ISLAM
Submitting Ourselves to God’s Will
A Conceptual Overview

Dr. Yahia Abdul-Rahman
YARAHMAN@MSN.com
+1-626-255-2181
+1-626-818-0855

THE WAVES of ISLAM in AMERICA

The 19th Century:
African Muslim Slaves to Work in
American Plantations.
THE WAVES of ISLAM in AMERICA

The 20th Century

1. The Disintegration of The Ottoman Empire After WWI – Blue Collar Workers & Merchants from The “Fertile Crescent”, Palestine, Syria and Lebanon, mainly in N.E. US to Work at Automobile Plants & Associated Industries 1920’s

2. The Academic Translation of The Qur’aan and Hadeeth (Sayings & Teachings of Prophet Muhammad (s)) to English

3. The Black Muslims Movement, 1950’s

4. The Educated from the Indian Subcontinent and the Middle East, 1960’s (Crème de la crème of Muslim Educated Individuals) Seeking Advanced Education and Degrees in America.

5. The Iranians Before the Islamic Revolution, 1960’s

6. The Emergence of the American Muslim Identity – Muslim Students Association of the US & Canada (Now ISNA) and the Islamic Centers, 1960’s and 1970’s

7. The Oil Price Jump in 1973
THE WAVES of ISLAM in AMERICA

The 20th Century

8. The Iranians After the Islamic Revolution, 1978 –1980’s
9. The Islamic Revolution in Iran and Salman Rushdi.80
10. The Emergence of the Islamic Schools, 1980’s
11. The Emergence of the Islamic Political Organizations, 1980’s
12. The Growing Up of the American Born Muslims and Presence in Schools and University Campuses

THE WAVES of ISLAM in AMERICA

The 21st Century

Islam As Another Prominent Religion in America

SHAPING THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN MUSLIMS AND ISLAM IN AMERICA
A CONCEPTUAL OVERVIEW OF ISLAM

1. Submit oneself to the Creator GOD.
2. There is only ONE GOD.
3. Believe in All Prophets and Messages of God.
4. The Locomotive of History is GOD. Man (M/F) are His Tools on Earth.
5. Islam Reinforces All God’s Faiths Especially Judaism and Christianity.

A CONCEPTUAL OVERVIEW OF ISLAM

6. The Empowerment of Man (M/F) – The Power of Free Choice.
7. Creation of Adam and Eve – Partnership to Struggle Against and to Fight the Temptation of the Devil (satan.)
8. The Responsibility of Man (M/F) on Earth – The Vicegerent of God on Earth.
9. The Value of Time – Time is NOT Gold - Time is Irreplaceable Time is Life.
SOURCES OF ISLAM
THE HOLY QUR’AAN

The Last Word of God to Man (M/F).
It includes all God’s Messages to Man (M/F).
The Legal Code of Living.
Overview of the Lessons of History of All Nations and All Prophets Since Arch-Prophet Abraham including Moses & Jesus (Peace be Upon All His Prophets.)
The Rewards to Loving of and Living by God’s Laws in this Life and in the Hereafter.

TEACHINGS FROM QUR’AAN

- Sincerity, Responsibility and Integrity
- Honesty, Truthfulness
- Keeping of Commitments
- Justice and Fair Dealing
- Discipline and Self Control
- Humility, Patience and Endurance
- Kindness, Helpfulness and Cooperation
- Charity, Generosity and Hospitality
- Consideration and Good Manners
- Brotherliness, Warmth and Love
- Striving and Hard Work
- Love of Knowledge
SOURCES OF ISLAM
THE TRADITION AND PRACTICES OF
PROPHET MUHAMMAD
AND ALL PRIOR PROPHETS(S)

Putting the Qur’aan into Practice.
Keeping the Tradition of All Prophets
Universal Way of Living by Glorifying God By
Cleansing but NOT Removing Cultural
Heritage towards worshiping God

THE FIVE PILLARS OF ISLAM

1. ARTICLES of FAITH: One God, All Prophets of
   God, The Angels, The Books, The Day of
   Judgment and the Unseen Powers of God.

2. PRAYERS: Five Times – Connecting with God and
   Friday Congregational Prayers.

3. FASTING the Month of Ramadan.
THE FIVE PILLARS OF ISLAM

4. ECONOMIC SYSTEM – Zakah (Alms Giving), Inheritance and No-Riba (Asset-Based Equity Financing and Community Investing.)


FACTS ABOUT ISLAM

1. ISLAM = Means to Submit and it is Derived from PEACE – The Religion of Peace.

2. No Compulsion in Faiths. People are Free to Choose their Beliefs.
FACTS ABOUT ISLAM (contd.)

3. Majority of Muslims are Non-Arabs. Indonesia, India, Pakistan and Nigeria Represent Over 65% of the Muslims. The Arabs Represent 20%.

4. Islam Refers to the People of the Jewish Faith and Christian Faith as “People of the Book.”

5. The Crusades are called “The Wars of the Foreigners” in Respect for the Christian Faith.

FACTS ABOUT ISLAM (contd.)

7. WOMEN were Given Their Rights to Vote, Participate in Government and Society as Independent Entity and Were Given Right to Own Property and to Inherit.

8. Nations of All Faiths, Ethnicities, Cultures and Languages were Created to Know Each Other and to Cooperate, Know and Trade with Each Other.
FACTS ABOUT ISLAM

9. LIFE is God’s Property – Interfering with it is Interfering with God’s Rights. Suicide and Killing are some of the Worst Sins.


DEFINITIONS

• Allah
  – The Arabic name for God.

• Qur’aan
  – Collection of all the divine revelations to the Prophet, compiled in a book form.

• Sunnah
  – Teachings and practice of the Prophet.

• Hadeeth
  – Sunnah is recorded in several books of Hadeeth.
DEFINITIONS

• Shari'aa
  – Guidance contained in Quraan and Sunnah.
  – All Islamic law is based on Shariah.

• Fiqh
  – Islamic Jurisprudence with five major schools:
    1 - Abu Hanefah   2 - Malik        3 - Shafai
    4 - Ibn Hanbal    5 - Jafar Sadiq
  – Sunnis follow first four, Shi’aa follow the fifth.

Islam & Life

Life is given by God
He, God, alone has the right to take it away.

• Qur’aan On Sanctity Of Human Life
  Who ever kills an innocent soul is as if he has killed the whole of humanity, and who ever saves a life is as if he has saved the whole of humanity. (5:32)

• Prophet Muhammad
  Who ever kills a non-Muslim, Christian, or Jew, who share his city or country will never even smell the air of paradise.
Jihad

- Literally means struggle.
- Best “Jihad” is to improve one’s self.
- Fighting is allowed in defense only.
- Explicitly forbidden to start a fight.
- Retaliatory response has to be proportionate.
- Forgiveness and patience to be preferred.

Jihad & Defense

Strict Rules of Conduct for Defensive Fighting

- No Harm to Innocents, Places of Worship and Property

- Prohibited to kill
  - Women
  - Children
  - Old, weak and sick people
  - Non combatants
  - Animals & Plants
THANK YOU

MAY THE LORD BLESS ALL & SHOWER HIS PEACE AND WISDOM UNTO ALL AND GRANT YOU SUCCESS IN YOUR STUDIES.

MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS AMERICA AND THE WORLD.

Dr. Yahia Abdul-Rahman
Yarahman@MSN.com
+1-626-255-2181