

IS IT ALLOWED FOR MUSLIMS TO WORK WITH NON-MUSLIMS TO COUNTER EXTREMISM AND TERRORIST THREATS?

"If a group from the non-Muslims appeal to us to cooperate with them and for them to cooperate with us to combat something that Islam forbids and commands for it to be fought and eradicated, then it is permissible for us to do this.

If they present to us an offer to combat terrorism – which are the bombings perpetrated by some individuals from the Muslims and which they claim to be an act of worship – then we say that we will cooperate with them to achieve this."

HOW CAN WE PREVENT YOUNG PEOPLE FROM JOINING ISIS?

A lesson can be taken from the biography of the fourth Caliph in Islam 'Alī Abū Tālib, who was a relative of the Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him). A radical sect appeared during the reign of his Caliphate - who are the pre-decessors of all contemporary extremist groups.

Initially, 'Alī sent his cousin Ibn 'Abbās, who was a celebrated scholar and re-nowned for his knowledge of the

Quran, to debate the theology of this sect and expose its flaws and as a result a number of those affected by this heretical doctrine abandoned this destructive path.

Thus, it is imperative for qualified scholars to be given the platform to provide counter narratives to the arguments formulated by extremists.

After their arguments were annihilated by Ibn 'Abbās, Ali fought against those who remained loyal to this bloodthirsty sect. Muslim jurists mention that the application of force falls under the jurisdiction of the leader. So there is two major components to this solution.

It is also imperative for governments to make it clear that the war is not against Islam, but against those who distort its teachings to justify their corruption. This should be represented in a language that is used and in any legislation laws which are Introduced.

Otherwise, extremists will seize on any ambiguity to sell to the youth the narrative that the West is at war with Islam, which is one of their main recruiting tools.

THE REALITY OF ISIS

DON'T BE DECEIVED

SEEK THE TRUTH

SAVE YOURSELF

WHO ARE ISIS?

ISIS are a fanatical group who adhere to a heretical creed, which is condemned by Islam and the Muslims. They believe that it is lawful to murder anyone who op-poses them, whether Muslim or non-Muslim.

Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) said,

"A believer will remain within the bounds of his religion, as long as he does not spill any unlawful blood."
[al-Bukhārī]

WHAT DOES ISIS ASPIRE TO ACHIEVE?

ISIS have been heavily influenced by anarchism and communism. They erroneously think that Muslim societies can be liberated of immorality and corruption using systematic violence. This opposes the Prophetic methodology of education and cultivation.

Allāh said,

"And do not obey the command of the transgressors, who cause corruption in the land and do not reform it."
[al-Shu'arā': 151-152]

IS THERE ANY HISTORICAL ORIGINS FOR THIS TYPE OF EXTREMISM?

Groups such as ISIS, Al-Qaeda, Al-Shabab and others are murderous psychopaths reviving the creed of an ancient heterodox sect known as the Azāriqah.

Ibn al-Jawzī (d. 597H/1200CE), a renowned scholar and historian, said in Talbīs Iblīs (1/574):

"The followers of Nāfi' Ibn al-Azraq (d. 65H/684CE) allowed the killing of Muslim women and children and declared them to be upon polytheism [i.e. infidels]."

ISIS CONDONES THE MURDER OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN, WHAT DOES ISLAM SAY CONCERNING THIS?

There is unanimous agreement of all Muslim scholars, from all of the schools of jurisprudence, that it is forbidden to kill non-combatants.

"The Messenger of Allāh (peace and blessings be upon him) prohibited the killing of women and children."
[Muslim]

Imām al-Nawawī (d. 676/1277CE) stated,

"The scholars unanimously agreed that this hadīth [Prophetic tradition] is to be implemented and that women and children should not be killed if they are non-combatants."

WHAT IS THE RULING ON TRAVELLING TO SYRIA TO JOIN ISIS AND IS THIS CONSIDERED JIHAD?

Numerous scholars have spoken on this matter. Here is a concise summary of some of their words:

- It is not Jihād. Rather, it is turmoil and chaos and a person should not partake in this.
- They should stay far away from this conflict, but they should supplicate for Allāh to grant the Muslims safety and relief.
- Those who encourage people to join ISIS or any other extremist organisation are criminals and should be treated as such.