. Yet the bravest of all people was none other than Abu Bakr (RA)'. He continued and narrated in his khutba that once the companions of the

Prophet (SAW) built a command centre for the Prophet (SAW) where they used to come to, to talk about the matters of the deen. Then they decided to appoint someone from amongst them who would defend the Prophet (SAW) and protect it from the attacks of the Mushrikeen (polytheists). Imam Ali (RA) narrates that 'By Allah not one of us volunteered to look after it except for Abu Bakr (RA) who stood up at the head of the Messenger (SAW) and defended him when the attacks began'. Then Imam Ali (RA) gave an example and stated: 'I once saw Quraysh approaching the Prophet (SAW) and physically shaking him near the Ka'bah. They said to him "have you taken our Gods and made them into one God." By Allah not one of us got up to defend the Prophet (SAW) when he was being attacked except for Abu Bakr (RA) and he went up and said to the Quraysh: "Are you going to kill a man just because he says my lord is Allah?" Quoting the ayah in Surah Mu'min, we realise that at the time of Musa (AS) you had Musa and the believing man. Then in the time of the Prophet (SAW), Muhammad (SAW) was Musa and Abu Bakr was the believing man who had courage, and repeated the same words in Surah Ghafir as the believing man:

That is the courage one must have, when the truth needs to be spoken at a critical juncture. We need the Musa's (figuratively) but we also need the believing men to speak at this moment when the Muslim community is being attacked by the government with labels of extremism and fundamentalism. Our response is that no we are not moderate nor are we extremist, we are simply Muslims and these are our beliefs. If we do not speak the truth when it needs to be spoken then there is no use of that truth anymore. The Muslim community as a whole needs to defend the sublime values of the Shariah and the Ummah collectively needs to make sure that any kind of government interference in any sphere of life needs to be rejected. The Muslim community needs to stick together and build itself as a self sufficient community and put our trust in Allah (SWT).

# THE FAMINE CRISIS IN EAST AFRICA IS A RESULT OF POOR FOOD SECURITY POLICIES



More than 12 million people are afflicted with hunger in Somalia, Kenya, Djibouti, Sudan, and Uganda. In Somalia nearly a half its population is facing a humanitarian crisis (3.7 million people). One in three children is malnourished. This has been reported as one of the worst crises to hit Eastern Africa in almost six decades. It's shocking to see the images of emaciated children sucking empty breasts of mothers weak with hunger. The elderly appear very weak and unable to walk. Hunger stricken victims have fled and are forced to walk great distances in search of basic provisions! The UN deputy spokesman Farhan Haq said that a refugee agency

reported that 875,000 Somalis fleeing famine have crossed borders into neighboring countries Kenya, Yemen, Ethiopia and Djibouti. Somalia's president Sharif Sheikh Ahmed said that his government can no longer feed the overwhelming number of its people affected with hunger. A Somali transitional government spokesman Abdurrahman Omar Osman said: "The current famine situation in Somalia actually demands urgency, not only assessments and far-off responses, because many Somali children are dying in the county on a daily basis" He went on to add: "We are asking the international community to increase

their efforts and help these people facing misery, we believe the famine is bigger than the UN said". US president Barack Obama was quoted after meeting with the leaders of four French-speaking nations in Washington: "We discussed how we can partner together to avert the looming humanitarian crisis in Eastern Africa. I think it hasn't got as much attention here in the United States as it deserves" He continued saying: "it's going to require an international response and Africa will have to be a partner to make sure that tens of thousands of people don't starve to death".



This is how several leaders described the famine situation that has rocked the Eastern Africa region. As usual western nations via several organizations appear to be at the forefront in supplying food aid as a means to counter the crises. However these global aid appeals and calls from the west are very far from solving this menace.

Drought has been mentioned as the sole cause of the famine crisis. Many people with little perspective in the region seem to be captivated by such claims. The Eastern African governments and the western world at large are deliberately avoiding facing the reality of the situation where before the drought/famine extreme hunger has existed for many years. It is a deep rooted problem in the region where half of its population is living on one dollar per day! Drought is not the cause of people starving to death. The extreme poverty and hunger is due to the poor policies of the western economic system imposed in the region. The so-called leaders both local and foreign simply ignore this fact. To develop and advance their economic colonisation in East Africa the western nations often encourage the governments in the region to focus on cash crop farming and production to earn foreign exchange rather than the crops necessary for the locals (food staples such as Maize, Wheat, Rice and many others. A good example

here is Kenya, the government is keen and places more emphasis on pyrethrum farming than on maize farming, the reason being that the Kenyan government earns foreign exchange from pyrethrum. Here is a puzzle; people in Kenya have often experienced the shortage of maize but not the shortage of mosquito coils! Likewise, Coffee farms in the central and Rift valley regions of Kenya are well preserved, with tractors provided to its growers while rice growers have to use their hands. This actually shows that agriculture, which is the state's spine is not a major concern to the governments in the region. Where these governments take agriculture as a backbone, they could allocate more funds to the agricultural sector rather than wasting the public funds by building sports venues.

As for food aid, it has been very common in many countries including Muslim countries faced with any humanitarian crisis to see global aid organisations like the World Food Programme, Red Cross, Unsaid, Oxfam and many others onto the first track in providing aid. The hidden fact of this so called aid, aims at consolidating western capitalism in our countries, likely is to deceive eastern African society to believe that the western masters are sympathizers and they really care for the interest of our countries. These organizations are commonly used by the west in trafficking the weapons to be used by the so called rebel fighters in many countries as in the case of Southern Sudan; where the Red cross was used for transporting weapons to rebels under the pretext of providing aid to the people of Southern Sudan. Were the western nations mindful of the victims of hunger why then do the same nations invade such countries and kill hundreds of thousands of Muslims? The US is currently backing the despotic/cosmetic transitional Somali government together with troops from Uganda, Burundi and Ethiopia who spill the blood of Muslims on a daily basis.

The famine crisis that is rocking East Africa highlights an ideology which has failed to provide basic food security. East

Africa has been blessed with vast reserves of raw materials, minerals, forests, permanent rivers and fertile soil, but due to the appalling management of these resources it is no surprise the people of the region are ranked the poorest in the world. The society in the region has lacked a government with clear policies and sound management of resources based on a profound economic system with permanent measures to overcome such crises. What is more important is to understand that the prime source of all these atrocities is as a result of the west and their corrupt ideology, even as they pretend to be peace makers but verily they are the ones who make mischief. Since the foreign intervention (of Italy, Britain and France) in Somali in the late of 18 century the Somali community was stacked with black spots, tribal clashes, poverty, and invasions of foreign troops. The people have staggered from one blow to the other.

Under the Islamic Khilafah State's authority, Muslims never appealed for food aid from western countries, rather they were to the forefront in providing foreign hunger stricken families with aid. In 1845 when the great Irish famine resulted in over million deaths, Khalifah Abdul Majid 1 declared his intention to send 10,000 Sterling pounds in aid to Irish farmers. Queen Victoria requested him to send only 1000 Sterling. The Khalifah sent that 1000 and then secretly sent three ships full with foodstuffs. This is where Muslims were in the past and this is exactly how Muslims should be now. The East Africa society should understand that they will continue to face problems and continue starving until the re establishment of the Khilafah, a state that will implement divine ideology which has full scale planning for the eradication of hunger and poverty not only for Muslims but also for non Muslims.

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# WESTERN HEGEMONY AND THE ARAB WORLD: Reconstructing the Arab political order in the 21st century



*"(We need an) ...Arab facade ruled and administered under British guidance and controlled by a native Mohammedan and, as far as possible, by an Arab staff.... There should be no actual incorporation of the conquered territory in the dominions of the conqueror; but the absorption may be veiled by such constitutional fictions as a protectorate, a sphere of influence, a buffer state and so on" - Lord Curzon*

In the early part of the twentieth century, Britain was at the forefront of Western efforts in moulding the Arab world much to the liking of the officers of the British Empire. Almost a century later, nothing has changed. In late August, Western powers met in Paris to seal Libya's fate. The scramble for Libya's oil and gold has begun. Abdeljalil Mayouf, an executive at Libyan rebel oil firm Agoco told Reuters:

"We don't have a problem with western countries like the Italians, French and UK companies. But we may have some political issues with Russia, China and Brazil".

The West has embarked upon a new campaign not just to remake Libya, but the entire Arab world in its image. America is leading a pack of colonial powers in this endeavour and is spearheading efforts to either dissect some Arab countries or subtly instigate regime change in others to preserve America's primacy in the region.

The incessant Western media coverage about the promotion of freedom and democracy in the Arab World conceals the real motives of Western powers; which is to groom pro-western elites that will facilitate Western multinationals to control the Arab world's oil supply, natural gas

reserves, mineral resources, energy security, as well as, maintain security pacts with Israel.

The campaign started with the separation of oil rich Southern Sudan earlier this year. The secession of South Sudan under America's tutelage has already spurred Christians in Nigeria and Coptic Christians in Egypt to demand independence. The aspirations of the current Coptic leaders are lucidly captured by a Jewish Journalist Oded Yinon in 1982. In his paper, entitled 'A strategy for Israel in the nineteen-eighties', he states: "Egypt is divided and torn apart into many foci of authority. If Egypt falls apart, countries like Libya, Sudan or even the more distant states will not continue to exist in their present form and will join the downfall and dissolution of Egypt. The vision of a Christian Coptic state in Upper Egypt, alongside a number of weak states, with very localised power and without a centralised government as to date, is the key to a historical development which was only setback by the peace agreement, but which seems inevitable in the long run."

The idea of creating a sacred Coptic state within the contours of Egypt is similar to the one advocated by US Lieutenant-Colonel Ralph Peters concerning Makkah and Medina. In June 2006, Peters published a map of the "New Middle East" in the June edition of the US Armed Forces Journal. The journal depicted amongst other mutilated Muslim countries the 'Islamic Sacred State', which consists of Makkah and Medina segregated from the rest of Saudi Arabia.

Earlier, various US officials have played upon sectarian and ethnic differences, and called for the creation of a super Shia state that stretches from Lebanon to Pakistan. The idea behind such a creation is to shift the control of oil away from Sunni domination into Shia hands, whom the Americans regard much more trustworthy to manage their colonial interests. Indeed, the American occupation in Iraq is viewed by some Middle Eastern leaders, as the first step towards Shia domination of the whole region. In an article, entitled 'Iraq, Jordan See Threat To Election From Iran', published by the Washington Post on November 8, 2004, King Abdullah warned: "If pro-Iran parties or politicians dominate the new Iraqi government a new "crescent" of dominant Shiite movements or



governments stretching from Iran into Iraq, Syria and Lebanon could emerge, alter the traditional balance of power between the two main Islamic sects and pose new challenges to US interests and allies". He further went on to state that Iran was the main beneficiary from the chaos in Iraq. Ever since the Shia's rose to power in Iraq, King Abdullah has oft repeated that America's occupation of Iraq is bolstering Shia power across the region.

The Arab revolt which started in Tunisia and spread to several Arab countries was manipulated by America to move closer to its goal of creating a new Greater Middle East, where old European powers have marginal influence. The dismissal of Zine El Abidine Ben Ali was not a random event. Rather it was a synthesis of rampant corruption incubated by 23 years of Western patronage and fused with dire economic conditions made worse by the global financial crisis and bloodsucking IMF structural adjustment programmes. America is eagerly awaiting similar turmoil to manifest itself in Algeria, Jordan and the Gulf countries, so that she can engineer regimes that pledge greater loyalty to her hegemony at the expense of Britain and France. As for Egypt, America defused the uprising by disposing of her loyal agent Mubarak like a soiled tissue and handing the power to the army to rule Egypt on her behalf. The Suez waterway and Egypt's pact with Israel remains intact much to the dismay of the Egyptian public.

Today, American officials have resurrected out-dated plans to devour the Arab world once deemed too ambitious to accomplish and too dangerous to talk about in public. In January 2011, the US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton could not hide her glee and used the events in Tunisia to fire a salvo at the pro-European Arab leaders. She said: "In

too many places, in too many ways, the regions foundations are sinking into the sand. The new and dynamic Middle East ...needs firmer ground if it is to take root and grow everywhere. While some countries have made great strides in governance, in many others, people have grown tired of corrupt institutions and a stagnant political order. Those who cling to the status quo may be able to hold back the full impact of their countries' problems for a little while, but not forever. If leaders don't offer a positive vision and give young people meaningful ways to contribute, others will fill the vacuum".

The term employed by successive American administrations to describe the plight of the Arab World, such as "sinking in the sand", "arc of crisis", "balkanisation", or "Greater Middle Eastern Initiative", was done in an attempt to move away from the Sykes-Picot Agreement of 1916, which protected old Europe's supremacy and interests, a colonial legacy which still persist today—albeit in parts. The war in Iraq in 2003 was a desperate bid by Bush and his cabal of neoconservatives to refashion the Middle East through force.

However, the current popular revolts in the Arab world— some of which have been instigated by America through US funded NGOs and civic institutions— presents the US with another chance to capture the Arab prize without sharing it with Britain and France. Since 1945, the US has been trying to exert total control over this prize. The U.S. State Department, in 1945 stated: "[the Middle East is] a stupendous source of strategic power, and one of the greatest material prizes in world history". But successive American governments were forced to share the spoils with Britain. For instance, Daniel Yergin in his book 'The Prize: The Epic Quest for Oil, Money, and Power' described the then relationship between Roosevelt and the British: "Roosevelt received him [British ambassador Lord Halifax] that very evening at the White House. Their discussion focused on the Middle East. Trying to allay Halifax's apprehension and irritation, Roosevelt showed the ambassador a rough sketch he had made of the Middle East. Persian oil, he told the ambassador, is yours. We share the oil of Iraq and Kuwait. As for Saudi Arabian oil, it is ours".

Iraq, Libya, Syria, and Yemen are just another battle in a long war that has ensued between America and Europe for the control of the Arab world. Nonetheless, despite America's differences with Europe, each possesses a single purpose when conducting relations with the Muslim World—divide, rule and conquer. This is the beckoning call now reverberating in the Western capitals. The only salvation for the Arab world from neo-colonialism is to seek something similar to what George Washington did for America in the eighteenth century and what Mao did to China in the twentieth century: Both had provided resolute leadership on alternative ideologies—secular liberalism and socialism to be precise—and successfully liberated their people from the shackles of the old colonial powers.

But that was then. The Arab world does not require secular liberalism or socialism for liberation as both are alien to the cultural heritage of the Arab people and an anathema to their Islamic beliefs. The Arab world possesses Islam as a common political ideology, but lacks a leader like Washington or Mao to unify and emancipate it from the domination of Western powers.

The Arab masses need to rally around a leader that is sincere to their interests only, and opposes Western interference. This can only happen if the Arab masses and its newfound leadership adhere to the tried and tested vision of the Khilafah (Caliphate), which for centuries unified Arab and Muslim lands under a single system of ruling and protected the interests of its people. The West is well aware of the return of the Caliphate and is working tirelessly to stop it. In February 2007, Dick Cheney warned: "Their goal in the broader Middle East is to seize control of a country so they have a base from which they can launch attacks against governments that refuse to meet their demands. Their ultimate aim, and one they boldly proclaim, is to establish a Caliphate covering a region from Spain, across North Africa, through the Middle East and South Asia, all the way around to Indonesia. And it wouldn't stop there."

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# The UK Riots



In early August the UK witnessed a spell of looting, lawlessness and rioting akin to that witnessed in Baghdad during the second Gulf war. The commotion began in Tottenham, London but spread like a bush fire to Hackney, Brixton, Ealing, Peckham, Birmingham, Manchester and suburban Croydon. The UK Prime Minister and London Mayor Boris Johnson were of the many who cut short their holidays to fly back to deal with the unrest.

The riots in Tottenham were sparked off following a protest demanding

justice for Mark Duggan. Mark Duggan was shot dead by police on Thursday 4th August following a stop and search. However, the subsequent riots in other parts of London, Midlands and the North had no link to Mark Duggan. They seemed to be motivated by greed, violence and criminality.

The rioting lasted for 6 days and included arson attacks, breaking and entering shops, theft, mugging and murder. Shabana Mahmood MP for Birmingham & Ladywell commented that there were a total of 389 arrests in

Birmingham alone, with more than 2,000 nationally. Following the peripheral discussions on police powers, police numbers, police strategy, use of water cannons and the right of face cover removals - the questions that haunted the UK was what was the cause of such lawlessness and anarchy!

## CAUSES BEHIND THE RIOTS

Such lawless and animalistic behaviour have prompted MPs to highlight social breakdown being the primary cause of rioting by youth. Theresa May - the Home Secretary commented that: "We cannot go on ignoring social problems". Michael Gove enlightened the public with his points that: "there is a conflict in our society of right and wrongs" and that what is required is "moral self-restraint of individuals as well as uniformed policing". But how does moral self-restraint harness itself when conflicting notions of utilitarianism and living life to the full is lamented daily in the west?

Gang culture and lack of morals have been at the heart of discussions to ascertain reasons behind such rioting. David Cameron has been outspoken on his views giving the causes as a moral decline resulting in a broken Britain. Cameron vows to tackle "slow-motion moral collapse". This analysis has faced a fightback from Tony Blair who commented: "Blaming moral decline for the riots makes good headlines but bad policy ... In 1993, following the Bulger case, I made a case in very similar terms to the one being heard today about moral breakdown in Britain. I now believe that speech was good politics but bad policy. Focus on the specific problem and we can begin on a proper



solution ... Elevate this into a highfalutin wail about a Britain that has lost its way morally and we will depress ourselves unnecessarily, trash our own reputation abroad, and worst of all, miss the chance to deal with the problem in the only way that will work."

It seems both current and former PMs are busy keeping up appearances with the media and the world at large. Tony Blair is calling for the government to stop attacking western society/british society at large and play it down as a problem of individuals. According to Tony Blair, the "big" cause of the riots in England was "alienated, disaffected youth... outside the social mainstream". True to the conservative stance of society being composed of families; Cameron believes Britain is broke due to a widespread family structure meltdown.

Despite the different opinions existent, what has been clearly left out of the discussions is what are the ideas that motivate individuals to carry out such acts? Surely, the cause cannot be as simplistic as ensuring youth are raised in families with prim and proper manners; nor is it as simple as applying law enforcement to tackle 'pockets of moral decline' in individuals and leave society to continue to indulge in the culture that led to western economic

downfall and for women to be perceived as sexual objects. Arguments such as poverty and the current economic crisis have been highlighted as a possible trigger. But such

**Draconian measures applied on such convicted looters included evictions by local councils and loss of benefits. A strategy that no doubt benefits the government who pockets the difference**

arguments also lack depth in identifying the root causes.

#### **THE REAL CAUSE**

According to the Civitas Institute for the study of civil society, England and Wales have the highest rate (besides Turkey) of youth crimes - with more young people in custody than other European countries. The number of under 18's in custody in 2010 was 2,209. The current concern is that prisons are full, which posed a problem with where to house offenders of the recent riots. The number of recorded offences committed by youth was 277, 987 in 2008. The Criminal Justice System spends £4 billion a year on dealing with youth offenders. Every year, an estimated 70,000 school children enter the youth justice system, with 42% of first time offenders being youth. The number of 15-17 year olds in prison has more than doubled in 10 years. Of the recorded crimes; theft and violence against a person - topped the

crime charts - followed by criminal damage. What was witnessed during the riots were all three offences and more carried out in broad daylight and without fear of any consequences. The victims of this riot included Haroon Jahan, 21, Shazad Ali, 30, and Abdul Musavir, 31, who were hit by a car as they protected stores from looters on the 10th of August. Four youths appeared in court suspected of their murder. Public scenes also saw the extent of humanitarian assistance - when a Muslim overseas student was helped up by people (after he had been punched and kicked by others); only to be robbed of his belongings from his rucksack. The looting craze was classless and also affected the middle-class who shared no moral insecurities to steal and help steal goods from shops by operating a getaway car. The real cause behind such flouting of morals is the viewpoint that western society promotes. The viewpoint of pleasing oneself and maximizing that

pleasure, based on a criteria of doing what one likes based on their own desires is what has caused such moral decay in society. Any attempt to offer deep solutions must surely take account that the western viewpoint of life and freedom mentality is a fundamental cause behind the riots.

#### **AFTERMATH OF RIOTS - SOLVING MORAL DECAY!**

Without acknowledgement that the cause behind the riots is the capitalist viewpoint that drove individuals to do as they please - it is no wonder that solutions posed are superficial. David Cameron has put 'Broken Britain' at the heart of his agenda. A top priority from this is tackling gang culture. Models of policing of gang crime and dealing with gangs from New York and Strathclyde Police have focused the solutions on three aspects: (i) Law enforcement (ii) Youth Services (iii)

Voice in the Community.

Draconian measures applied on such convicted looters included evictions by local councils and loss of benefits. A strategy that no doubt benefits the government who pockets the difference, but creates a further increase in homelessness and poverty. A further solution proposed is for government to attempt to provide coaching to parents to develop their parenting skills as well as a promise of throwing more money into the problem.

Such patchwork solutions seek to put the country in further debt and turn a blind eye on the fact that the very basis that western society stands on is shaky. By humans deciding the criteria of right and wrong, the yardstick will constantly change.

#### IMPACT OF THE WESTERN VIEWPOINT ON THE MUSLIM YOUTH

It is clear to see that the very problems that exist in western society of drugs, alcohol, gang violence, promiscuity and disrespect are also evident within the Muslim community and the Muslim youth. Though in some pockets, there is a reawakening of the Islamic identity within individuals, where young parents seek to raise their children with the Islamic viewpoint of pleasing Allah (swt) and the criteria of halal and haram – this is not representative of all Muslim youth.

According to the Prison Service Statistics (2004), almost 10% of the prison population were Muslim; of which two-thirds were young men aged 18-30. The National Census in 2004 also identified 28% of 16-24 year olds to be unemployed. With the promotion of gang culture by the Music industry along with the rise of drug and alcohol abuse, teenage pregnancy; some Muslim youth have also been affected by the western viewpoint and are victims of 'broken Britain'. Some Muslim youth have adopted the notion of 'life is short – enjoy it', 'I am free to do what I like' and 'do it as long as you can get away with it'. Such a capitalist inspired

mentality will also create 'homegrown' Muslim criminals and gangs since they are a product of the Capitalist way of life and thinking. Not only have such Muslim youth integrated into the crime ridden atmosphere in Britain, but they have also embraced a basis not from Islam. Instead of doing actions for the pleasure of Allah (swt), they will choose to carry actions to please themselves – despite the reminders from Allah (swt): *"I did not create Man and Jinn save but to worship me"*. *"Do you not see those who make their desires their gods"*. In such a Muslim, the criteria of halal and haram is replaced by 'do it as long as you can get a way with it' or 'I am free to do as I please'.

#### A WAY FORWARD FOR MUSLIM YOUTH

Muslim youth in the UK must see their position as distinct and unique. It is a test to live in the heart of western society and remain steadfast. However, it is not a test that predecessors such as Musaab ibn Umayr, Zaid ibn Harith or Fatima Az-Zahra have not experienced. They too lived in the heart of disbelief and moral decay. They did not seclude themselves from the Jahil Arab society, and neither did they compromise their principles. They stood their ground as Muslims, proud and non-compromising of their identity as Muslims and ready to address society and carry dawah to demonstrate the inaccuracies of the Jahil way of life and basis.

Muslim youth in the UK must therefore, read about the lives of such youth of the past and take a lesson from this to motivate them. They must learn lessons from the riots and ensure:

- (i) Muslim youth strive to carry out actions for the sole pleasure of Allah (swt) rather than themselves.
- (ii) Muslim youth strive to adhere to the criteria of right and wrong as halal and haram from Islam and not their minds. Allah (swt) reminds us: *"There are some things you like that are bad for you, and some things you dislike that are good for you. Allah knows and you know not"*.



*"On the day of judgement, every atoms weight of good shall be seen and every atoms weight of bad shall be seen"*

- (iii) Muslim youth surround themselves in the correct Islamic atmosphere, learn about Islam and carry the dawah of Islam to those they meet.
- (iv) Muslim youth reject western culture as a basis for their actions and expose its rottenness to those who idolize it.
- (v) Muslim youth are conscious of the agenda to strip them of their Islamic identity and link to the Ummah globally, expose it and reverse it through dawah.
- (vi) Muslim parents provide a distinct Muslim upbringing that enables the child to have the Islamic viewpoint of worshipping Allah (swt) and the criteria of halal and haram.

Such a mindset will develop a distinct non-compromising Islamic identity and will be a vehicle to judge morally right from wrong – based on Islam.

# Is Pakistan's economy dependant on western aid?



*The last speech before Imran Yousafzai's abduction by government agencies in Pakistan*

*The following is a translation of the lecture notes for the last speech that Imran Yousafzai delivered on the occasion of the Day of the Fall of the Khilafah, 28 Rajab, before his abduction by government agencies. Imran Yousafzai is the Deputy to the Spokesman of Hizb ut-Tabrir in Pakistan. Upon release of this transcript, his whereabouts are unknown, after his kidnapping on 12 July 2011.*

With increasing debate in the media over severing the alliance with the US, agents of the US embassy also known as 'contacts', in the language of the embassy cables, have started a full blown campaign to convince the masses that Pakistan is addicted to the foreign 'aid' (loans) and it will be bankrupt without US loans. Some time ago, an 'intellectual' famous for talking in terms of 'facts and

figures' set about proving this from the figures of Pakistan's trade deficit. Some of our friends who are, strictly speaking, not included in the category of 'contacts', but still have a strong belief in the capitalist system and so puts them close to them, are also talking in this manner. These friends try to scare us about the 'wrath' of the US by citing the dependence of our exports upon Western countries and the import of oil from the international market. Now, prior to discussing this topic, we will look at the economy of Indo-Pak before the arrival of the British and their capitalist system, in an attempt to look at the issue in a proper context.

Prior to the arrival of the British and their capitalist system, the sub-continent was the golden goose of the world and

the world's largest economy. It was the region whose spices and gold led Columbus to discover the American continent. It was the region in which the assets of one citizen, Abdul Ghafoor, were more than the assets of the whole East India Company. The Jughat Seith family of Bengal owned more wealth than the entire wealth of the Bank of England. And the war booty of the War of Pylasi (1757) was more than the whole GDP of Europe. In that era, the soldiers of Portugal, France and England would desert their army to join the army of the Subcontinent for better pay and perks. Capt. Alexander Hamilton wrote that in the era of Muhammad Shah Tughlaq (1325-1351 AD) - not marked as a very memorable age - there were 10,000 schools/colleges in Delhi alone, with seventy Bimaristan (Hospitals). In Bengal there were 40,000 schools/colleges, equivalent to a school for every 400 of the population. Ibn Batuta writes that there is a small place in the city of Bombay called Hoaz. The people of that area followed the Sha'fai school of thought. There are 23 schools/colleges for men and 13 for women. And there is not a single woman in the whole locality who has not memorized the whole Quran-e-Kareem. Till 1880, the world's largest steel industry and the largest naval fleet manufacturing facility was in the Subcontinent, where the British would build their naval fleets. What could be a better description of the prosperity of this Subcontinent than the statement of

Lord Macaulay which he delivered in 1835 in the British parliament. He said: "I have traveled across the length and breadth of India and I have not seen one person who is a beggar, who is a thief. Such wealth I have seen in this country, such high moral values, people of such caliber, that I do not think we would ever conquer this country, unless we break the very backbone of this nation, which is her spiritual and cultural heritage..."

Pakistan is part of the same region. Its agricultural land produces the same produce, indeed with greater yield than before. The residents of this area are as hardworking, studious and skilled as they were before. This land is rich in rivers and streams. More hidden treasures have emerged, such as abundant minerals and sources of energy. Thus everything from the past is present until now. However, a curse has been imposed upon this land. A burden that has reduced its people to beggars and this land is no longer fulfilling the needs of the people. This curse, this burden, is the colonial capitalist economic system which has accumulated the resources and wealth into a few hands, the majority of which are the colonial hands, and deprived the vast majority of even two meals a day. Our corrupt and agent rulers are the product of this very system. The root of the problem is the system. So, let's take a cursory look at the resources of Pakistan so that we can judge; to where has this system led us.

Pakistan has a population of 180 million out of which over 60% are below the age of 25. This is the world's sixth largest population and is more than the German and French populations combined. Our land area is over 0.8 million square kilometers. It is almost as much as France and Britain combined. Pakistan has a 1,046 kilometer coast line which rivals the coast line of major powers. With the world's tenth largest labor force, this country has an ideal strategic location and ideal geography. Allah (SWT) blessed Pakistan with some of the world's tallest mountains, large fertile plains and vast arid deserts.

Pakistan has abundant energy resources. The estimated value of the Thar Coal deposits is 25 trillion dollars, 420 times the value of all foreign loans. Recently, survey reports of one of the allotted sections of the Thar coal mines further strengthened these estimates. This section has been awarded to the Pakistani company Engro. The 184 billion metric ton coal deposits are spread over an area of 9,000 square kilometers. The energy value of these coal mines are more than the combined oil energy of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. Recently there have been some promising gas reservoirs discoveries, with one tight gas reserve at Sui, Balochistan estimated to be 100 trillion cubic feet. This reserve was deliberately kept hidden by the government of Pakistan, a fact testified by Petroleum Minister Dr Asim Hussain in the National assembly on 20th June, 2011. Approximately, 215 trillion cubic feet gas reserves are expected to be found in the southern Balochistan and coastal areas.

Regarding minerals, Pakistan has 74 million tons of aluminum, 500 million tons of copper, 46 million tons of Zinc, 600 million tons of Iron, 350 million tons of gypsum, 22 million tons of Phosphate, dozens of tons of silver, while there is no accounting possible of the marble, precious stones and building stone. In Saindak copper project alone, there is 412 million tons of copper ore, in which a foreign company is working on 78 million tons of ore. Reko Dik gold mines are included in the world's largest gold mines and the estimated worth of the gold, increasing rapidly, in all its blocks is 500 to 3,000 billion dollars. Accurate figures are not available due to the collusion of the government with the foreign companies and the cheating practices of such companies.

Pakistan's agricultural potential is no less. Pakistan's irrigation system is the world's largest, three times more extensive than that of its agricultural rival Russia. Our wheat production, 24 million metric tonnes, is more than that of the entire Africa, which stands at 20 MMT and equals that of South America. This is despite the fact that our land per



acre yield is only 2.2 tons. The yield in Indian Punjab is 4 tons, Mexico 5.5 tons and Western countries have much higher yields due to superior farming techniques. Notably, currently 40 percent of Pakistan's cultivatable land is not cultivated. Pakistan is ranked 1st in the production of ghee, refined butter, 2nd in chick peas, buffalo and buffalo milk, third in okra production, 4th in cotton, apricot, goat milk, mangoes, 5th in dates, onions, various spices and sugarcane, 6th in pulses, 7th in sesame seed, 8th in Cauliflower, 9th in oilseed, spinach and wheat, 10th in goat meat production besides being within the top 20 in a wide variety of vegetables and fruits, eggs, tobacco, jute, lentils and rice.

Pakistan's seven thousand PhD's and approximately two million scientists and engineers have the full technical know how and capability of deriving benefits from these resources to the Ummah.

Despite so many resources bestowed by Allah (swt) - more than that which some of the major world powers possess - the capitalist system has turned us into a nation of beggars. This system treats every nation the same way, wherever it is implemented. Africa, a success story of prosperity under Islamic rule, has been forced by the capitalist system to bow in front of poverty and hunger. Despite the loot and plunder of the resources of the world by the Western powers through



direct and indirect colonialism, this system could not satisfy even the basic needs of the people of their countries and a significant portion of their population still lives below the poverty line. For example, 37 million people in the US live below the poverty line.

These facts and figures are enough to prove that not only do we have enough resources, rather, we have the full potential to sustain another country of our size and even more. It is obvious that we are neither dependant on any other country nor at the mercy of the coffers of others. As per the current year budget figures, Pakistan will receive 287 billion rupees in total as foreign loans and aid whilst we are going to pay out a total of 319 billion rupees in debt services, i.e. foreign loan principal repayment of 76 billion rupees and a staggering 243 billion rupees of interest (Riba) to foreign countries and institutions. This clearly manifests that these foreign powers and institutions are living on our money and not the other way around. And if we didn't have to pay the loans and interest, we would not need any loans to meet our current expenditure.

As far as the issue of linkage of our exports to Western markets is concerned, we export almost 22% of our goods to the US. Not because of any benevolence or favour from the US government, rather because they are the

best quality with the lowest price which America can not find anywhere else. It is the US and EU that have time and again blocked Pakistan exports under one or another pretext like child labour, environmental preservation etc. And the Pakistani economy has successfully sustained such pressure in the past.

Now let's move to the import of oil, which our friends never forget to mention. To remind our friends, Pakistan does not receive oil as charity. Pakistan pays the full market price in the same manner as the US who import 54% of its oil needs from the international market. Again to remind our friends, the total oil reserves of the Muslim world are 844 billion barrels in comparison to the 45 billion barrels of the non-Muslim world. Seven out of 10 of the world's largest oil

**Our economy is in deep crisis because of colonial capitalist policies. On top of that is the corruption that comes as a natural package with democracy.**

wells are present in the Muslim world. Moreover, in case of an oil blockade on Pakistan, the majority of the countries of the world would be in trouble as the world's largest oil reserves and oil sea routes are in Pakistan's backyard, the Persian Gulf and Straight of Hormuz. And at the very least, the Pakistan Navy and Air Force are more powerful than Somalian pirates, is that not so?!

Our economy is in deep crisis because of colonial capitalist policies. On top of that is the corruption that comes as a natural package with democracy. As the legislative assemblies in a democracy provide a legal and legitimate way of corruption in the order of billions of Rupees, the top corrupt politicians and robbers use the ladder of democracy to reach the legislative assemblies, after removing every obstacle in their way. Once there, these corrupt "representatives" engage in multiplying their fortunes through the policy forming, law making and other perks that come with legislators fulfilling their "sacred" obligation. None of the conditions such as being pious, a practicing Muslim, graduate or anything

else stops them from coming into assemblies. These few corrupt, present in every nation become the legal root of corruption by using the universal ladder of democracy. It is this legal corruption that is causing 400 billion rupee losses to a handful of national corporations every year. American military operations increased our defense spending from 450 billion rupees to 800 trillion rupees. According to the special appendix of Pakistan's Economic survey (2010-11), in just one year, this American war has caused damage of 17.8 billion dollars (1,528 billion rupees) to the Pakistan economy. What an irony that America becomes the owner of our sovereignty through the paltry sum of 1.5 billion dollars of "aid"! According to this year's budget, Pakistan will pay 1,000 billion rupees in interest re national and

international loans. Because of the resistance of democratically elected representatives, Pakistan is deprived of at least 300 billion rupees of agriculture tax since most of them are the landlords and they prefer imposing GST on already deprived people to imposing tax on agriculture of the like of Kharaaj and Ushur. Thus, this corruption, that is bundled within democracy, the American war and the interest on loans together is costing us more than 3,500 billion rupees every year, which is more than our annual budget. This deficit can easily be removed by an Islamic Khilafah state in next to no time. This is another proof for the fact that separation from the US alliance and the establishment of an Islamic state will take Pakistan on the path of development and prosperity rather than difficulties.

The Islamic Khilafah State will transform the vast resources of Pakistan into an enormous power and prosperity for the Ummah through the universal Islamic ideology instead of converting them into a 'resource curse'. Islam's injunctions on public properties ensure that the minerals and energy resources are

available to the public and economy at cheap prices, rather than exposing them to exploitation by multinationals. Islam forbids the placing of the ownership of these resources into the hands of individuals, companies or the state. Thus, these resources are used for the combined well being of the public. Islam removes all indirect taxes thus freeing the hands of people to spend. This results in public satisfaction, an increase in spending and an improvement in the economy. Islam has the full capability to bring about an agricultural revolution in Pakistan through its extraordinary agricultural laws. With these reforms, there is a great incentive for reviving a barren land i.e. obtaining the ownership title. Similarly, the land is taken back from the one who doesn't cultivate it for three years. Declaring the leasing of land for agriculture forbidden, Islam smashes the feudal system to ruin. These reforms will increase the production many fold in a few years and thus poverty will automatically reduce besides making Pakistan a great agricultural power. Islam requires the currency to be backed by gold and silver and this eliminates the US influence over the financial aspects of our economy and this, coupled with the end of fractional reserve banking, will kill inflation as it ties monetary supply to actual wealth, gold and silver. By removing, interest, gambling, prize bonds, pyramid schemes and stock exchanges money is redirected towards the real economy and with a great industrialisation policy based upon establishing military superiority, we can march towards self sufficiency in critical matters.

Thus it is obvious that the withdrawal from the US crusade and the establishment of an Islamic Khilafah state will become the basis of Pakistan's prosperity. The Economic Survey of Pakistan released on 8th of June, 2011 is an open admission of the failure of the government and the system. Confessing the destructive role of the American war, the government states: "Pakistan's economy is under pressure of the War on Terror intensifying for the last four years in Afghanistan. Since 2006, the War has spread like a contagion into settled



areas of Pakistan that has so far, cost the country more than 35,000 citizens, 3,500 security personnel, destruction of infrastructure, internal migration of millions of people from parts of northwestern Pakistan, erosions of investment climate, nose diving of production and growing unemployment and above all brought economic activity to a virtual standstill in many parts of the country. Pakistan had never witnessed such devastating social and economic upheaval in its industry, even after dismemberment of the country by direct war".

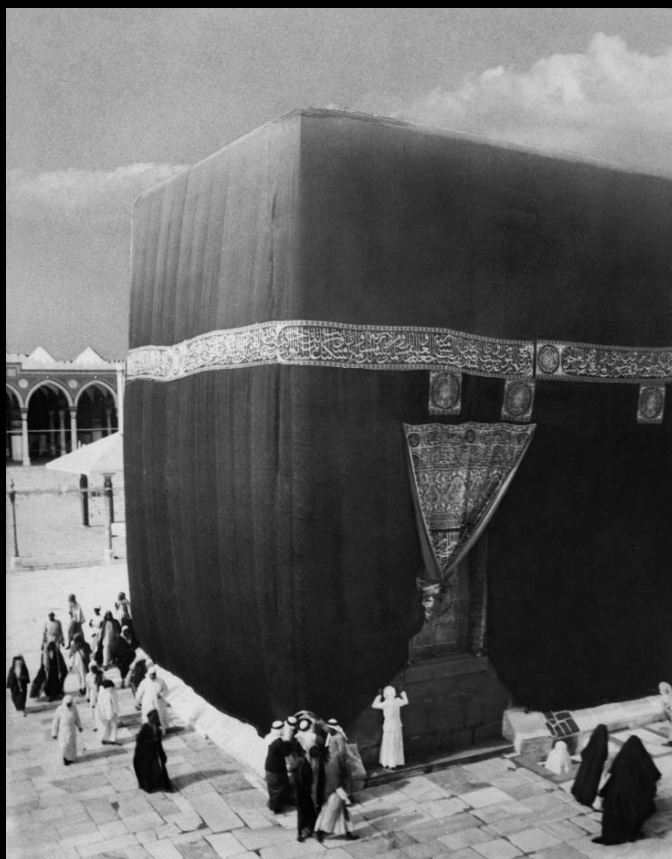
Thus the government confesses that this war is pulling Pakistan back into the Stone Age, a Pakistan with no electricity, no gas and no water. Preventing Pakistan from going back to the Stone age was the excuse given by Pervez Musharraf for joining this war, what an irony! The Economic Survey of Pakistan further adds; "The conclusion was that the War not only caused serious damage to the economy, but also to the social fabric of Pakistan. Obviously, continuity of War will continue to bleed the economy and society of Pakistan". An inter-ministerial and inter-provincial committee was formed to estimate the losses Pakistan faced due to this war. The economic survey of Pakistan presenting the conclusion of this committee said; "During the last 10 years the direct and indirect cost of the war on terror incurred by Pakistan amounted to

\$67.93 billion or Rs. 5037 billion". The government confession proves that the continuation of this war will annihilate any remaining economy of Pakistan. The Economic Survey summarizes the whole sorry tale of this war in two sentences; "Pakistan became more insecure in its efforts to make the world a safer place to live" and "Pakistan's economy needs an early end to this war".

The above arguments are enough to prove that this land has always been a prosperous land and the potential it has is increasing day by day instead of decreasing. However, a curse is imposed on this land, i.e. Capitalism. Brought here by the English and later implemented by the English and American agents for over six decades. This capitalist system has served the colonialist and their agents well, whilst the common man is not even able to make both ends meet. The colonialist war and colonialist policies have made matters worse for the Ummah. The time is ripe for the people of power (Nusrah) to rid the public of this cursed system and its guardian agents so that this land can open its treasures for the Ummah. This will turn the US's war back onto the US. Indeed, this is our only recipe for survival, surely only in Islam lies the Muslims' dignity and success.

**It was reported in mid October that Imran Yousafzai has subsequently been released.**

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**Khilafah**  
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