

*The Fate of the Muslim World in the 21st Century**

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"The Originator of the heavens and the earth! When He decreeth a thing, He saith unto it only: Be! and it is". (Al-Quran: I:II-117).¹

"Thus we have appointed you a middle nation, that you may be a witness against mankind, and that the messenger may be a witness against you". (2:II-143).²

The Hypocrites (Ar. Munafiqun):

According to Cyril Glasse's *The Concise Encyclopedia of Islam* (Harper, 1991): The Hypocrites or Munafiqun were:

"A party in Medina which professed sympathy to the Prophet and Islam but whose members were actually supporters of the pagan Quraysh of Mecca. The Koran refers to them as "propped up pieces of wood", and, "Those in whose heart is a disease".

"Their leader was Abd-Allah-Bin Ubayy, who withdrew his three hundred horsemen from the Muslim forces just before the Battle of Uhud. He was an important figure in Medina before the Prophet arrived there; almost to the end of his life he was *jealous* of the Prophet and grudging in his help. It was in respect of him, and his use of some six of his female slaves, that the verse of the Koran (24:33) was revealed:

"And constrain not your slave-girls to prostitution, if they desire to live in chastity, that you may seek the chance goods of

* Note: All Italics in this paper is by the present author, for emphasis.

the present life. Whosoever constrains them, surely God, after their being constrained, is All-forgiving, All-compassionate". (pp.163-64).³

The Munafiqun:

There are scores of references to the Hypocrites in the Holy Quran (not Koran), for example the very first *Sipara* reveals in the second Surat, Al Baqar, *Ayat* 8 to 16, that:

"And of mankind are some who say: we believe in Allah and the Last Day, when they *believe not*. They think to *beguile* Allah and those who believe, and they beguile none save themselves; but they perceive not. In their *hearts* is a *disease*, and Allah increaseth their disease. A painful doom is theirs because they lie.

"And when it is said unto them: Make not mischief in the earth, they say: we are peace-makers, only. Are not they indeed the *mischief-makers*? But they perceive not. And when it is said unto them: Believe as the people believe, they say: Shall we believe as the *foolish* believe? Are not they indeed the foolish? But they know not.

"And when they fall in with those who believe, they say: We believe; but when they go apart to their devils, they declare: Lo! we are with you; verily, we did but *mock*. Allah (Himself) doth mock them, leaving them to wander blindly on in their contumacy. These are they who purchase error at the price of guidance, so their commerce doth not prosper, neither are they guided:". (2:8-16).⁴

Typical Traits:

Thus, in the light of the above Qurani verses, the Hypocrites are characterized by the following typical traits:

- i. They falsely proclaim to believe in Allah and the Dooms-day, i.e., they are false believers or disbelievers (Kafirun).
- ii. They, thereby, try to deceive Allah and Humankind, alike, but to no avail. They only deceive themselves.
- iii. Thus, their hearts are diseased with disbelief, which deadens their consciences and sullies their souls.

- iv. They are, in reality, mischief-makers who pretend and profess to be peace-makers.
- v. They try to be clever and claim to be wise, but are truly foolish.
- vi. They try to play clever with both sides, the believers and the non-believers. That makes them no better than the devil's disciples.
- vii. Finally, the Hypocrites are self-deceivers/deluders, mocking, ultimately, at themselves and none else. They misguide themselves grievously, with the result that instead of prospering, they mistakenly lose in the long run, gaining eternal damnation in hell. Thus:

“Bear unto the hypocrites the tidings that for them there is a painful doom.” (4:138).⁵

“Lo! Allah will gather the hypocrites and disbelievers all together into hell.” (4:140).⁶

Furthermore:

“And when it is said unto them: Come unto that which Allah hath revealed and unto the messenger, thou seest the hypocrites turn from thee in *aversion*”... (4:60-63).⁷

Revealed Religions:

For them, (the Hypocrites), neither Allah's revealed religions and their Holy Scriptures, nor His Prophetic-Messengers like Prophets Ibrahim, Isa and Muhammad (SAS!) have much meaning, message, or importance.

Therefore:

“Lo! The hypocrites seek to *beguile* Allah, but it is Allah who beguileth them. When they stand up to *worship*, they perform it *languidly* and to be seen of men, and are mindful of Allah but little.

“*Swaying* between this (and that), (belonging) neither to these nor those. He whom Allah causeth to go *astray*, thou (O Muhammad) will not find a way for him”. (4:140-143).⁸

Ritual and Religion:

It is typical of the Hypocrites to try to run with the hare and hunt with the hound. They are committed to no one, and

their loyalty is questionable, for they are insincere friends — which is a self-contradiction. While religion is soulfully experiential, their prayers are a ritual to show off their religiosity, which is a mere pretence to beguile the onlookers and to play to the populist gallery.

Above all:

“The hypocrites, both men and women, proceed one from another. They *enjoin* the *wrong* and they *forbid* the *right*, and they *withhold* their *hands* (from spending for the cause of Allah). They *forget Allah*, so He hath forgotten them. Lo! The hypocrites, they are the *transgressors*”. (9:67).⁹

The hypocrites may indulge in rituals. For them, right is wrong and wrong is right. They try to, thereby, reverse the meaning of good and bad, right and wrong. But they are neither true believers nor sincere practitioners. In fact, in real life and practical living, they oppose God's commandments, and Allah's prescribed principles of Islam's foremost five fundamentals, i.e., *Namaz, Roza, Haj, Zakat, Qalima* and *Quran*. As contrasted to the disbelievers, the Believers are:

“Lo! Those who believe (in that which is revealed unto thee, Muhammad), and those who are Jews and Christians and Sabaeans—whoever believeth in Allah and the Last Day and doth right—surely their reward is with their Lord, and there shall no fear come upon them, neither shall they grieve”. (I:II-62).¹⁰

The Believers:

It is clear from the foregoing that the Believers can be both Muslims and non-Muslims — the people of the Books. Likewise, Hypocrites, too, can be both non-Muslims and *nominal* Muslims. And so:

“Many of the people of the Scripture long to make you disbelievers after your belief, through *envy* on their account, after the truth hath become manifest unto them. Forgive and be indulgent (toward them) until Allah give command. Lo! Allah is able to do all things”. (I:II-109).¹¹

Also:

“And they say: None entereth Paradise unless he be a Jew or a Christian. These are their own desires. Say: Bring your proof (of what ye state) if ye are truthful”: (I:II-111).¹²

Further:

“And the Jews say the Christians follow nothing (true), and the Christians say the Jews follow nothing (true): yet both are readers of the Scripture. Even thus speak those who know not. Allah will judge between them on the Day of Resurrection concerning that wherein they differ”. (I:II-113).¹³

“And the Jews will not be pleased with thee, nor will the Christians, till thou follow their creed. Say: Lo! The guidance of Allah (Himself) is guidance. And if thou shouldst follow their desires after the knowledge which hath come to thee, then wouldst thou have from Allah, no protecting friend or helper”. (I:II-120).¹⁴

The Hypocrites' Prime Purpose:

The objective of the non-Muslims, Disbelievers and Munafiqun or Hypocrites is not necessarily or invariably to *convert* the Muslims to their creed or credo, *but to subvert* them from their own religion, ideology, value system, culture life styles and ways of life. This is being done very successfully these days in the name of so-called Modernization through Westernization or socio-cultural alienation, by means of the modern media that claim to “entertain, educate and inform” the Third/Muslim World. This, in reality, is nothing short of ‘sensateism, de-education and misinformation’, as far as one’s roots, moorings and identity go — be they socio-cultural or ethnic, ideological, spiritual or religious. And all in the name of Human Rights and the New World Order! *Yet:*

“There is no compulsion in religion. The right direction is henceforth distinct from error. And he who rejecteth false deities and believeth in Allah, hath grasped a firm handhold which will never break. Allah is Hearer, Knower”. (3:2-256).¹⁵

Subversive Tactics of the Munafiqun:

The hypocritically tempting misguiders resort to subversion rather than conversion, because human nature being prone to weakness, finds temptation to be alluring. As compulsion is obvious and objectional, it meets with resistance. But subversion is subtle and devious — it generally goes unnoticed till it is too late.

“Lo! Religion with Allah (is) the Surrender (to His will and guidance)”. (3:II-19).¹⁶

The subverting Hypocrites tempt one to surrender to ‘*Ghair-Allah*’, i.e., other than Allah, e.g., to alienating creeds like Materialism, Mammonism, Secularism, Scientism and Modernism/Westernism/Sensateism — creeds counter to Allah’s own creeds, Al-Islam. For:

The Mumin:

“Ye are the best community that hath been raised up for mankind” (4:110).¹⁷

Because:

“Ye enjoin *right conduct* and forbid indecency, and ye believe in Allah”. (4:110).¹⁸

Therefore:

“O ye who believe! Take not for *intimates* others than your own folk, who would spare no pains to ruin you; they love to hamper you. *Hatred* is revealed by (the utterance of) their mouths but that which their breasts *hide* is greater. We have made plain for you the *revelations*, if ye will understand”. (4:III-118).¹⁹

Human History’s Lessons:

What needs to be understood from the above is, the following lessons of Human History:

- (i) **Human System:** “Systems have passed away before you. Do but prevail in the land and see the nature of the consequence for those who did deny (the messengers)”. (4:III-137).²⁰

In other words, we must learn lessons from Human History, and decode the Messages from the past.

- (ii) **The Holy Quran:** "This (the Holy Quran) is a declaration for mankind, a guidance and an admonition unto those who ward off (evil)". (4:III-138).²¹

The lessons of Human History are codified in the *Holy Quran* — which is *the Divine Guidance for All Humanity*. Colonialism and imperialism were the results of ignoring this guidance. And so: 'Systems have passed away before you' — both Muslim and non-Muslim, for whom:

"Muhammad is but a Messenger, messengers (the like of whom) have passed away before him". (4:III-144).²²

- (iii) **Messenger of Allah:** Thus Prophet Muhammad (SAS!) is the last Human Prophet — unlike the Christian or Jewish belief of Christ and Jehova. Prophet Muhammad (SAS!) is the supreme role model and peer pressure for the Muslims and all humanity.

- (iv) **The Prescribed Path:** "And with how many a prophet have there been a number of devoted men who fought (beside him)". (4:III-146).²³

And

"Think not of those who are slain in the way of Allah, as dead, Nay, they are living. With their Lord they have provision". (4:III-169).²⁴

The Path of the Prophet, Shaheed and Ghazi:

The above two verses point to the right path for the Muslims — the path of Muhammad (SAS!) and of the *Ghazi* and the *Shuhuda*. Not the path of the misleading *Munafiqun*. The Mumin's true friend is Allah — not the *Munafiq*. Thus "Allah knows the best (who) are your enemies. *Allah* is sufficient as a *Friend*, and Allah is sufficient as a *Helper*". (5:IV-45).²⁵

"Your friend can only be *Allah*; and His messenger, and those who believe, who establish worship and pay the poor due, and bow down (in prayer)". (6:I-55).²⁶

- (v) **The Supreme Super Power:**

Yet we seek solace and strength in human power — super, world and big — as our friends.

"O ye who believe! Take not the Jews and Christians for friends. They are friends one to another". (6:V-51).²⁷

In reality, Allah, alone, is the sole, most sublime and Supreme Super Power. For:

"He saith unto anything only: Be and it is". (I:II-117).²⁸

Islam — Allah's greatest favour to humanity: "This day have I perfected your religion for you and completed My favour unto you, and have chosen for you a religion Al-Islam". (6:IV-3).²⁹

(vi) **People of the Scripture/Book:**

As for the Jews and Christians:

"Say: O People of the Scripture! Ye have naught (of guidance) till ye observe the truth and the Gospel and that which was revealed unto you from your Lord. That which is revealed unto thee (Muhammad) from thy Lord is certain to increase the contumacy and disbelief of many of them. But grieve not for the disbelieving folk". (6:V-68).³⁰

(vii) **National Power:**

"And every nation hath its term and when its term cometh, they cannot put it off an hour nor yet advance (it)" (8:VI-34).³¹

The Soviet Super-Power has had its term. And the American Super Power must await its own. There is no need of the rest of humanity to get over-awed by it.

Because:

"Lo! The earth is Allah's. He giveth it for inheritance to whom He will. And lo! The sequel is for those who keep their duty (to Allah)". (9:VII-128).³²

And:

"Lo! Allah changeth not the condition of a folk until they (first) change that which is in their hearts: and if Allah willeth misfortune for a folk, there is none that can repel it, nor have they a defender beside Him". (13:XIII-II)³³

This applies equally to the Muslims and non-Muslims, the Mumin and the Munafiq who, alike:

"Man prayeth for good, for man was ever hasty". (15:XIII-II)³⁴

"Man is made of haste, I shall show you My portents, but ask me not to hasten". (17:XXI-37)³⁵

For:

"Every soul must taste of death, and We try you with evil and with good, for ordeal. And unto Us ye will be returned". (17:XXI-35)³⁶

Because:

"Lo! This your religion, is one religion, and I am your Lord, so worship me. And they have broken their religion (into fragments) among them, (yet) all are returning unto Us". (17:XXI-92,93)³⁷

(viii) **War and Peace:**

Humanity has itself sown the seeds of disunity among its ranks. And so the breach of peace. Universal fraternity, alone, can secure peace. Brotherhood among humankind comes about through surrender to Allah, and the realization that:

"This life of the world is but a *pastime* and a game. Lo! The home of the *Hereafter* — that is life, if they but knew". (21:XXIX-64)³⁸

But for this life on earth: "*Corruption* doth appear on land and sea because of (the evil) which *men's hands* have done, that He may make them taste a part of that which they have done, in order that *they may return*". (21:XXX-41)³⁹

All the evil on earth is man-made — *not* God-sent. Today the prevalent human evils like the deadly arms race and war, neocolonialism and 21st Century New Imperialism (or the New World Disorder), hegemonism and expansionism, materialism, smuggling, drug trafficking, gun running, sex, violence, crime and terrorism, etc, are the result of man-made secularism, scientism and sensateism. Not of God-made revealed religion, according to which:

"And it is not your wealth nor your children that will bring you near unto Us but he who *believeth* and doth *good* (he draweth) *near*". (22:XXXIV-37)⁴⁰

For:

"Let not their *wealth* nor their *children* astonish thee! Allah purposeth only to *punish* them thereby in the world, and their souls shall pass away while they are disbelievers". (10:IX-85)⁴¹

Yet:

"But (as) for those who believe and do good works, We tax not any soul beyond its scope — such are rightful owners of the garden. They abide therein". (8:VII-42)⁴²

According to the Holy Quran, one's wealth and family are *Shar* and *Fitna* — mischief — by which Allah tests and tries the believers.

(ix) **Absolute, Divine Power:**

The wordly, secular and materialistic powers need to realize that:

"Whoso desireth power, (should know that) *all power* belongs to *Allah*". (22:XXXV-10).⁴³

"Now when hurt toucheth a man, he crieth unto Us, and afterward when We have granted him a *boon* from us, he saith: Only by force of *knowledge* I obtained it. Nay but it is a *test*. But most of them know not". (24:XXXIX-49).⁴⁴

(x) **Islam and Peace:**

Islam, literally, ideologically and quintessentially means *Perfect Peace* through sublime *submission to Allah*. Thus, Peace becomes the very purpose of a Mumin's life, as under:

"And if two parties of believers are fighting, then make *peace* between them...*justly*, and act *equitably*. Lo! Allah loveth the equitable.

"The *believers* are naught else than *brothers*. Therefore make *peace* between your brethren, and observe your duty to Allah, that haply ye may obtain mercy". (26:XLIX-9,10).⁴⁵

The Iran-Iraq War, the Gulf War, the current Afghan Civil War and even the 1971 Civil War in Pakistan, need to be reevaluated in the light of the foregoing. They occurred — and were neither prevented nor stopped — because of the non-Muslim and nominal Muslim Munafiqun involved in them. Both kinds failed to live up to the norms of good human conduct, regardless of their religious affiliations, if judged by the following Qurani verse:

"O mankind! Lo! We have created you male and female, and have made you nations and tribes that ye may know one another. Lo! The *noblest* of you in the sight of Allah is *the best in conduct*. Lo! Allah is Knower, Aware". (26:XLIX-13).⁴⁶

(xi) **Surah Al-Munafiqun: The Hypocrites:**

A whole Surah (LXIII) in the 28th *Sipara*, comprising eleven verses, is devoted to the subject. But there is much more on it throughout the Holy Quran — because the Hypocrites are the most dangerous enemies of the Believers. The Holy Quran warns against them repeatedly. They practise, as a matter of perennial policy and habit, the worst kinds of lies, simulation and dissimulation, double talk, and deception, as warned below:

“When the hypocrites come unto thee (O Muhammad) they say: We bear witness that thou art Allah’s messenger. And Allah knoweth that thou art, indeed, His messenger; and Allah beareth witness that the hypocrites are speaking falsely”. (28:LXIII-1).⁴⁷

Good and Evil:

The Hypocrites’ whole philosophy of life is based in falsehood. And their mission of life is the subversion of the Believers. Thus, the eternal struggle between good and evil on a global scale. For they sponsor evil and subvert the good.

“They make their faith a pretext, so that they may turn (men) from the way of Allah. Verily evil is that which they are wont to do.

“That is because they believed, then disbelieved, therefore their hearts are sealed so that they understand not.

“And when thou seest them, their figures please thee: and if they speak, thou givest ear unto their speech... They are the enemy, so beware of them. Allah confound them! How they are perverted!” (28:LXIII-2-4).⁴⁸

Secularism, etc:

The Hypocrites often tempt and subvert the Believers through secularism, materialism and worldliness, these being common human weaknesses. And so the Qurani verses against them, e.g:

“O ye who believe! Let not your wealth nor your children distract you from remembrance of Allah. Those who do so, they are the losers”. (28:LXIV-9).⁴⁹

Much of the evil today in the world is for power through wealth. That, for egotistical self-aggrandizement and gratifica-

tion, and the pleasure and prestige of one's family and friends. They, as stated earlier, are '*Fitna*' and '*Shar*' — mischief as a test and trail. Thus:

"O ye who believe! Lo! Among your *wives* and your *children* there are *enemies* for you, therefore beware of them. And if ye efface and overlook and forgive, them, lo! Allah is forgiving, Merciful.

"Your *wealth* and your *children* are only a *temptation*, whereas Allah! With Him is an immense reward.

"So keep your duty to Allah as best as ye can, and listen, and obey, and spend, that is better for your souls. And who so is saved from his own greed, such are the successful". (28:LXV-14-16).⁵⁰

That because:

"Man is (*self*) *destroyed*: how ungrateful!" (30:LXXX-17).⁵¹

"Lo! man is an *ingrate* unto his Lord.

"And lo! in the *love* of *wealth* he is *violent*". (30:L-6,8).⁵²

Summation — The Hypocrites:

"Be they men or women, the hypocrites are all alike. They *enjoin* what is *evil*, *forbid* what is *good*, and *straiten* their *purse strings*. They *forsook* Allah, so Allah forsook them. Surely the hypocrites are *evil doers*" (IX:67).⁵³

"*Strongest* among men in the *enmity* to the Believers will thou find the *Jews* and *Pagans*; and nearest among them in love to the Believers will thou find who say: 'we are *Christians*'; because amongst these are men devoted to learning and men who have renounced the world, and they are not arrogant". (V:82).⁵⁴

Therefore:

"O Prophet! Keep thy *duty* to Allah, and obey not the *disbelievers* and the *hypocrites*. Lo! Allah is knower, wise". (XXXIII:I).⁵⁵

Book Brothers:

"Dispute not with the People of the Book, except with means better (than mere disputation), unless it be with those of them who inflict wrong (and injury).

"But say, "We believe in the *Revelation* which has come down to us and in that which came down to you; our Allah and your Allah is One; and it is to Him we bow (in Islam)". (XXIX:46).⁵⁶

"Say: we believe in Allah and what is revealed to us; in that which was revealed to Ibrahim and Ismail, to Isa and Yaqub and the tribes; and in that which their Lord gave Musa and Isa and the Prophets. We discriminate against none of them. To Him we have surrendered ourselves". (III:84).⁵⁷

Therefore:

"O ye who believe! Choose not disbelievers for (your) friends in place of believers. Would ye give Allah a clear warrant against you?" (IV:144).⁵⁸

Faith and Practice:

The Disbelievers and Hypocrites include the Pagans (Kafirs), Atheists, Polytheists and Agnostics. Religion is not playing petty politics, which is neither here nor there. A close study of the Holy Quran with reference to the theme of the Hypocrites, reveals that they are to be found among broadly three kinds of people: the Non-Muslim Believers (the Jews and Christians), the nominal Muslim Believers, and the Disbelievers (Pagans, Kafirs, Polytheists, Atheists and Agnostics, etc.).

The Believers:

But the crux of the matter hinges on the *core question*: Who, in reality, are the Believers? The obvious, rather simplistic answer would be: those who Believe in Allah, the Prophets, the Judgment Day, the Revealed Scriptures, the Angels, the Hereafter — and Prophet Muhammad (SAS!) as the Last Prophet of Allah. The last, along with the Holy Quran and *Qalima* as well as Islam's Five Fundamentals, distinguish a Muslim from a non-Muslim Believer (— a Christian and a Jew).

But: the road to Hell is paved with good intentions! Thus, *faith, alone*, is not enough — even though it is *essential* to be a Believer. *Islam* is as much a religion and *Deen* (complete code, value system and life style) of *eternal action*, as of *firm faith*, conviction and commitment. It lays the greatest emphasis, alike, on intention and action, character and conduct, motivation and implementation. A true Muslim/Mumin is a person of courage, conviction and commitment, character and conduct, as of noble ideas, ideals, idealism, ideology and action. As such, it is not enough to be a Believer — no matter how strongly sincere one's faith and belief. It is equally essential to be a persistent practitioner. This finally takes us to the *climactic issue* of:

The Modern Munafiqun/Munafiqeen:

Are they today's nominal, non-practising, ritualistic, weakly believing and indifferently lip-serving, superficially professing Muslims of the Muslim World? Its secularists, and materialistic modernizers/westernizers? The local agents of the chameleon-like, hydra-headed, everlasting octopus of Western imperialism? If so, they are, as planted insiders, doing more harm to the Muslim World and its causes, if not to Islam, than their open enemies or even their hypocritical adversaries. For them, the UN and its Charter (a surrogate of and pawn to the USA), are their Bible. Not the Holy Quran. They swear by the Human Rights Charter, conveniently forgetting the more important Islami Human Rights. And we all know that today the Human Rights Charter is nothing but a pretext to interfere, if not intervene, in the domestic affairs of sovereign states and stable societies.⁵⁹ Western hypocrisy is proven to the hilt in the case of Bosnia, Kashmir, Azerbaijan, Filistine and Afghanistan. Therefore, the West has no right to sermonize the Third/Muslim World on Human Rights. As far as *Kushmir* is concerned, the primary issue is one of Democratic National Self-Determination of a divided people and a disputed territory; and the completion of Pakistan on the basis of the Two-Nation Theory. The UN, itself, is a party to that. Its Resolutions are a matter of recorded evidence. The Human Rights issue can, of course, supplement the Kushmiri Right of Self-Determination. And why hasn't a single Pakistani (leader) had the courage to say that if India had the right to interfere and intervene in East Pakistan in 1971,

Pakistan has a greater right to support the Kashmiris? Are they that sold to the West or scared of the Indians? Or yet too afraid or hypocritical to face this stark reality of the Kashmir issue?

The best way to subvert a nation is to alienate its women and youth, socio-culturally and ideologically. Some foreign-funded mushrooming NGOs in Pakistan are doing an excellent job of that since 1988. All in the name of Human/Women's Rights, Basic Needs, Social Welfare, Community Service, Environmentalism, Sustainable Development, Manpower Planning, Human Resource Development, Mass Education and Adult Literacy, etc. *Basant* and *Eid* are easily equated. Those who do not fast or pray, are the keenest *Eid* shoppers. Snooker clubs are the drug peddlars' and gamblers' thriving dens. While foreign women confidently sport the Shalwar-Kamiz-Dupatta, our own teen-angers are hung on jeans, skirts and shorts. Modern shopping centres, beauty parlours and starred hotels or restaurants are galavanting grounds for the adventurous, both professional and casual.

The Muslim Leadership:

Judged by the foregoing Qurani criteria, while the majority of the Muslim populations of the Muslim World are well-motivated Believers, most of their leadership fits into the Qurani definition of Hypocrites. Except for Iran, Indonesia, Malaysia and Libya. They have the moral courage to stand up to the Western pressure tactics, arm twisting, black mail and interference. Like China, Japan and North Korea.

The Muslim Future:

The Third/Muslim World will continue to be black-mailed by the exploitatively secular capitalistic West, so long as it continues to tow the Western line, sing its subversive songs and dance to its destabilizing tunes.

The Wali-Ullah and 'Murd-e-Mumin':

The way out is to shed its local/regional Munafiqun, seeking out its Secret *Wali-Ullah* — the Friends of Allah — for inspirational leadership and guidance. The days of Prophets ended with the last of them, Muhammad (SAS!). But Humanity's

modern-futuristic Messiahs are the Wali-Ullah. And it very badly needs them. But how to discover them? What are their signs, symbols and symptoms? It is generally believed that:⁶⁰

- (i) The true Wali-Ullah is a strongly committed and sincerely practising Believer. A person of convincing convictions, courage and commitment, character and conduct, principles and practices, ideas, idealism, ideology and action. An activist change agent and revolutionary in the service of Allah. He is a fearless Mumin whose whole life is inspired by *Ishq-e-Allah* (the ecstatic love of Allah).
- (ii) The Wali-Ullah is silent to the extent of secrecy, shunning projection and publicity. He is an empathetic listener rather than a garrulous talker, being truly thoughtful, meditative, modest, unassuming and humble.
- (iii) The Wali-Ullah believes in and strives for the Human Brotherhood. His *Ishq-e-Allah* inspires him to *Ishq-e-Bashar / Insan* (love of Humanity).
- (iv) He is truly *spiritual*, shunning secularism, materialism, and sensateism.
- (v) As such, Allah's *Noor* inspires his life — heart, mind, soul, spiritualizing his looks with the glow typical of a Wali-Ullah.
- (vi) Allah Almighty grants the Wali-Ullah's prayers and blesses his actions with success.
- (vii) His is a charismatic personality who can, God willing, work miracles.
- (viii) He prays, meditates and works more than he eats, speaks or sleeps.
- (ix) The Wali-Ullah is truly selfless, self-effacing and sacrificing.
- (x) He is caste in the image of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAS), and inspired by the World-View, Vision and Wisdom of Islam. Therefore, his charismatic personality is spiritual — not secular. It is of the *Jamali* type, being beneficent, benevolent and benedictive — rather than *Jalali* (awe-inspiring or stern). He is tolerant and transformational, patient and persevering, forgiving and forbearing, generous and magnanimous.

The Muslim/Third World is said to be rich in such secret spiritual treasure which needs to be tapped conscientiously for its well-merited and urgently needed enlightening leadership role. The spiritual Wali-Ullah guides Allama Iqbal's *Murd-e-*

Mumin leadership for statesmanship and struggle for Allah's Divine Will. Without such Saviours, the Third/Muslim World will continue to be increasingly *dominated* and *mised* by secularist smugglers, terrible terrorists and malevolent materialists. The Third/Muslim World masses are disillusioned in such sinister leadership, and are seeking their truly spiritual peers. As such, the Third/Muslim World is on the verge of a genuine *Islami Revolution* — despite all the secularist Western preventive counter-revolutionary action against it in several countries from Bosnia to Bangladesh and Maldives-to-Malaysia — through well-orchestrated local and regional actoragents of 21st Century Western Imperialism. But constant change being the norm of life, is simply unavoidable. The Third/Muslim World change-trend today is back to their *Spiritual Roots and Moorings*.⁶¹

Towards the Afro-Asia 21st Century:

The Afro-Asian Third/Muslim World may be presently poor, materially, but it is potentially rich, socio-culturally and spiritually. All its spiritual-cultural forces need to be pooled together for a foreseeable shared future in an Afro-Asian Vision. India's and Pakistan's prospective role in it is inhibited by their mutual differences. They need to be sorted out futuristically — justly and fairly — for their common good and for regional progress in peaceful stability.

Meanwhile Iran, Pakistan and China can — and must — get together in favour of their Afro-Asian Vision for the 21st Century. Others like Japan, Korea and India can be lobbied for it as the former get together. They all have common interests and a shared destiny, which must transcend their differences. Their tensions need to be resolved justly and amicably.

Presently, the challenge to Capitalism is from within itself — its own ever-competitive rivalries, interests, divisions, inner contradictions, confrontations, class conflicts and exploitative excesses. Communism may have died with the Soviet Union. But some sort of Social Democracy or Democratic Socialism is essential for the salvation of the Third/Muslim World perpetually pestered by poverty and population explosion. They simply do not have the resources to seek the exploitative Western capitalistic and wasteful consumeristic values, life

styles, standards and quality of life. While capitalism serves to exploitatively enrich the elite, at the cost of the impoverished masses, socialism seeks to alleviate human poverty/misery through the egalitarian ethics and conserve system of Basic Needs and Human Rights rooted in the local-regional political culture, socio-cultural heritage and historical experiences. The secret of such success lies in China, the hope and future of the Third/Muslim World. Iran today needs to address the letter that Imam Khomini had written to President Gorbachev to contemporary China. The Muslim World has its own largely untried Islami Ideology to inspire and guide it. Islam is the panacea to moderate the excesses of communism and balance the exploitation of capitalism. It is the poor persons' peace in plenty, and the middle classes' respectable security in social stability.

Whither Pakistan?

As for Pakistan, it needs to shed its decadent and dated misleaders, in search for its inspirational spiritually collectivity of the Wali-Ullah and Murd-e-Mumin. That means: Nationalization and Indigenization through Islam and Islam, alone, pure and simple. Not secularism, sensateism or Westernism. It must also immediately diversify its defence and security system — away from the IMF-World Bank crippling conditionalities. And never, never eschew its nuclear option. In fact, the time has come for Pakistan to openly declare and exercise its nuclear and Kushmir policies symbolic of truly self-reliant defence, security and foreign policies.

All this will need a *Peaceful Revolution* to usher in a truly Pakistani modern-futuristic Islami constitution, system and leadership. Now is the time for such Radicalization/Transformation towards the 21st Century Sustainable Survival.

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