

# Understanding ISIS & The Church's Response 2014



# September 10, 2014

*“ ISIL is not ‘Islamic.’  
No religion condones  
the killing of innocents,  
and the vast majority  
of ISIL's victims have  
been Muslim.”*

U.S. President Barack Obama  
September 10, 2014

CNN

CNN.com



# ISIS ARE RADICALS

-Two Suppositions

**1) Radical Islam is new, and is a political reaction to:**

-**Israel** (1948)

-**Afghanistan** (2001 -> )

-**Iraq** (2003 -> )

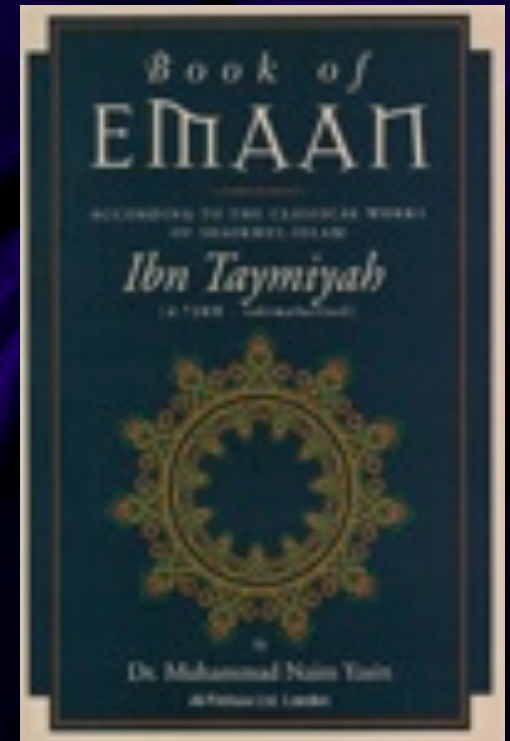
-Thus, it needs a **political solution**

-This is not the responsibility of the Church

-The Church must therefore find '**Common Ground**' with Islam, and with Muslims

## 2) Radical Islam is Not New

- Note: RADICAL = 'ROOT'
  - **624-627 AD** MUHAMMAD'S example in Medina
  - **1300 AD** Ibn Taymiya
    - 'Follow the Qur'an & Muhammad'  
i.e. "The Book & the Man"



# Ibn Taymiyah's Legacy

## Founders of Wahhabi Ideology

**Saudi Arabia**



**Muhammad ibn Abd al-Wahhab  
(1703-1792 AD)**

**India/Pakistan**



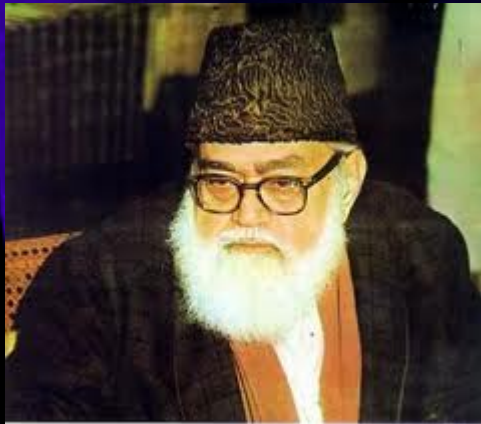
**Shah Waliullah  
(1703-1762 AD)**

**What about the 20<sup>th</sup> Century?**

# Indian Subcontinent



**Muhammad Ilyas al-Kandhlawi**  
-Tablighi Jamaat (1926)



**Abul Ala Maududi**  
-Jamaat-e-Islami

# EGYPT

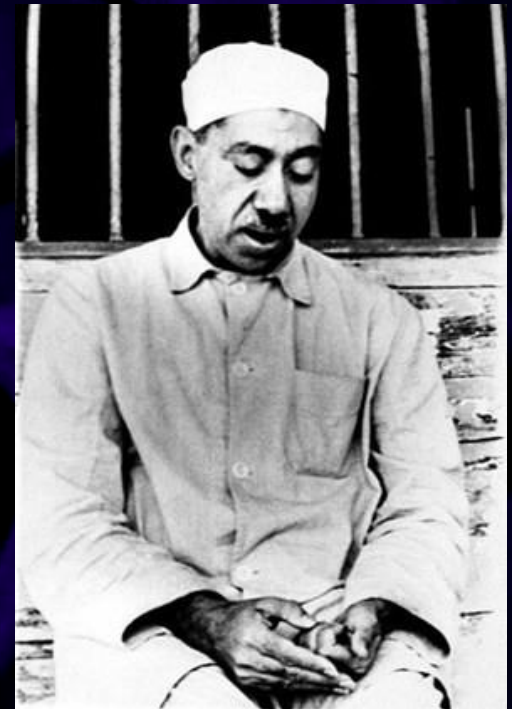


**HASAN AL BANNA** d. 1948  
'MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD'

d-qutb3.jpg

**Sayyid Qutb** d. 1966

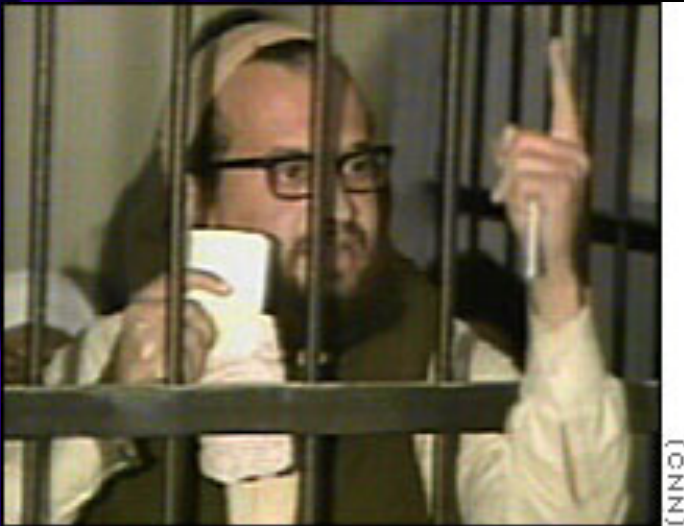
'In the Shade of the Qur'an'  
'Milestones'



**Ayman Zawahiri** – ‘Islamic Jihad’

**Osama bin Laden** – ‘Al Qaeda’

1970s – Present



- Hezbollah, Hamas, Muhajiroun, Hizb ul Tahrir.....

# Radicalization of **Moderate Islam**

- **Yusef al Qaradawi** – moderate, yet ‘out of the closet’



(suicide bombers, wife beating & Homosexuals)

Public vs. Private  
face of Islam



**Omar Sharif & Asif Hanif**

(April 30, 2003 London & Tel Aviv)

# Muslim's Agenda:

## The West is in Decline:

- Culturally** (loss of national identity, creating block societies i.e. Western Union, all in opposition to Islam's culture)
- Socially** (breakdown & dysfunction of the family, of society, rise in crime, indiscipline in schools, plethora of statistics)
- Morally** (Movies, TV, Music, all push sexual promiscuity, immorality, & have huge influence on the youth)
- Spiritually** (Secularism is now the norm, only 5-7% go to church, with much public criticism of religion)
- Economically** (Capitalism's dependence on interest/usury, is evil, and brings about inequality, and injustice)
- Politically** (Democracy is anathema in Islam, and allows unbelievers to control and eradicate the faith of believers)

# ISLAM IS THE ANSWER:

## Radical Islam's Agenda

- 1) Eradicate Immorality – Shariah Law
- 2) Eradicate Usury (Interest) – Islamic banking
- 3) Eradicate Democracy - Caliphate
- 4) Eradicate Western Militaries – Ummah

# Use the 3 stages of 'Da'wah'

- **'Pen'** (Mecca 610-622 AD)
- **'Scale'** (early Medinan 622-624 AD)
- **'Sword'** (late Medinan 624-632)

But, from where do  
They get their  
Authority?



# TWO SOURCES:

- 1) THEIR SCRIPTURE: The **Qur'an**
- 2) THEIR PARADIGM: The **Prophet Muhammad**

# 1) Scripture:

Looking at the Qur'an:

The **Peace Verses:**

**Sura 2:256** = *“For there is no compulsion in religion”*

**“Law of Abrogation”**

**(Suras 2:106, 16:101)**

*“That which we give, we give something better” (Mansukh vs. Nasikh)*

**Thus, Sura 2:256 is a weak verse, abrogated by 101 verses which follow!**

**Sura 2:190-193** = *Those who fight you, Do not transgress limits, /  
...and slay them wherever ye catch them, and fight them, until there prevail faith in Allah”*

## A **Moderate** Interpretation:

**Sura 5:31-32** (raven, and blood of Abel)

*“we ordained for the Children of Israel that if anyone slew a person not in retaliation of murder, or to spread mischief in the land, it would be as if he slew the whole people; and if anyone saved a life, it would be as if he saved the life of the whole people...”*

## A **Radical** Interpretation:

**Sura 5:31-32** “we ordained for the Children of Israel that if anyone slew a MUSLIM not in retaliation of murder, or to spread mischief in the land, it would be as if he slew ALL MUSLIMS; and if anyone saved A MUSLIM, it would be as if he saved the life of ALL MUSLIMS...”

## Medinan **Sword Verses:**

**Sura 9:5:** = *“But when the forbidden months are past, then fight and slay those who join other gods with Allah wherever you find them; besiege them, seize them, lay in wait for them with every kind of ambush..”*

# Sword Verse against Christians, Jews:

**Sura 9:29** = “...Make war upon such of those to whom the scriptures have been given as believe not in Allah, or in the last day, and who forbid not what Allah and his apostle have forbidden...until they pay tribute...”

# Methodology of Sword Verses:

**Sura 47:4** = "When you encounter the unbelievers, strike off their heads, until ye have made a great slaughter among them..." (i.e. Woolwich murder)

**Sura 8:38-39** = "Unbelievers...And fight them on until there is no more Tumult or oppression, and there prevail Justice and faith in Allah"

# Recompense for those who die in Jihad:

**Sura 4:74** = *“Let those who fight in the cause of Allah who sell the life of this world for the hereafter. To him who fighteth in the cause of Allah, whether he is slain or gets victory, Soon shall we give him a reward of great value”*

**Sura 47:4-6** = *“...Those who are killed in the way of Allah, He will never let their deeds be lost...And admit them to Paradise...”*

# The Qur'an's 149 Sword Verses:

1. 2:178 2. 2:179 3. 2:190 4. 2:191 5. 2:193 6. 2:194 7.  
2:216 8. 2:217 9. 2:218 10. 2:244 11. 3:121 12. 3:122 13. 3:123 14.  
3:124 15. 3:125 16. 3:126 17. 3:140 18. 3:141 19. 3:146 20. 3:152 21. 3:153  
22. 3:154 23. 3:155 24. 3:156 25. 3:157 26. 3:165 27. 3:166 28. 3:167 29.  
3:169 30. 3:172 31. 3:173 32. 3:195 33. 4:071 34. 4:072 35. 4:074 36. 4:075  
37. 4:076 38. 4:077 39. 4:084 40. 4:089 41. 4:090 42. 4:091 43. 4:094 44.  
4:095 45. 4:100 46. 4:102 47. 4:104 48. 5:033 49. 5:035 50. 5:082 51. 8:001  
52. 8:005 53. 8:007 54. 8:009 55. 8:012 56. 8:015 57. 8:016 58. 8:017 59.  
8:039 60. 8:040 61. 8:041 62. 8:042 63. 8:043 64. 8:044 65. 8:045 66. 8:046  
67. 8:047 68. 8:048 69. 8:057 70. 8:058 71. 8:059 72. 8:060 73. 8:065 74.  
8:066 75. 8:067 76. 8:068 77. 8:069 78. 8:070 79. 8:071 80. 8:072 81. 8:073  
82. 8:074 83. 8:075 84. 9:005 85. 9:012 86. 9:013 87. 9:014 88. 9:016 89.  
9:019 90. 9:020 91. 9:024 92. 9:025 93. 9:026 94. 9:029 95. 9:036 96. 9:038  
97. 9:039 98. 9:041 99. 9:044 100. 9:052 101. 9:073 102. 9:081 103.  
9:083 104. 9:086 105. 9:088 106. 9:092 107. 9:111 108. 9:120 109.  
9:122 110. 9:123 111. 16:110 112. 22:039 113. 22:058 114. 22:078  
115. 24:053 116. 24:055 117. 25:052 118. 29:006 119. 29:069 120.  
33:015 121. 33:018 122. 33:020 123. 33:025 124. 33:026 125. 33:027  
126. 33:050 127. 47:004 128. 47:020 129. 48:015 130. 48:016 131.  
48:017 132. 48:022 133. 48:024 134. 49:015 135. 59:002 136. 59:005  
137. 59:006 138. 59:007 139. 59:008 140. 59:014 141. 60:009 142.  
61:004 143. 61:011 144. 61:013 145. 63:004 146. 64:014 147. 66:009  
148. 73:020 **149.** 76:008

How should these verses be exegeted?  
The example of **Muhammad**:

## Their Paradigm

- **His biography:** 'Sira-t-ul rasul-Allah',
- **His Sayings:** Hadith
- **The Maghazi:** 29 battles fought  
39 battles planned

# The example of **Muhammad**:

## **With those Under his Jurisdiction:**

### **1. The Jews**

- -624 - After **Badr** - **Banu Qaynuka**
- -625 - After **Uhud** - **Banu al Nadir**
- -627 - After the **Trenches** - **Banu Quraiza**

### **2. Those who Criticized him**

- -Asma the poetess, and Umair the blind disciple
- Around 25 were assassinated

- **With these Scriptures, and the example of the prophet Muhammad, can you then understand why so many within Islam today are saying what they are saying, and doing what they are doing?**

**Their authority, they believe, is that of 'holy writ', a divine authority, modelled by the greatest and clearest paradigm for Mankind, for all peoples, all places, and for all times... including Iraq and Syria...today.**

# ISIS

'Islamic State of Iraq & al Shams'





# ABU BAKR AL-BAGHDADI

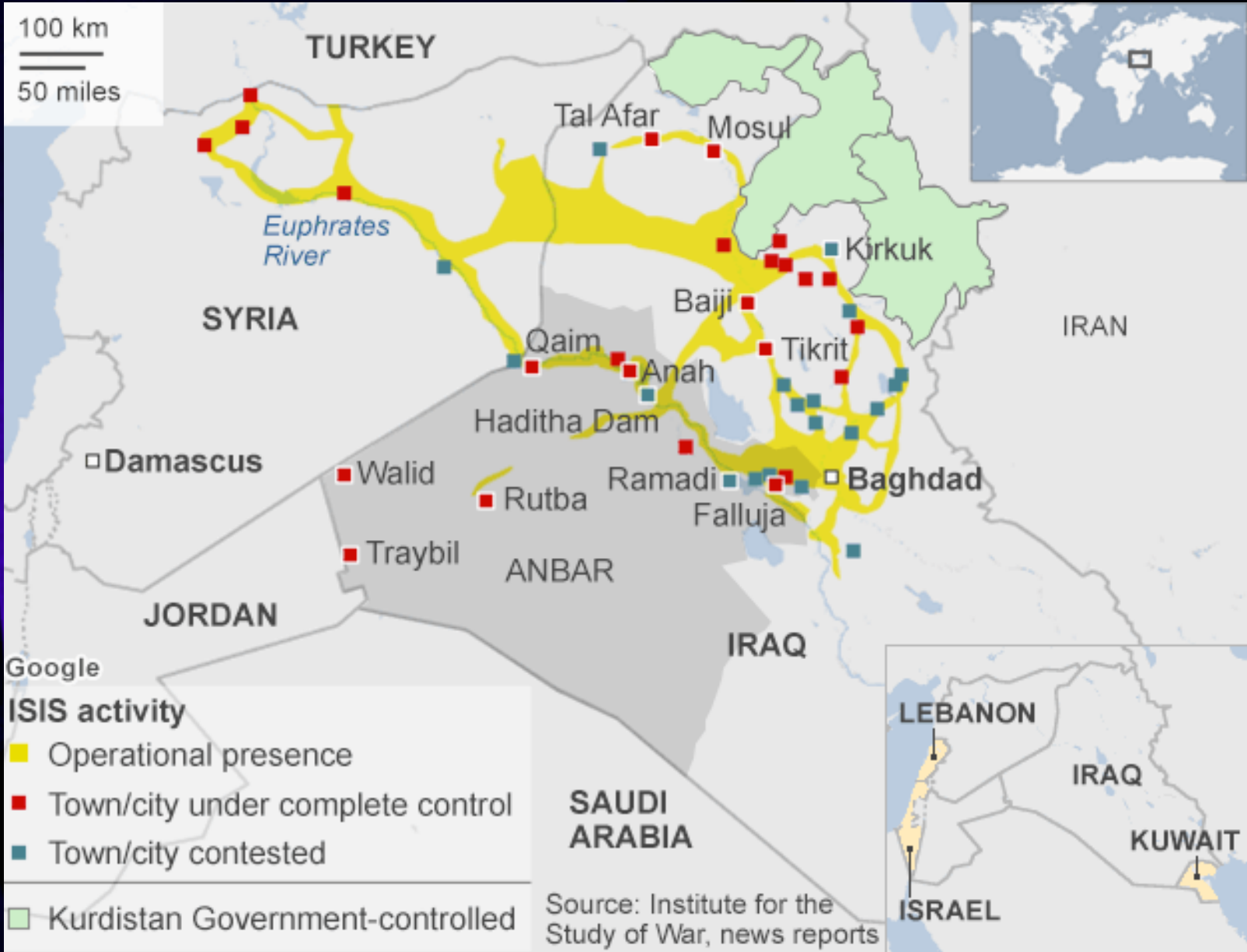
-PhD from Baghdad  
Islamic Univ.



# ISIS begins with 800



# Blitzkrieg thru IRAQ: Mosul, Tikrit, Samara



# TIKRIT: FORMER SHI'ITE SOLDIERS



# SLAUGHTERED





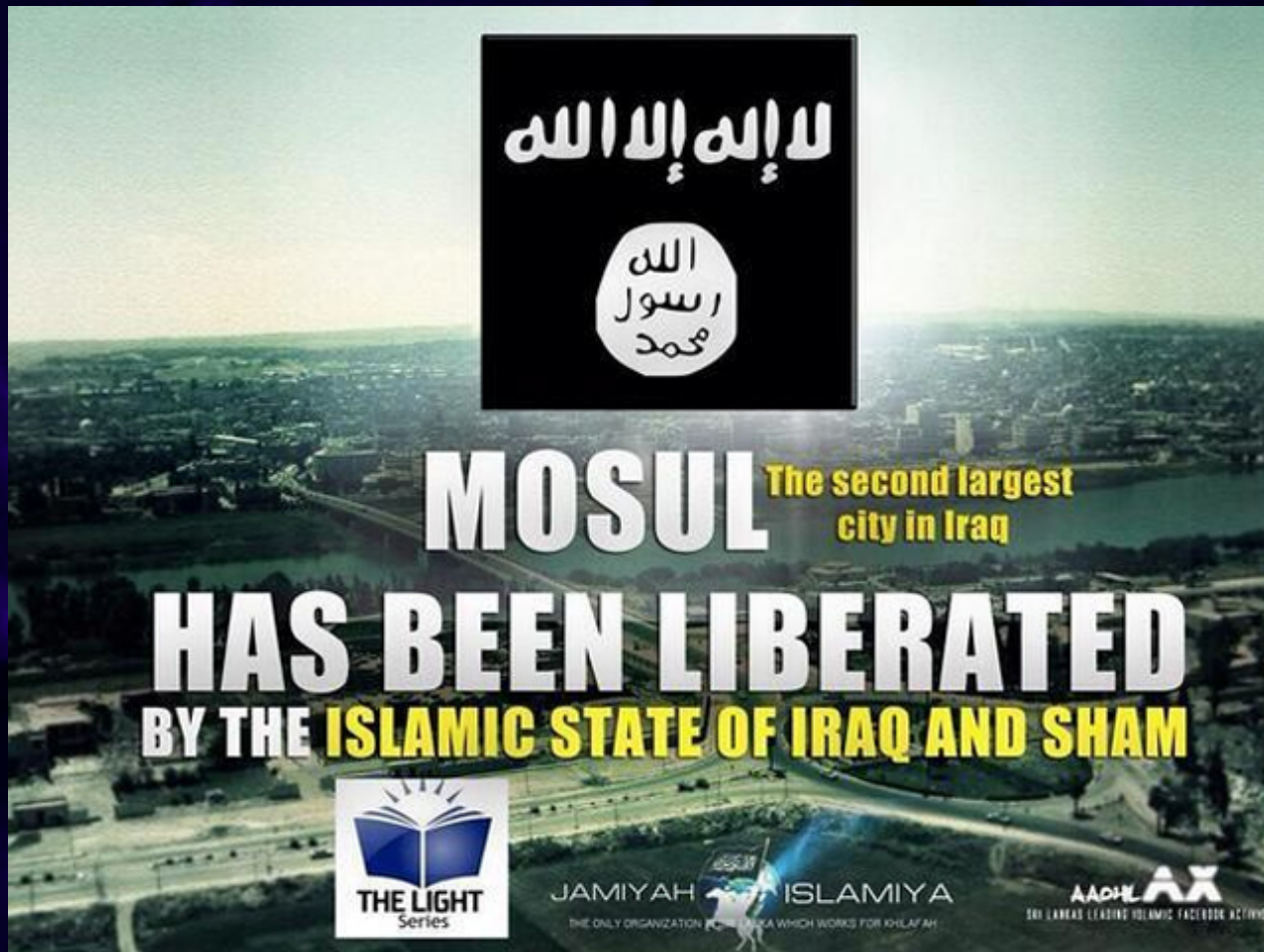
# Using Trenches



غزوة أسد الرحمن البيلاوي... أبو عبد الرحمن  
تصفية قطعان الجيش الصفوي الفارين من القواعد العسكرية



# Mosul:



**لا إله إلا الله**  
**الله رسول محمد**

**MOSUL** The second largest city in Iraq

**HAS BEEN LIBERATED**  
**BY THE ISLAMIC STATE OF IRAQ AND SHAM**

**THE LIGHT Series**

**JAMIYAH ISLAMIA**  
THE ONLY ORGANIZATION IN SRI LANKA WHICH WORKS FOR KHILAFAH

**AADHAN**  
SRI LANKAS LEADING ISLAMIC FACEBOOK ACTIVITY

# 'NUN' DHIMMI SIGNS ON CHRISTIAN HOMES

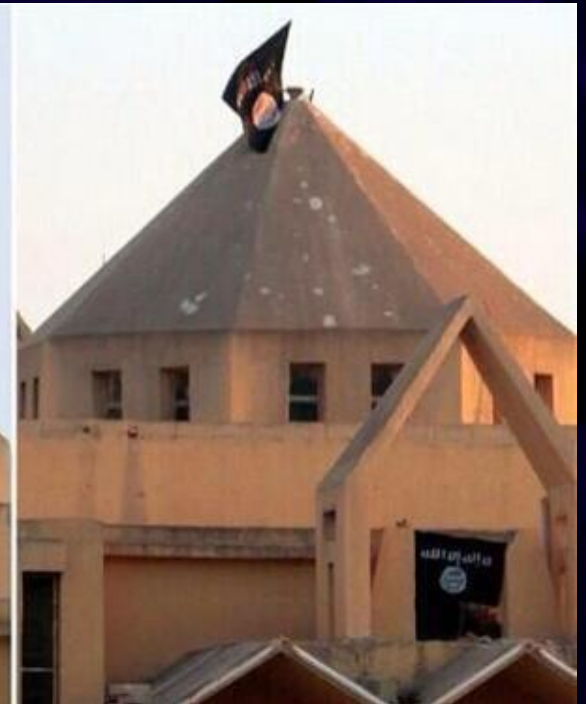
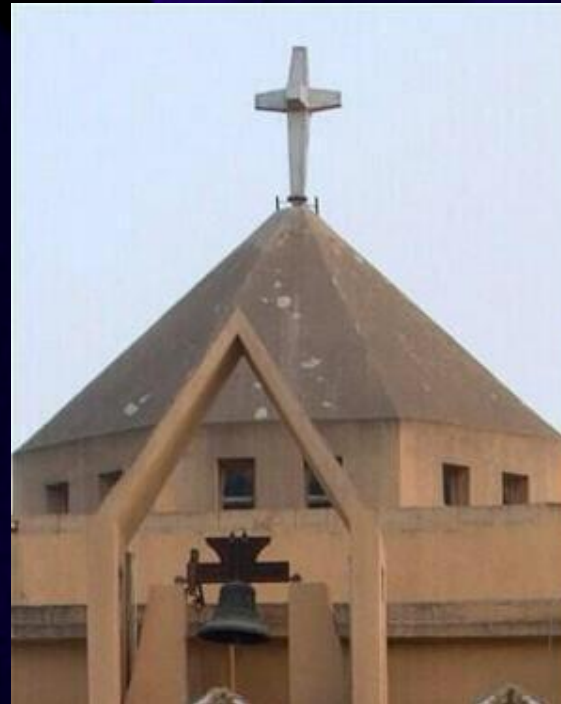




# Mar Behnam Monastery

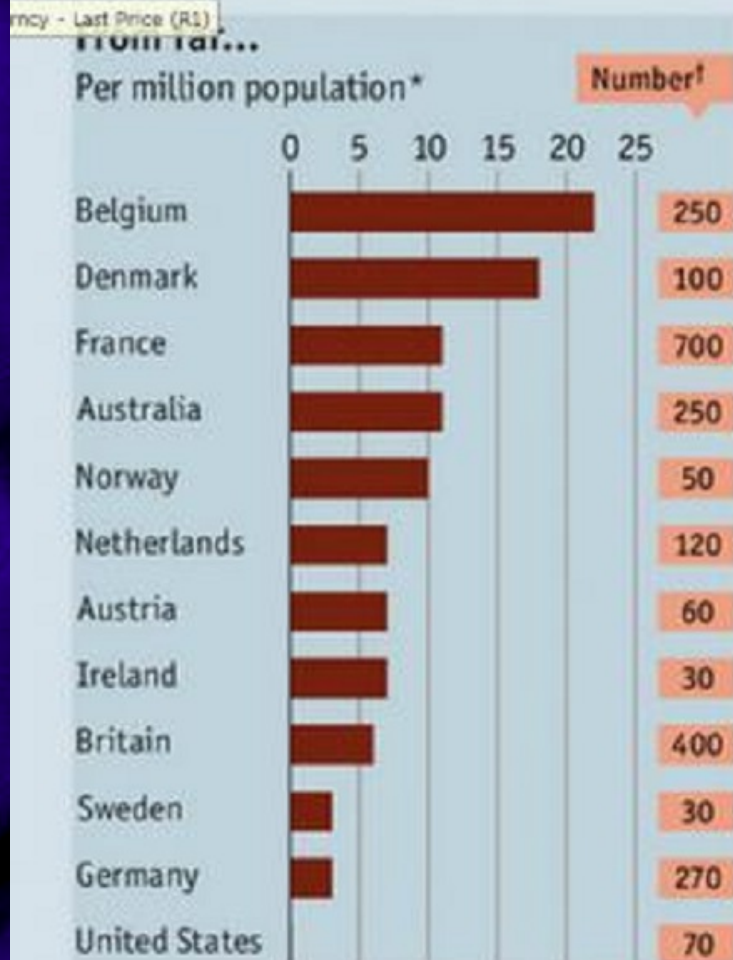
-Chaldean 17<sup>th</sup> c.

Biblical MSS

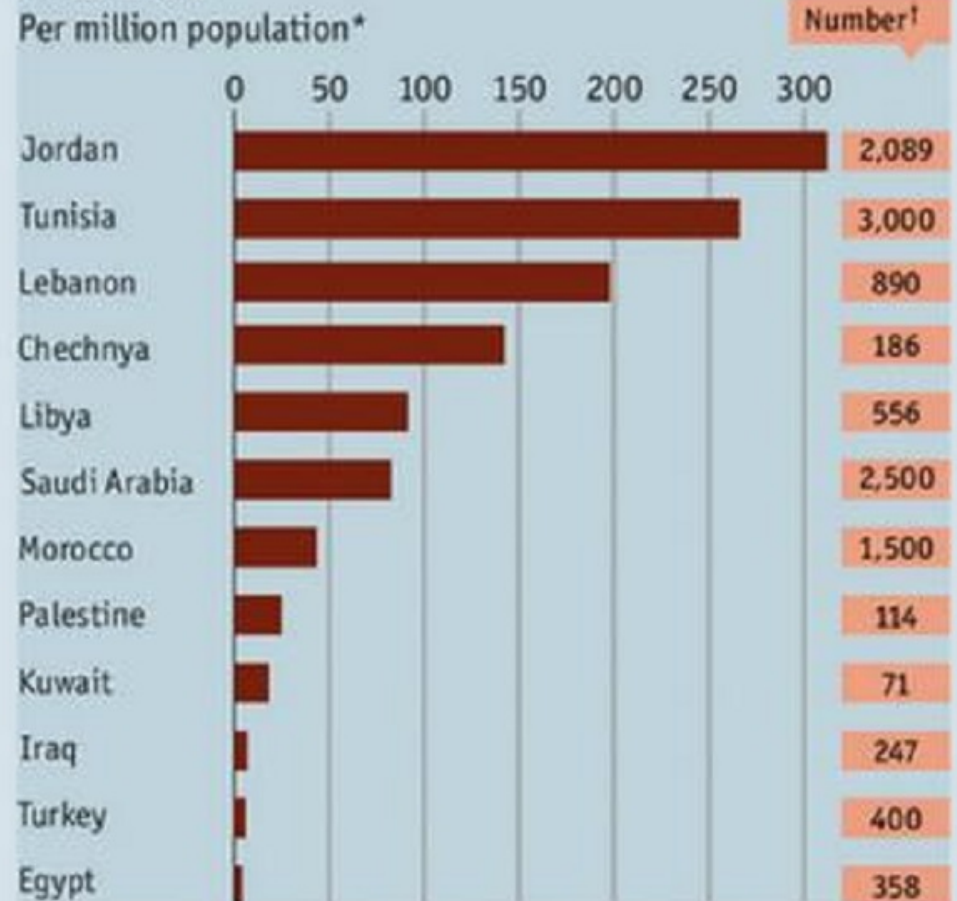


# From 800 – 31,000 (Foreigners?)

## Foreign fighters in Syria



## ...and near



Sources: Eurostat; IMF; The International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation and Political Violence; The Soufan Group

# Foreigners with ISIS



Chechen



“Allah loves those who fight for his cause,”  
Abdirahmaan Muhumed, a Minneapolis man who  
went to Syria to fight, told me.

Minneapolis USA



German



French



Australian & Welsh

# **Who Must Confront Them?**

**THE STATE!**

**It has the might and 'where-with-all'**

**Its function is to protect**

**Its function is to police**

# USA fights back



# ISIS RETALIATES



JIM FOLEY



وها أنت يا أوباما تقتل مواطنا أمريكيا آخر بأفعالك

STEVEN SOTLOFF



DAVID HAINES

# CAN THE STATE CONFRONT an IDEOLOGY?

**NO** - The state cannot deal with religious ideology.

- i.e. Danish Cartoons
- 'flushed' Qur'an-Guantanamo

**It's not their remit**

- Due to the separation of the church and state
  - They don't understand the ideology, or its authority
  - They don't have the tools to confront it

So, politicians may not criticize Islam's Foundations

- i.e. Tony Blair and his 'peaceful' Qur'an

**State seeks unanimity...inclusivity**

# SO, WHO CAN CONFRONT RADICAL MUSLIMS?

## RADICAL CHRISTIANS!

- **We can understand them**
  - we start from the same ideological paradigm (scripture & model)
- **We have the tools to confront them**
  - MSS evidence
  - Historical Criticism
  - Jesus Christ = Relevant for 21<sup>st</sup> c.
  - PFANDER
- **We have the best, and only alternative**



## **1<sup>st</sup> Problem:** **We have no models**

- **Missiology** = ‘church planting’ & conversion alone  
(i.e. ‘unless it brings in converts, it isn’t worth our while’)
- ‘eirenic’ models = more converts
- No room for confrontation
- No room for the conflicts between Islam and Christianity globally  
(i.e. Samuel Huntington’s ‘Clash of Civilizations’)

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Problem:** **We have no Schools**

- We don’t teach Christian/Muslim ‘apologetics’
- We don’t teach Christian ‘polemics’
  - Nowhere in the UK
  - Only limited examples in the US

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Problem: We have no 'Confrontation Theology'

Our Theology is dictated by our experience:

Most Christian contacts with Islam = Arab world  
(i.e. Palestine & Iraq)

But Arabs only make up 15% of Muslims (260 m.)

Most Western research = Arab speaking world  
Most of our missiology is written for an Arab  
environment

50% of Phds. offered in US since 1948 have been on the  
Palestinian issue (only 2% of Muslims!)

Yet, theological and ideological challenges are  
from the 85% non-Arab speakers  
(i.e. 800-900 million Asians)

['Youtube' = 43,000 attacks vs. 5-6 responses]

We need a new public method to deal with  
these more radical and public theological  
challenges...



## So, what then is the solution?

We have the **BIBLE**

We have **JESUS CHRIST**

- Bible** (solid history) vs. Qur'an (weak history)
- Kingdom** of God vs. 'Khilafah'
- Women** in the Bible vs. Women in the Qur'an
- Jesus** (love enemies) vs. Muhammad (hate)
- '**Yahweh**' vs. 'Allah'
- Peace** in Christianity vs. Violence in Islam
- Relevancy** of Christianity vs. Islam

**We have the solution!!**

# WHO IS CONFRONTING THEM?

