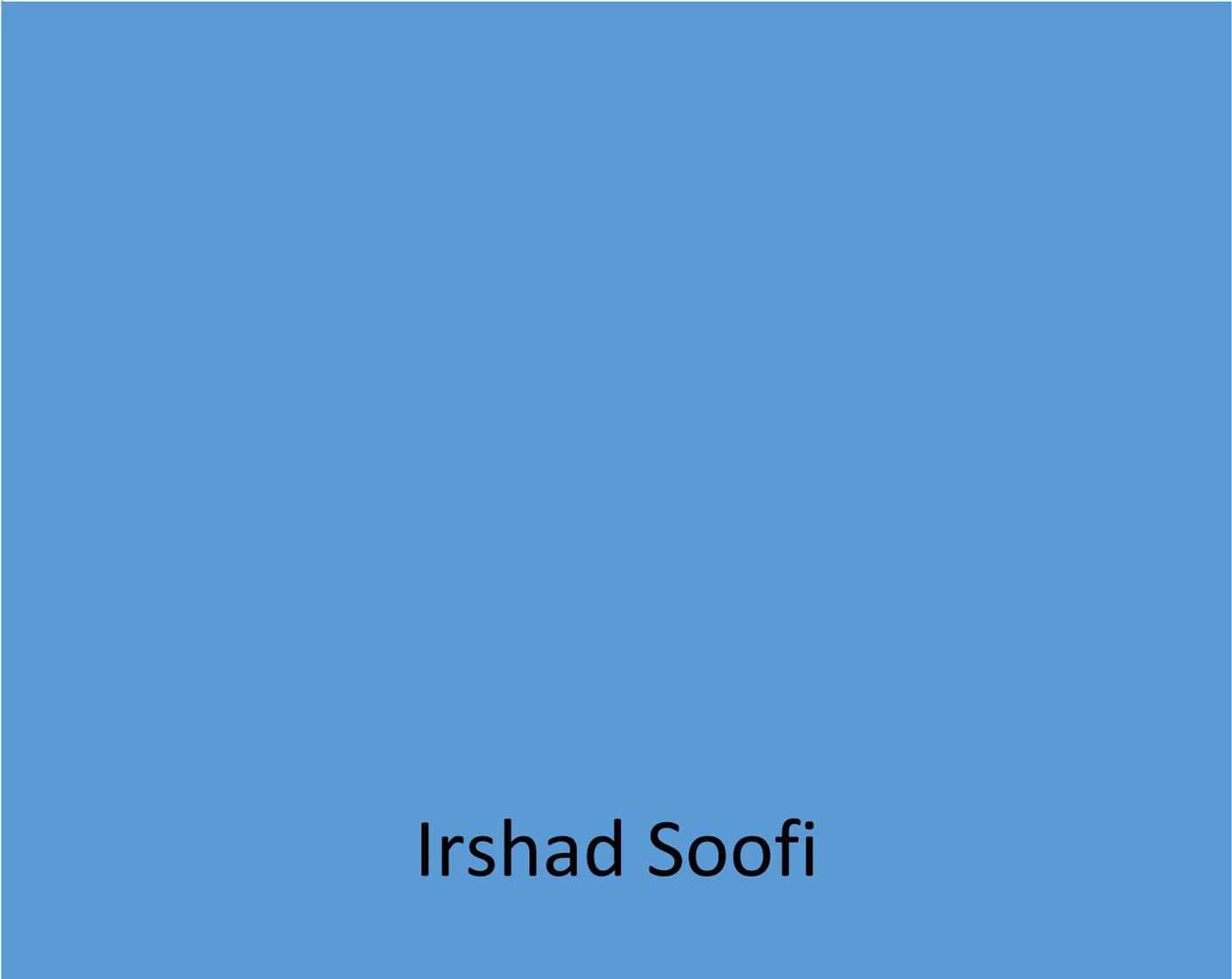




# KARBALA TODAY



Irshad Soofi

## Karbala Today

Allah ﷻ says in the Holy Qur'aan in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sura *al-Baqarah* (the Cow) البقرة:  
Verses 154 to 157:

وَلَا تَقُولُوا لِمَنْ يُقْتَلُ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ أَمْوَاتٌ بَلْ أَحْيَاءٌ وَلَكِنْ لَا تَشْعُرُونَ  
{154} وَلَنَبْلُوَنَّكُمْ بِشَيْءٍ مِّنَ الْخَوْفِ وَالْجُوعِ وَنَقْصٍ مِّنَ الْأَمْوَالِ وَالْأَنْفُسِ  
وَالثَّمَرَاتِ وَبَشِّرِ الصَّابِرِينَ {155} الَّذِينَ إِذَا أَصَابَتْهُمُ مُصِيبَةٌ قَالُوا إِنَّا لِلَّهِ  
وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ {156} أُولَئِكَ عَلَيْهِمْ صَلَوَاتٌ مِّن رَّبِّهِمْ وَرَحْمَةٌ وَأُولَئِكَ  
هُمُ الْمُهْتَدُونَ {157}

. And say not of those who are slain in Allah ﷻ's cause, "They are dead." No they are alive but you perceive it not.155. And most certainly shall We try you by means of danger, and hunger, and loss of worldly goods, of lives and of (labor's) fruits . But give glad tidings to those who are patient in adversity, -156. Who, when calamity befalls them, say, "Verily to Allah ﷻ we belong and verily, to Him we shall return".157. It is they upon whom their Sustainer's blessings and grace are bestowed, and it is they who are guided.

We remember the martyrs of Karbala. We recount their lives, pray for their blessed souls, and commemorate their sacrifice and struggle. This gives us a spiritual bond with them that is important for our salvation. By now have knowledge of their great sacrifice to ensure the survival and purity of the Theocentric Islamic Public Order and of *Pax Islamica* [The Islamic Caliphate based on The Law of Allah ﷻ and His Beloved Messenger ﷺ's exposition].

Knowledge is a living dynamic thing that by its nature, must constantly deal with the creative tensions that arise out of intellectual confrontation. Politically, intellectually and spiritually, at every level in our age, we face confrontation. If we do not have individuals who are willing to rise up to the level of this *deen* and think deeply about the profound issues of our age, which includes theology, then who are going to guide the masses. We cannot be content with stories about the greatness of our past, but we should be nourished by it and recognize that we come

from a proud and great tradition. I use pride in the context of dignity or *izzah*, which means we are proud to be the slaves of Allah ﷻ in a state of slavehood or *ubudiyya*<sup>1</sup>.

Recently the **world population census** of The United States Census Bureau estimates that the world population exceeded 7 billion on March 12, 2012. **Europe and America constitute 20%** of the world population but they are holding on to, by any means, fair or foul, **80% of the world's natural resources**. The west wishes to hold mankind in the grip of its power, by **imposing** upon the rest of mankind its **values, culture and economy**. The **sensate culture** of the West is **in conflict with the God rooted culture** of the divinely revealed religions of the World, especially Islam. Until the 1980s, the world was divided into two; people were either communist or capitalist. The communist model failed economically, we all realized that, but the capitalist model in the modern world is in ruins. People continue to accept that 50 people in the world own 40 per cent of the wealth. Is that defensible humanly? Can you accept that when two billion people have two dollars to live per day? I do not believe that will be accepted for much longer. We have seen the first signs in America during the economic crisis of people revolting against the bonuses, and Barack Obama said it cannot be acceptable to pay such a huge amount of money anymore. It is the first sign. Even in America, a pure capitalistic country, it is not accepted. It is the first time a president of the United States has said something like that.

The **Global political presence of Muslims** that have strong Islamic values that transcend artificial borders and the retention of a global culture and political identity is **seen as a threat by the ruthless, Capitalist/Zionist alliance**. In Muslim majority countries, those are naturally rich in natural resources, any attempts to establish an Islamic value system, are termed as "**fundamentalist**" and "**terrorist**" and crushed by any means. The **reigning governments** in the 50+ Muslim majority countries of the world have to be western "**puppet governments**" or the prevalent

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<sup>1</sup> *Ubudiyya*: Slavehood. This is the state of the slave who is drawing near to Allah ﷻ through acts of devotion. *Ubudiyya* is "the Nearness of Surplus Works" (*qurb al-nawafil*) which is the lowest of the four stations of Perfection. The lover-knower-slave of Allah ﷻ becomes adorned with the attributes of slavehood (*ubudiyya*) and bondage (*ubuda*) after having lost himself in annihilation in Allah ﷻ (*fana' fillah*). In becoming "no thing" (*la shay*) the slave is returned to the creation with the Perfection of Bondage (*ubuda*).

authorities will be directly opposed or elements within that country will be funded to keep the country in the grip of instability and poverty. Recent history, the genocide's and massacres in Bosnia, Kosova, Chechnya and the continuing occupation of Afghanistan and Iraq has made the fact, universally accepted to all sober thinkers, that **the west is determined to eradicate all remaining traces of Genuine Islam**, that threatens its 'unholy grip' of Muslim Wealth and lands. The metamorphosis of tiny Israel from a midget to a giant is in the making. The grand design of Judaic-Zionist expansionist doctrine is to seize all the oil-rich lands from the shores of the Euphrates to the banks of the Nile. The creation of Greater Israel.

#### Greater Israel and Pakistan

Transcribed from my Shaykh, who taught me to see with 'two eyes'- Imran Husayn - Gog & Magog, 2012 and the Significance of Pakistan

Richard Friedman<sup>2</sup> an eminent American scholar of the Bible in his book 'Who Wrote the Bible<sup>3</sup>?' confirms in his book what Allah ﷻ has said in the Holy Qur'aan. Whoever rewrote the Torah decided that the Holy Land extends from the river of Egypt to the River Euphrates. Why? He says that, (Whoever rewrote the Torah) says wherever the Jews lived in exile at that time is a part of the Holy Land. Since The Prophet Yusuf ﷺ took the Jews to *Misr*. *Al-Misr* is not the whole of Egypt- Today *Al-Misr* is the whole of Egypt. At that time *Misr* was the Eastern Delta, between the Red Sea and the River Nile. The fertile Eastern Delta, that's where the Jews lived. So he says from the river of Egypt, where the Israelite people lived for 3 to 4 hundred years; to the River Euphrates- because they were taken to exile in Babylon, where they were enslaved. Remember the Jews also went and lived in Madinah. So it is likely that when Israel makes the effort to extend territorial frontiers of the state, to encompass the Biblical frontiers, it is possible that there will be an attack on Madinah in addition to Egypt. So they will control the Suez Canal and the oil of the Gulf. I want to suggest to you that Israel is planning that big war. They will use weapons of war never used before in history. Israel cannot make that move while a significant military threat still remains in the hands of Muslims. So the Pakistani Nuclear Weapons and Nuclear Plants have to be destroyed by hook or crook. The invasion of Afghanistan from 9/11 is part and parcel of a big plan to eventually destroy Pakistan Nuclear

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<sup>2</sup> Richard Elliott Friedman is a biblical scholar and the Ann and Jay Davis Professor of Jewish Studies at the University of Georgia. He joined the faculty of the UGA Religion Department in 2006. Prior to his appointment there, he was the Katzin Professor of Jewish Civilization: Hebrew Bible; Near Eastern Languages and Literature at UCSD from 1984 until 2006. Dr. Friedman received his Th.D. in Hebrew Bible and Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations from Harvard University in 1978; Th.M. in Hebrew Bible from Harvard University in 1974; M.H.L., Jewish Theological Seminary in 1971, and B.A., University of Miami in 1968. He is a winner of numerous awards and honors, including American Council of Learned Societies Fellow. He was a Visiting Fellow at the University of Cambridge and the University of Oxford; and a Senior Fellow of the American Schools of Oriental Research in Jerusalem. He participated in the City of David Project archaeological excavations of biblical Jerusalem.

<sup>3</sup> *Who Wrote the Bible?* (1987) is a book by biblical scholar Richard Elliott Friedman. The book is a general audience explanation of the Documentary Hypothesis of the composition of the Old Testament. In it, Friedman expands upon Julius Wellhausen's model, theorizing that the P (Priestly) source was written earlier than commonly accepted, during the reign of King Hezekiah (715-687 BCE).

Weapons. All the maneuvering is taking place now. That is the target. In December 2001, 2 to 3 months after 9/11 I (Imran Hosein) published a booklet 'A Muslim Response to the Attack on America.' In that booklet I argued that the target is Pakistan's Nuclear Plants and Weapons. I also argued that in order for them to move in and destroy Pakistan's Nuclear Plants and Weapons they will have to provoke civil war in Pakistan. That is what they are trying to do know. If elements within the Pakistan armed forces were to rebel against the military command in Pakistan then the government and fighting where to break out within the Pakistan armed forces that would be the cue for them to move in to save the world from a Nuclear threat. Once they dispose of Pakistan's Nuclear Plants and Weapons and to an extent Iran's missile capacity then 2012 - all the hype about 2012- is meant to prepare the world for something big. Everybody is waiting for something big. So lets not disappoint them. 2012 perhaps can witness Israel's big war. The use of Nuclear weapons in Israel's war and eventually it will then become clear- that Israel has replaced the USA as the ruling state in the World. A defining moment in history for the transfer of power from the USA , for Israel to be recognized by the rest of mankind.

They have even created or invented and popularized, due to their grip on the Media and thus the mindset of the world, 'so-called' resistance groups like *al-Qaeda* and the *Taliban* and now IS as being the representatives of 'True Islam', which gives the masses a 'false perception' that Islam is wicked, backward, oppressive and violent. They will soon occupy Pakistan, to gain control of the Port City of Karachi, which will give them a port to ship the Natural Resources of the Eurasian geographic region for their own consumption.

**Islam** is viewed as being the **only source of challenge to the western Capitalist/Zionist domination** of the world. This challenge indeed exists as in the form of a **widespread realization** amongst Muslim's everywhere that they have to **free** themselves from the **stronghold** that the **western Capitalist/Zionist alliance** has acquired over them and Islam. A dynamic, vibrant, living Islam left in peace will offer the world peace, security, morality and economic and social justice. Bombs and technology will not decide who wins, but the **emergence of a superior civilization** will determine this.

It has become even **more necessary**, in these **turbulent times** to **relate to our children** and youth born and being raised in the west, or in western influenced environments that we tell them the **story of one of the greatest sacrifices in the history of humankind**. It has to be related so lessons may be learned from it.

Muharram, the first month of the Islamic Calendar, marks the concept of emigration (*Hijra*) in the cause of Allah ﷺ. It is also sacred for many other reasons.

Jews used to fast on this day but Prophet Muhammad ﷺ advised Muslims to fast both ninth and tenth of Muharram. The Holy Prophet ﷺ has enumerated the significance of this day in many Traditions (*Hadith*). He has stated that Allah ﷻ created the heavens, mountains, and oceans, pen (*qalam*) and tablet (*lawh*) on this day. Hazrath Ibrahim ؑ was born on this day, and Allah ﷻ saved him from the furnace on this day. Pharaoh was drowned, Allah ﷻ relented towards Adam ؑ Jesus or Isa ؑ was born and The Day of Judgment (*qiyama*) will occur on this day. In another tradition it is stated that, heaven, earth, stars, heavenly throne (*arsh*), pedestal (*kursi*), tablet (*lauh*) and pen (*qalam*) were created on this day. Gabriel ؑ, all angels and, Adam ؑ were created on Ashura. The first rains and the first gift of mercy (*rahmah*) descended on this day.

However, it is **the Martyrdom of Imam Hussain** ﷺ and seventy-one members of his family and associates, which took, place of this day at **Karbala** that we Muslims, who love the Holy Prophet ﷺ remember most. Caliph Muawiya ﷺ called for appointing his son Yazid to follow him. After Muawiya's death his son **Yazid declared himself the caliph** starting an unprecedented tradition. Imam Hussain ﷺ took a stand against tyranny at the age of 57 years, on the day of Ashura 61 AH. He gave the **ultimate sacrifice of position, family and life** for the restoration of justice. It is a **Day of triumph over falsehood** and a Day of the reaffirmation of a true Muslims determination to make **Jihad** or strive against corrupt and un-Islamic forces within or without its ranks as a first duty. The **problem of the Muslim Ummah on a global level** is a real and living problem- it is our **Karbala today**. Since March 3, 1924 (90 years), we are Muslims without a Caliphate, in which Allah ﷻ is Sovereign. To accept the monarchs and presidents as sovereign is an act of *shirk*. The huge oil wealth of Arabia belongs to the world of Islam. The handing over of the effective control of this oil wealth to the Americans is an act of treason. Volumes can be written on the economic subordination of the Muslim world.

Imam Jafar Saadiq ﷺ rightly proclaimed,

كُلُّ يَوْمٍ عَا شُورَاءَ وَكُلُّ أَرْضٍ كَرْبَلَاءَ

**Every day is Ashura and every land is Karbala**

We need to find and enforce a **solution** to our **present degradation** and decline whether we are from Africa, The Indo-Pak Subcontinent, or the Arab World. We

have a population of over 1.2 Billion in the world and yet we have no say in the International Affairs. The **propaganda machinery** of the west has **misrepresented Islam** on a global level. We need to enforce ways and means to **counter this propaganda**. One method that can be enforced is to **adapt and modify existing functions and observances** to serve the **original spirit of mobilizing the spirit and educating society** as to how we can gain the pleasure of Allah ﷻ and serve the cause of Islam.

Islam has produced numerous stars within the Galaxy of Prophets, truthful, martyrs, and saints who illuminated the world when the forces of darkness threatened. We have to **reattach ourselves to this fellowship and seek their guidance** if we want success. Allah ﷻ says in the 4<sup>th</sup> Sura, *an-Nisā'* (Women) النِّسَاء, Verse 69:

وَمَنْ يُطِعِ اللَّهَ وَالرَّسُولَ فَأُولَئِكَ مَعَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِمْ مِنَ النَّبِيِّينَ  
وَالصِّدِّيقِينَ وَالشُّهَدَاءِ وَالصَّالِحِينَ وَحَسُنَ أُولَئِكَ رَفِيقًا

And whoever obeys Allah ﷻ and His Messenger ﷺ they are the people who shall be in the company of those (spiritual dignitaries on the Last Day) whom Allah ﷻ has blessed with His (special) favor: the Prophets, the Truthful, the Martyrs and the Most Pious. And how excellent these companions are!

Who are the recipients of Allah's blessings - there are four categories, The Prophets, The *Siddiqs* - the embodiment of Truth, The Martyrs and *Saliheen* or righteous who have attained the status of being *Aulia Allah*. In the Islamic concept of Democracy **the majority is not necessarily right. We do not count heads but look at competency and proximity to Allah ﷻ and his Beloved Rasul ﷺ** Equality does not mean physical sameness. A thousand fools cannot be equal to a beloved of Allah. Islam insists on duty and competency **Imam Hussain ﷺ represented truth, justice, purity, love, service and sacrifice.** Islamic democracy relies on the strength of argument whilst western democracy is based on the argument of strength. The Holy Qur'aan says in the 6<sup>th</sup> Sura *al-An'ām* [The Cattle] الأَنْعَام Verse 162:

قُلْ إِنَّ صَلَاتِي وَنُسُكِي وَمَحْيَايَ وَمَمَاتِي لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

Say: 'My Prayer, my Hajj (Pilgrimage) and sacrifice (together with the entire worship and servitude) and my life and my death are for Allah ﷻ alone, Who is the Lord of all the universe.

A leader must have complete mastery over his animal self, seeking, neither power, position nor pleasure. Under the rule of the Yazidi brand of Islam, enforcing a spiritless brand of Islam, devoid of love and respect, the blood of a Husayn ؑ has to purify the Ummah. The Capitalist/Zionist/Wahabbi alliances are bedfellows. When it is clear that the rulers are not really functioning as servants of humanity as they were supposed to; how does one to deal with the flagrant breach of the divine trust?

The answer to this question is to be found in the Qur'aan which lays down the ground rules of a clear-cut policy 4<sup>th</sup> Sura, *an-Nisā'* (Women) النِّسَاء: Verse 135:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا كُونُوا قَوَّامِينَ بِالْقِسْطِ شُهَدَاءَ لِلَّهِ وَلَوْ عَلَىٰ أَنفُسِكُمْ  
أَوِ الْوَالِدِينَ وَالْأَقْرَبِينَ إِن يَكُنْ غَنِيًّا أَوْ فَقِيرًا فَاللَّهُ أَوْلَىٰ بِهِمَا

O Believers! Become tenaciously firm on justice, bearing witness for the sake of Allah ﷻ even if is against your own selves or parents or relatives. Whether the person is rich or poor, Allah ﷻ is a greater Well-Wisher of them both (than you are).

The Holy Qur'aan clearly declares in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sura *al-Baqarah* (the Cow) البَقَرَة: Verse 191 that:

وَالْفِتْنَةُ أَشَدُّ مِنَ الْقَتْلِ

And rousing mischief and disruption is a severer (crime) than killing.

The tragic events of Karbala is an annual reminder to practice Islam honestly and sincerely, to do what is right irrespective of consequences, and fear none but Allah. To stand for the truth and fight to the death is more honorable than submitting to the wrongful. As Khwaja Muinuddin Chishti ؑ reminded us:

شاه هست حسين      بادشاه هست حسين  
 دين هست حسين      دين پناه هست حسين  
 سر داد نه داد دست      در دست يزيديد  
 حقا كه بناے لا الا است حسين

The ruler over his ego and lovers hearts is Hussain, The  
 true Leader is Hussain,  
 The religion is Hussain , The guardian of *Imaan* is  
 Hussain.  
 Sacrificed his blessed head and but gave not his blessed  
 hand to Yazid.

Truly, the fountain of *Tauhid* is Hussain

The Rites and Rituals of Hajj keep alive the remembrance of true *Tauhid*<sup>4</sup> i.e. Allah ﷻ is the Sovereign, whose rule is maintained within the institution of the Caliphate. Rites and Rituals introduced in Islam by the Sufi's to remember Imam Hussain ﷺ keeps the spirit of resistance alive in the hearts of sincere believers who have not given in to the corrupt, man-made systems that exploit in the name of democracy. Critical attention needs to be given to sectarian rivalry in Islam with the emergence of many rival sects amongst Muslims themselves, many of which dogmatically lay claim to the true Islam while demonizing all rivals as misguided. Among the strange and misguided sects is one that as per the prophecy of the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ emerged out of the region of *Najd* in Arabia to declare all its rivals to be *Mushrikeen* (i.e., a people who blaspheme against the one God), and to further declare it obligatory to kill all such rivals. Members of that *Najdi Wahhabi* sect entered into an alliance with the *Saudi* clan in order to win control over the *Hijaazi* Arabian heartland of Islam. They sought this control over the *Hijaaz* in order to cleanse it of what they considered to be *Shirk* (blasphemy), and to thus restore the true faith. When they succeeded in winning that control they proceeded to slaughter thousands of innocent Muslims. They subsequently

<sup>4</sup> *Tauhid*: Allah's Unity. The declaration of Allah ﷻ's Unity, 'There is no god (sovereignty), only Allah ﷻ' (*La ilaha illa'llah*) is the very pivot of Islam. Knowledge of the Declaration of Allah ﷻ's unity is a Light. Yet Allah ﷻ Himself is the affirmation of His Unity. Within *Tasawwuf* all existence is One (*tawhid-e-wujudi*). The Sufi's and the Verifiers (al-muhaqqiqin) have realized Allah ﷻ's Unity within themselves.

further exposed the hollowness of their faith in Islam when they aided and abetted in the creation and preservation in Arabia of a Saudi-American client-State that they named Saudi Arabia. In doing so they presided over the destruction of *Dar al-Islam* and the *Khilafah* State that the blessed Holy Prophet ﷺ had himself established. They also chose friendship and alliance with Europe's mysterious Judeo-Christian alliance in preference to fraternal solidarity with those believers who proclaimed their faith in Islam.

So long as the Saudi-Wahhabi alliance maintains its client-State relationship with the European Zionist-Christian alliance which rules the world, it remains impossible for any Muslim, or combination of Muslims, to dislodge them from control over the *Hijaaz*, the *Haramain* and the *Hajj*. This upstart sect with a claim to represent the true Islam actually presides over the monstrous betrayal of Islam while aiding and abetting in the destruction of the Islamic Caliphate. They played a crucial role in delivering to the Jewish-Christian alliance the capacity to eventually rule over the entire world of Islam.

Yet another strange and mysterious but very attractive Indian sect declaring those within its fold to be a people of *Tabligh* (i.e., missionary preaching). Their methodology of reaching out to Muslims and gently leading them back to the non-strategic Sunnah of the blessed Holy Prophet ﷺ is indeed impressive. Many of its members are very sincere Muslims who do live lives of great piety. Hence it is quite mysterious that members of this sect would oft-times rather shy away from the remembrance of Imam Hussain ؑ, which delivers knowledge of the strategic Sunnah. They would act in this strange way even when they have no knowledge of the subject. They would rather close their ears than join in a conversation or discussion that questions the validity of the Saudi Occupation of the Hijaaz or the Zionist control of al-Aqsa.

Most of the *Ulama* of this age, even in the *Dar al-'Ulum* or institutions of higher Islamic learning, seem to neglect the inner dimension of the Qur'aanic Revelation. The Sufi's, except for a handful, are busy with mystifying the Science of Spirituality and have themselves abandoned the Sufi epistemology that recognizes the validity of internal intuitive spiritual insight as a source of knowledge. Hence they are unable to read and understand the movement of

history and respond, as Imam Hussain عليه السلام did to challenge those forces which move history. Thus the forces against the Islamic Ideology will allow the *Ijtima* (gathering), the gathering of *dhikr* in the *Sufi Khanqah* or the breast beating and wailing of the *Shia* but they will never allow meddling in politics and economics. Our Karbala Today is an all out struggle against economic corruption and political slavery enshrined in their system of production and consumption.

The French have a proverb: '*plus ça change, plus c'est la meme chose*', i.e. the more it (appears to) change - the more it is (in fact) the same thing.

Muslims are being slaughtered in Afghanistan, North-West Pakistan, Iraq, Somalia and elsewhere, and we anticipate more of the same "from the river of Egypt to the great River Euphrates" as well as in Venezuela, Bolivia, Iran and elsewhere. Yet many still do not recognize the falsehood of the claim that all the intimidation, bloodshed and mass slaughter is being perpetrated in the name of establishing democracy. In fact the substance of the Judeo-Christian European alliance which drives the current barbaric Anglo-American-Israeli world-order does not appear to have changed in the last 150 years. Read the speech of Chief See-at-hl, delivered in a speech directed at the President of America in 1855. This same address could have been delivered by Malcolm X 100 years later in 1955. And if we had the eloquence of those two men we could speak the same words today, 150 years later, in a world now ruled by the same white slave-master who now hides behind a deceptively innocent black face.

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