

# THE RAPID INCREASE OF ISLAM SINCE

# 9/11

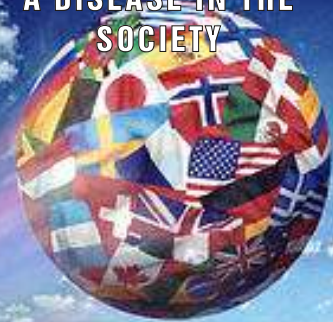
by Abu Ibrahim

This month sees the 3rd anniversary of the attack that took place on September 11th in Washington and Manhattan USA, now famously known as 9/11. No doubt the media will again give great coverage to this event, highlighting like they have done in the past the numbers that were killed in the twin towers and the Pentagon. Not once will the question be asked as to the causes behind that fateful day, nor will the fingers be pointed in the direction of USA and her foreign policy. Rather it will be pointed once again without any hesitation at the Muslims, as though history did not exist before 9/11.  
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in accordance  
to the  
teachings of  
**AHLUS SUNNAH  
WAL JAMA'AH**

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# KNOWN BY NECESSITY

by Abu Ibrahim

The Messenger (saw) said "seeking knowledge is obligatory upon every Muslim"

On the commentary of this hadith (prophetic saying) the great companion Abdullah ibn Abbas (ra) said "Knowledge (ilm) here is what is known by necessity, in order for a Muslim to accomplish his deen (divine way of life)."

## ○ Belief in the Angels

Belief in angels is one of the six pillars of faith (Iman), without which there is no faith. Whoever does not believe in any of these pillars is not a believer (mu'min). These pillars are belief in: Allah, His angels, His Books, His Messengers, the Last Day, and that predestination, both good and bad, comes from Allah. Unfortunately we find there are many incorrect assumptions made about angels; here are the facts according to Islam:

### ○ The Angels according to the Qur'an & Sunnah.

The Arabic word for Angels is 'Malaika'

Angels are the creation of Allah (swt) made from light (nur) they are living heavenly beings.

Aishah (ra) reported The Messenger of Allah said: **"The angels are created from light, just as the jinn are created from smokeless fire and mankind is created from what you have been told about (clay)"** [Sahih Muslim]

Angels have been given free will just like mankind and Jinns. However angels out of choice are always subservient to Allah (swt). Their main task in relation to mankind is that of conveying Allah's (swt) messages to His chosen prophets. This great honour is assigned mainly to the leader of the angels Gabriel (Jibril). Allah (swt) used Gabriel to transmit all the books of revelation from the scrolls (suhaf) of Abraham (Ibrahim), the Torah (Turah) of Moses (Musa), the psalms (Sabur) of David (Dawud), the bible (Injil) of Jesus (Isa) up to the final revelation Al Qur'an revealed to the Final Messenger and the seal of Prophethood Muhammad (saw).

The very nature of angels is that they are Infallible and do not make mistakes hence why they are trusted with the revelation, contrary to what the Jews and some sects of the Shia claim.

Although we cannot see angels, Allah (swt) may show them to some humans. The Prophet Muhammad (saw) saw Jibril in his real shape with six hundred wings that covered the horizons. Angels can also change shape and appear in any form, Jibril came to Prophet Muhammad (saw) while he was among his Companions in the appearance of an unknown man with very white clothes and very black hair.

Regarding their wings Allah (swt) says **"Praise be to Allah, Who created (out of nothing) the heavens and the earth, Who**

**made the angels messengers with wings - two, or three, or four (pairs) adds to Creation as He pleases: for Allah has power over all things."** [Qur'an 35:1]

Allah (swt) created the Angels before man. **"Behold, your Lord said to the angels: 'I will create a vicegerent on earth'"** [Qur'an 2:30] the fact that Allah told them of His intention to create man indicates that they already existed.

The angels were also commanded by Allah (swt) to prostrate to Adam (the first man created), they all did except Iblis (Satan) however he was from the jinn (made from smokeless fire), so Allah (swt) says Iblis became a kafir (disbeliever) as he disobeyed the command of Allah (swt) and so became an outcast.

Angels do not become tired or bored from serving their lord, Allah (swt) says **"They celebrate His praises night and day, nor do they ever flag or intermit."** [Qur'an 21:20]

They do not need food or drink; this is indicated by the conversation between Ibrahim (as), the "friend" of Allah and the angels who visited him. Allah says **"Then he turned quickly to his household, brought out a fatted calf, and placed it before them. He (SWT) said, 'Will you not eat?' (When they did not eat), he conceived a fear of them. They said: 'Fear not,' and they gave him glad tidings of a son endowed with knowledge."** [Qur'an 51:26-28]

Angels are genderless and do not co-habit, so they do not produce offsprings. Angels are not the sons and daughters of Allah (swt) as the Christians claim, nor are they the companions of Allah (swt) for eternity as they too will be destroyed when the final hour comes upon us.

Angels only come to the earth for the benefit of mankind; their presence prevents the occurrence of earthquakes and flooding, they control gravity and even stop asteroids

hitting the earth. Angels protect the children from harm and make them smile.

Angels always surround Muslims but being shy in nature, they leave the company of humans when exposed to nudity. Angels are there to make praise for the believers and seek forgiveness (istigfar) for them. In every hand span there are four angels to protect man.

The angels are many, and their number is known only to Allah (swt).

## ○ Roles of the Angels

- Jibril (Gabriel)  
The chief of angels that took the revelation to all the prophets.
- Mikahil (Michael)  
The angel of distribution of provisions.
- Israfil  
The angel of preservation of the universe, also the angel who will blow the trumpet in the final hour.
- Malikul Mawt  
The angel of Death.
- Ridhwan  
The angel of Paradise.
- Malik  
The angel of hellfire.
- Munkar & Nakir  
Angels of the Grave: They will question every one to their beliefs.
- Harut & Marut  
The two angels sent to the people of Babylon.
- Mamalat Ul-A'resh  
The angels of the carriers of the throne.
- Kiraman Katibin  
The scribes assigned to each human, one over each shoulder.

(continued from page 1)

Muslims on the other hand will have to sit through and hear the hypocrisy of USA and her Allies, who yet again will use the events of 9/11 to justify the killing of many thousands of Muslims in Afghanistan and Iraq, in their so called "War on terrorism". This has transpired to nothing more than a war on Islam and the Muslims.

The reporting of facts will no doubt be biased depending on what side of the fence you stand after all it was George W Bush who said "your either with us or with the Terrorists"

One fact that cannot be denied is that since 9/11 there has been many reports of the increase of non-Muslims converting to Islam. This is despite the fact the media in all its form whether TV, Radio, Newspapers, Magazines has tried its best to discredit and distort the message of Islam.

All praise belongs to Allah (swt) and by his (swt) mercy many people are still able to see beyond the smoke screen created by these ever increasing media lies and see the light of Islam clearly. Proof of this can be seen by the countless testimonies by converts to Islam (known as reverts) which have been posted on numerous web pages on the Internet, one only has to type in a search in 'Google' to see the results for themselves.

So the question is why the fascination with Islam? To answer this one has to look at what Islam offers people as an alternative way of life. We live in a society today, where words are used to dazzle people into false security and false hope. Words such as Democracy, Freedom, and Liberalism are used as though they are terms of revelation, yet if one looks closely to their meaning we find there is very little substance to it, and people are free to practice these false religions according to their whims and desire. Lets look at these three terms one at a time.

**Democracy** is defined as "the power of the people, for the people, by the people" in other words 'People Power'. Independent polls carried out in this country before the advent of the current onslaught by US and the coalition forces in Iraq, showed that most of the people in the UK did not want to go to war in Iraq, yet we find Tony Blair still took this country to war, so much for democracy. Truly showing democracy for being no more than hypocrisy, and these parliamentarians who take power for being no more than dictators.

**Freedom** too is another very abstract term. We find that even freedom has its limits, so in France the freedom to practice ones religion has limitations, if you are a Muslim woman who is obliged to wear a head scarf it is considered an infringement on the practicing of another religion called secularism. So the President of France, Jacques Chirac

decided "its off with the head scarf" because he is a secular fundamentalist who is biased against Muslims...no supprises there, so much for Freedom.

**Liberalism** has been taken to the extreme; to the point homosexuality is openly accepted and propagated at all levels of life, as is pornography, adultery, fornication, alcoholism and gambling. It is only a matter of time before we hear the calls to allow paedophilia and intimacy with animals.

So it is easy to see why people continue to embrace Islam in great numbers. Islam in all its purity was sent by God to mankind as a mercy and beacon of light to take people away from living in the dark. Even in this age of technology, man still has not got rid of the problems such as immorality, greed, perversion, exploitation, corruption and oppression in society.

Allah (swt) says: "**Indeed in the Messenger of Allah (Muhammad SAW) you have a good example...**" [Qur'an 33:21]

The Messenger Muhammad (saw) in a short period of 23 years of his prophethood changed a society (i.e. Arabian Peninsula) which was much like, if not worse than today. A society embroiled in much corruption and oppression, where there existed a class system separating rich from poor, a democratic ruling system by which only the privileged ruled, acts of nudity and lewdness was accepted as something noble or even worship.

By the grace of Allah (swt) and the message proclaimed by the Messenger Muhammad (saw) that corrupted society was changed into one, whereby one man was not better than another because of race, colour or nationality, whereby women were not looked upon or treated as sex objects, rather they were recognised as wives, mothers and daughters and treated as honour and given protection.

Unlike society today where everything is moving faster without to gain anything, people are seen as consumers, as just another number, a sector of the free market. There is so much money and resources pumped into wasteful pursuits such as exploring outer space, sports, fashion, etc and then governments cry poverty. Truly people need to go back to the original aim and objective of mankind as laid down by the creator.

Allah (swt) says: "**And I (Allah) created not the jinns and humans except they should worship Me (Alone).**" [Qur'an 51:56]

[In commentary of these verse Abdullah ibn Abbas (ra) said "**except they worship Me**" here means exclusively without to associate any partners.]



# NATIONALISM

## A DISEASE IN THE SOCIETY

The Messenger Muhammad (saw) said “He who calls for nationalism is not one of us” [Hadith]

Pakistan Zindabad! Pakistan Zindabad! was the chant as the parade of cars, vans and pedestrians marched, through Green Street in east London and Southall. The noisy chants, beeping of car horns and cheering went on until late night as herds of people of all ages of Pakistani origin lined the streets waving the white on green star and crescent. Youth walked around with the Pakistani flag covering themselves from top to toe, people hanging out of car windows and sunroofs, blowing horns, did their best to get noticed.

"And hold fast, All TOGETHER, by the rope which Allah (stretches out for you), and be NOT DIVIDED AMONG YOURSELVES; ... "  
[Qur'an 3:103]



by Abu Zaid

Watching as a bystander, I wondered what exactly is it that these young people were celebrating? Was it the fact that the two countries officially separated? Was it the day that the muslims of India finally had ownership to a land which they could call their own? Was it simply that they were enjoying the successes of Pakistan since it became independent state? Or did they think that the past and present leaders of Pakistan have made great contributions to the nation, which are worthy of celebration?

August 14th 1947 was the day when Pakistan won its independence from India and formed a separate internationally recognised state. Mohammed Ali Jinnah was the founder of this separation and is hailed by many as a hero even today.

The sense of pride that many of the youth displayed, in waving the Pakistani flag, was clearly overwhelming. This symbolic celebration gave out a clear message, we are Pakistani and this is the day when our country was born. To celebrate this day was acceptance of being different, different from Indians, Bengalis, Somalis, Algerians, Turkish, English or anyone else in that matter.

I thought a little deeper and the more I tried to understand this celebration, the more puzzled I became. Pakistan is a country that has a 150 million strong muslim population and Islam is the predominant religion by far in this country. The question thus arose, what does Islam say about the celebration of this 'Birthday of Pakistan'.

Muslims, live their life in accordance to the teachings of the Qur'an and by using the life of their final prophet, Muhammad (saw) and his companions as their example. But was it not this same prophet, the messenger of Allah, who broke down the barriers between nations and tribes, who only recognised people as being believers or non-believers, and who never gave any allegiance to anyone apart from his creator?

Clearly this was a fact not understood by many in the procession. All the people involved in that event clearly had their allegiances to Pakistan, albeit through ignorance and not knowing the consequences. The



"And verily this Ummah of yours IS ONE UMMAH and I am your Lord and Cherisher: therefore Fear Me (and no other)" [Qur'an 23:52]

muslim Ummah today has fallen into the trap of upholding the man made national boundaries and by pledging loyalty to their countries of origins.

Furthermore, the pride that comes with loyalty to a nation has given rise to a gangland style culture, with violence, rejection and hatred for others being a consequence. Carrying labels such as Arab, Pakistani, Black or White has created the very differences that Islam had eliminated long before.



The Messenger Muhammad (saw) said "A Muslim is a brother to another Muslim" [Hadith]

It will be only when muslims, especially our zealous youth, will return to the fundamentals of Islam and look beyond the man made boundaries that separate this Ummah of Islam, will we make progress. If we can learn to care for others simply for the pleasure of Allah, and give the same devotion that I had witnessed on the Independence day, to the true faith of Islam, we will surely give rise to a more harmonic society, if Allah wills (Insha-Allah).

My final thought for the celebrators of this Independence day was that people who pledge their loyalty to a country have much to learn and understand.



The Messenger Muhammad (saw) said "The Muslim Nation (Ummah) is one at the exclusion of all others, their land is one, their war is one, their peace is one, their trust is one..." [Hadith]

Once two men one from Muhajireen and one from Ansaar differed, each one called to his group for help, so each group got ready to support their man, then the Prophet (saw) said what was reported by Imam Muslim, **"What is this? Are you calling the call of the people of Jahiliyyah? Leave it, for surely it is filthy."**

# Women in Islam

## Victims Of Misrepresentation

**T**he last few years, especially post 9/11, we have seen the subject of Women in Islam being mentioned in all aspects by the western media.

We have seen the depiction of the 'oppressed' figures under the Burkha (Veil) in Afghanistan; to the young teenage girls being subjected to 'force marriages' or becoming victims of 'honour killings' as recently highlighted by cases in Pakistan and in the UK.

Most of the reports that I had watched, listened to or read were frustrating. Frustrating in the sense that distinction between cultural practices and religious requirements were seldom made and often misleading. The reputation of the faith that I chose to follow, the faith, which gave women distinctive rights over 1400 years ago, was clearly being dishonoured and misrepresented.

1400 years ago, the woman was viewed as simply an item of pleasure and abuse for men. To say a woman had rights was unheard of and near blasphemy. Women were simply objects who were there to serve man and his desires and whose lives were worthless, lacking even basic rights, compared to men.

The completion of the deen Al-Islam during the life of the Prophet (saw) laid down the framework for a successful life on this earth and in the hereafter. It laid down the ground rules to abide by and specified rules and criteria to follow. The advent of Islam gave women rights not just as women, but rights as wives, mothers, daughters, etc.

The Prophet (saw) changed a society, which was accustomed to burying their daughter's alive, fearing shame and poverty. The Qur'an speaks of this, Allah (swt) says **"And when the female (infant) buried alive shall be questioned. For what sin she was killed?"** [Qur'an 81:8-9]

So Islam came and elevated the status of the woman and transformed her from being a worthless slave to an individual of great value and importance, whether in the family structure or society as a whole. The Muslim Woman was treated with honour and given respect. These rights given by Islam were unparalleled anywhere on the face of the earth, we find at the same time in Europe the church was persecuting women for being witches and doubted that they even had a soul and were treated as animals.

The Muslim Women (Muslimah) were now eligible to inheritance, they had rights as a wife to be provided for, they could divorce men and refuse proposals, and they could own properties. History also testifies to role the Muslimah played in society, as they became teachers, propagators of Islam,

judges, businesswomen and the list goes on.

Islam being a comprehensive divine way of life has laws that need to be adhered to. Allah (swt) legislated that both men and women should dress modestly and lower their gaze.

**"Say to the believing man that they should lower their gaze and guard their modesty; that will make for greater purity for them, and God is well acquainted with all they do."** [Quran 24:30]

**"Say to the believing women that they should lower their gaze and guard their modesty; that they should not display their beauty and ornaments except what must ordinarily appear thereof."** [Quran 24:31]

Following such divine laws ensured diseases that existed in society, where people just followed their carnal desires, were eradicated.

With the above points in mind, one can see how the subject of Women in Islam has been distorted in all forms of the media today. The portrayal of cultural perversions such as 'forced marriages' and 'wife abuse' are given maximum exposure though none of these acts are from Islam.

The Messenger Muhammad said as part of his final speech to mankind: **"O People, it is true that you have certain rights with regard to your women but they also have rights over you. Remember that you have taken them as your wives only under Allah's trust and with His permission. If they abide by your right, then to them belongs the right to be fed and clothed in kindness. Do treat your women well and be kind to them for they are your partners and committed helpers."**

The confusion about the position of Women in Islam and its connections to anti-Islamic cultural practices can be resolved if Muslims refer back to the command of the Messenger Muhammad (saw) who said **"Verily, I have left amongst you the Book of Allah and the Sunnah (Traditions) of His Messenger which if you hold fast, you shall never go astray."**

If we open the books of Qur'an and Sunnah once again, we can see for ourselves the true message of Islam. The media built illusion of repressed backward Muslim women can clearly be seen for what it is if we refer back to Islamic knowledge as a reference point. Only then can we see how Islam truly liberated women over 1400 years ago.

# Ramadan

...around the corner

"O ye who believe!

Fasting is prescribed to you

as it was prescribed to those before you,

that you may attain taqwah (piety)"

[Qur'an 2:187]

Ramadan the month of glory will be upon us very soon. This is the month Allah (swt) prescribed fasting during the daylight hours for the believers.

The purpose of this fasting is like the verse states to manufacture piety in oneself. So it is not just a case of abstaining from food and drink, but also from using foul language and refraining from all evils by controlling the eyes, ears and hands. Fasting, without practicing this self-restraint and not carrying out other obligations such as the 5 times prayers, leaves nothing to be gained from fasting apart from the feeling of hunger.

In contrast, being engaged in doing more ritual acts increases piety. Muslims are more likely to increase their prayers and charity, as well as to be engaged greater in the propagating Islam (Dawah) and lets not forget forbidding the evil and commanding the good.

Ramadan is also the month in which the revelation was first revealed to the Messenger Muhammad (saw) and the words of Allah (swt) said "Read! in the name of your Lord, who has created (all that exists)" [Qur'an 96:1]

Many Muslims heed to this command and endeavour to study and learn more about Islam. Thus many have been inspired to practice more and remain steadfast in their faith. If Allah (swt) wills, this coming Ramadan will bring many a blessing to Muslim households throughout the world.

FULL ARTICLE IN NEXT MONTHS ISSUE

## Ayah & Hadith of the month

### Ayah - Verse of the Qur'an

"This day, I have perfected your religion for you, completed My favour upon you, and have chosen for you Islam as your religion."

[Quran 5:3]

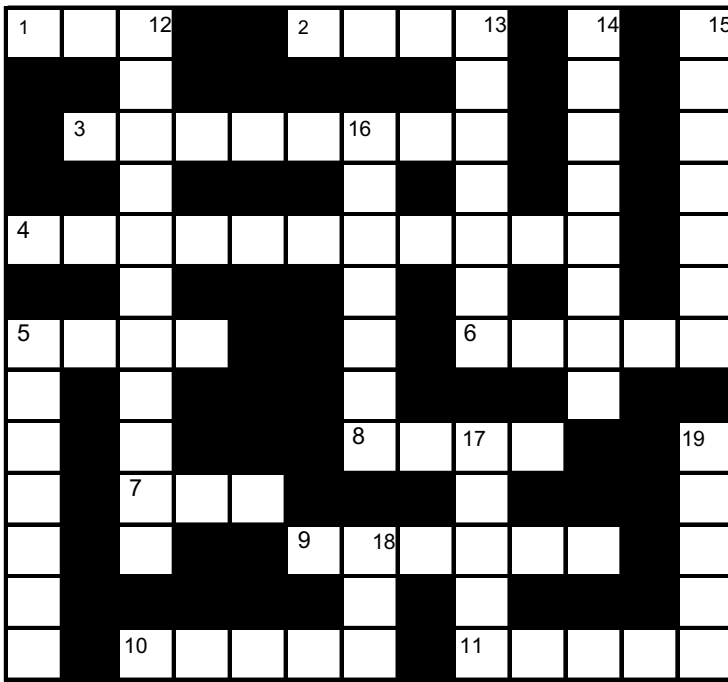
Ibn Kathir commenting on this ayah said "This, indeed, is the biggest favour from Allah to this Ummah (Nation), for He has completed their religion for them, and they, thus, do not need any other religion or any other Prophet except Muhammad.

This is why Allah made Muhammad the Final Prophet and sent him to all of mankind and Jinn. Therefore, the permissible is what he allows, the impermissible is what he prohibits, the Law is what he legislates and everything that he conveys is true and authentic and does not contain lies or contradictions." [Tafsir Ibn Kathir]

### Hadith - Prophetic Tradition

Narrated by Umar bin Al Khattab (ra):  
Once a Jew said to me, "O the chief of believers! There is a verse in your Holy Book Which is read by all of you (Muslims), and had it been revealed to us, we would have taken that day (on which it was revealed as a day of celebration." Umar bin Al Khattab asked, "Which is that verse?" The Jew replied, "This day I have perfected your religion For you, completed My favor upon you, And have chosen for you Islam as your religion." [Quran 5:3], Umar replied "No doubt, we know when and where this verse was revealed to the Prophet. It was Friday and the Prophet was standing at Arafat (i.e. the Day of Hajj)"

# September Crossword



**Answers in next months Issue.**

## ACROSS ►

1. Arabic meaning of 'Son of' (3)
2. Insects mentioned in Qur'an (4)
3. Formerly Abyssinia (8)
4. A position within prayer (11)
5. The first Prophet (4)
6. One of Muhammad (saw) favourite food (5)
7. Number of days in which the heavens and earth were constructed (3)
8. Obligation if we have the means to do so (4)
9. Country which banned the Hijab in Colleges in 2004 (6)
10. Arabic word for Black (5)
11. Role of Bilal prior to his acceptance of Islam (5)

## DOWN ▼

5. Halal (7)
12. Loyalty to a country of origin. (11)
13. Islamic law. (7)
14. Agreement (8)
15. Zakat is obligatory (7)
16. Egyptian leader (7)
17. The devil was amongst these (5)
18. Ahmar (3)
19. Food mentioned in Qur'an (5)



### THE CLOTHING OF THE BONES

“Then We made the Nutfah into a clot (a piece of thick coagulated blood), then We made the clot into a little lump of flesh, then We made out of that little lump of flesh bones, then We clothed the bones with flesh, and then We brought it forth as another creation. So blessed be Allah, the Best of creators.” [Quran 23:14]

Until very recently the Embryologist assumed that the bones and muscles in an embryo developed at the same time. For this reason for a long time some claimed that the verse was in conflict with science, yet advanced microscopic research conducted by virtue of new technological developments has revealed that the revelation of the Qur'an is word by word correct.

Examinations at microscopic levels show that the development of the embryo takes place in just the way it is described in the verse. First the cartilage tissue of the embryo ossifies. Then the muscular cells that are selected from the tissue around the bone come together and wrap around these bones.

This event is described in a scientific publication as follows:

During the seventh week, the skeleton begins to spread throughout the body and the bones take familiar shapes. At the end of the seventh week and during the eight week the muscles take their positions around bone form.  
*Embryologist Keith Moore - The Developing Human, page 56.*

In short, humans developmental stages in the womb; as they are described in the Qur'an are in perfect harmony with the findings of modern embryology.

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