

WAR AND FIGHTING IN THE CONTEXT OF AL-QUR'ÂNIC AYÂT

Note that the kuffâr always refer to verse 5 only, so to take it out of context. To understand the context of verse 5, One has to read from verse one as this refers to a treaty Muhammad (as) had made with certain kuffâr tribes (idol worshippers) and they were continuously breaking it (just like the zionists always do today) so the warning was first given to the kuffâr months in advance that they must adhere to the treaty they signed or it will be dissolved and then only war will be made. Special note must be taken of verse 6, in which it says that even during the fighting if any kaffir asks for protection then it is a command of Allâh that the Muslims MUST protect him and convey him to a place of safety. Chapter 9: verses 1 to 6:

- 1. A (declaration) of immunity from Allâh and His Messenger, to those of the Pagans with whom ye have contracted mutual alliances:** - (addressing the idol worshippers of Makkah¹)
- 2. Go ye, then, for four Months, backwards and forwards, (as ye will), throughout the land, but know ye that ye cannot frustrate Allâh (by your falsehood) but that Allâh will cover with Shame those who reject Him.**
- 3. And an announcement from Allâh and His Messenger, to the people (assembled) on the Day of the great Pilgrimage, (days of Hajj) - that Allâh and His Messenger dissolve (treaty) obligations with the Pagans. if then, ye repent, it were best for you; but if ye turn away, know ye that ye cannot frustrate Allâh, and proclaim a grievous penalty to those who reject Faith.**
- 4. (But the treaties are) not dissolved with those Pagans with whom ye have entered into alliance and who have not subsequently failed you in aught, nor aided any one against you. So fulfill your engagements with them to the end of their term: for Allâh loves the Righteous.**
- 5. But when the forbidden months are past, then Fight and slay the Pagans Wherever ye find them, an seize them, beleaguer them, and lie in wait for them in every stratagem (of**

¹ 5-82: **“Strongest among mankind in enmity to the believers will thou find the Jews and Pagans;** and nearest among them in love to the believers wilt thou find those who say, "we are Christians": because amongst these are men devoted to learning and men who have renounced the world, and they are not arrogant.” *(Even today those who worship idols, especially the Hindus and Buddhists are the worst enemies same as the Jews (refer to 2-146). The hatred of the Jews stems from the fact that they know that Muhammad is the Messenger but because he is not from the line of Yacoob (Jacob) they hate him and his message, little realizing that they are fighting against their Creator. The idols worshippers will have no excuse on the DOJ because they did receive the message of the Oneness of God (refer to 10-47 and 30-47 and to 21-25).*

war); but if they repent, and establish regular prayers and practice regular charity, then open the way for them: for Allâh is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

6. If one amongst the Pagans ask thee for asylum, grant it to him, so that he may hear the word of Allâh. And then escort Him to where he can be secure. That is because they are men without knowledge.

Give the unbelievers notice of four months before the Muslims dissolve the treaty so they know:

8-58. If thou fears treachery from any group, throw back (their covenant) to them, (so as to be) on equal terms: for Allâh loves not the treacherous.

Chapter 22: Note: Muslims must ONLY FIGHT THOSE WHO FIGHT YOU!

22-39. To those against whom war is made, permission is given (to fight), because they are wronged;- and verily, Allâh is Most powerful for their aid;-

22-40. (They are) those who have been expelled from their homes in defiance of right,- (for no cause) except that they say, "Our Lord is Allâh. And if Allâh did not check one set of people by means of another, there would surely have been pulled down monasteries, churches, synagogues, and mosques, in which the name of Allâh is commemorated in abundant measure. Allâh will certainly aid those who aid His (cause);- for verily Allâh is full of strength, Exalted In Might, (able to enforce His Will).

The Zionists are doing the very thing: breaking down mosques and churches. Most Christians are unaware of this happening in Palestine!

If the kuffâr want peace then make peace as is the ORDER BY ALLÂH!

8-61. But if the enemy incline towards Peace, do thou (also) incline towards Peace, and trust in Allâh. For He is one that hears and knows (all things).

Muslims are not allowed to fight the kuffâr if they withdraw:

4- 90. [...] Therefore if they withdraw from you and Fight you not, and (instead) send you (Guarantees of) Peace, then Allâh hath opened no way for you (to war against them).

Muslims must only fight a defensive war:

2-191. And slay them wherever ye catch them, and turn them out from where they have turned you out; for tumult and oppression are worse than slaughter; but fight them not at the sacred Mosque, unless they (first) fight you there; but if they fight you, slay them. Such is the reward of those who suppress Faith.

2-192. But if they cease, Allâh is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.

2-193. And Fight them on until there is no more tumult or oppression, and there prevail justice and Faith in Allâh. But if they cease, let there be no hostility except to those who practice oppression.

Do not fight those who do not fight you (Muslims)

60-8. Allâh forbids you not, with regard to those who fight you not for (your) Faith nor drive you out of your homes, from dealing kindly and justly with them: for Allâh loves those who are just.

60-9. Allâh only forbids you, with regard to those who Fight you for (your) Faith, and drive you out of your homes, and support (others) in driving you out, from turning to them (for friendship and protection). It is such as turn to them (in these circumstances), that do wrong.

After the war Muslims have a choice: Generosity or ransom:

47-4. Therefore, when ye meet the unbelievers (in fight), smite at their necks; at length, when ye have thoroughly subdued them, bind a bond firmly (on them): thereafter (Is the time for) either generosity or ransom: until the war lays down its burdens. Thus (are ye commanded): but if it had been Allâh's will, He could certainly have exacted retribution from them (Himself); but (He lets you fight) in order to test you, some with others. But those who are slain in the way of Allâh, - He will never let their deeds be lost.

The Christians seem to overlook the fact that Jesus also taught war as is mentioned in **Luke chap 22 verse 36** Then said he unto them, but now, he that hath a purse, let him take it, and likewise his scrip: and he that hath no sword, let him sell his garment, and buy one. (Also stated in Mark 14:47)

Numbers 18:10: Then Simon Peter having a sword drew it, and smote the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus).

Interesting fact: In Arabic the word 'sword' has twelve different words to describe it. **Surprise for Christians: the word 'sword' appears 448 times in 404 verses in the Bible. Check it out!**

Question: DOES 'JIHAD' MEAN HOLY WAR IN ISLAM?

Answer: Jihad has a wide meaning in Islam. The western media loves to portray this word as 'a war on the west', which terrifies non-Muslims the world over. **The essential meaning of JIHAD is to "struggle and strive against one's own passion".**

Dr. Ibrahim Abu Rabi calls Jihad *"the execution of effort against evil in the self and every manifestation of evil in society"*.

In this manner Jihad is the Muslims' purest sacrifice; to struggle to live a perfect life and completely submit ones-self to Allâh as is stated in the Glorious Qur'aan, and practically

demonstrated by the Prophet of Islam according to the Qur'an. Another level of Jihad is to propagate the truth of Islam to the non-Muslims and call them with wisdom and good preaching to study the Qur'an for themselves. There is no compulsion in Religion as is stated many times in the Qur'an; **but it the duty and obligation on each and every Muslim to invite towards Islam**. Refer to Chap 9 verse 24 of the Glorious Qur'an.

The aspect of Jihad that is commonly known to non-Muslims is that of fighting - or holy war - through the propaganda machines of the western media. It is essential to understand what is condoned and condemned in warfare according to the Qur'an, and as practiced by the Prophet of Islam. **Islam does not justify aggressive warfare**; but stresses the need to defend oneself against aggression. **Islam allows defensive warfare**. Islam prohibits the killings of non-combatants, the old and infirm, women and children, destroying of crops and homes and the like². History records that the Muslim armies practiced all of the above. The Glorious Qur'an states very clearly this in just one verse (there are many verses but this one should suffice to prove the above statements)

Chap 2:v 190- "Fight in the way of Allâh those who fight against you, but transgress not the limits. Truly Allâh likes not the transgressors".

The Qur'an warns those who do not have knowledge of things not to make foolish statements as they will be held accountable for that:

17-36. "And pursue not that of which thou hast no knowledge; for every act of hearing, or of seeing or of (feeling in) the heart will be enquired into (on the Day of Reckoning).

2 America that claims to be the champion of Christianity has since 1945 till 2007 and counting: Bombed and killed women, children, the weak, infirm, non-combatants, destroyed crops and animals etc in Hiroshima, Vietnam, Afghanistan, Libya, Sudan and Iraq. Between 1898 and 1934, the Marines invaded Cuba 4 times, Nicaragua 5 times, Honduras 7 times, the Dominican Republic 4 times, Haiti twice, Guatemala once, Panama twice, Mexico 3 times and Columbia 4 times," Washington has intervened militarily in foreign countries more than 200 times. Christians Serbs murdered more than 8,000 unarmed Bosnian Muslims in one camp alone, and killed & raped so many other Muslims in other parts of Bosnia. . In October,14, 2006 the B.B.C. reported that LANCET, the respected British Medical Journal has recorded an official tally of 650,000 civilians killed in Iraq by the American army. The unofficial tally is more than 1,500,000 civilians dead and millions more injured. The Germans, who also claim to be Christians, started two World Wars that claimed more than 30,000,000 lives. - Mr. Bayle, a Christian writes in his book; 'Dictionary, the article Mahomed': "Christians enjoy the fine advantage of being far better versed than others in the art of killing, bombarding and exterminating the Human Race". How very, very true of George Bush and Tony Blair who both claim to be Christians. Bush & Blair have the blood of millions of Iraqis, Afghanis, Kashmiris and Palestinians on their hands. But lest they forget, they are definitely going to be punished for their crimes. Thomas Carlyle so aptly said: "Foolish men imagine that because judgment for an evil thing is delayed, there is no justice...Judgment for an evil thing is many times delayed...but it is sure as life, it is sure as death." **Qur'aan Chapter 42 verse 21: ... "And surely for the wrongdoers is a painful chastisement"**. Socrates said: "False words are not only evil in themselves, but they infect the soul with evil".

Hinduism:

The Holy Books of Hindus are full of war, fighting, killing even amongst their “Gods.”

CONCEPT OF ALLAH (GOD ALMIGHTY) IN ISLAM AND HINDUISM

The best answer to the concept of Allah in Islam is in **Surah Ikhlâas³ - Chapter 112, vv. 1-4.**

“Say: HE is Allah the One and Only; ALLAH who is “As Samad” (the eternally besought of all, One who is totally independent, and on One whom the entire creation depends on) HE begetteth not, nor is HE begotten (born), and there is none like unto Him.” (Nothing can be compared to Him)

The above verses are equivalent to:

Chandogya Upanishad chapter 6, section 2, verse 1.

Bhagvad Geeta chapter 10, verse 3; Shatashvatara Upanishad chapter 6, verse 9; Upanishad chapter 4, verse 19.

It also corresponds to Yajurveda chapter 32, verse 3, which states “Of Him there is no likeness⁴”.

A few quotations from the Glorious Qur’ân:

“Allah is He, than whom there is no other god—Who knows (all things) both secret and open; He, Most Gracious, Most Merciful. Allah is He, than Whom there is no other god—the Sovereign⁵, the Holy One, the Source of Peace (and perfection) the Guardian of Faith the Preserver of Safety, the Exalted in Might, the Irresistible. The Supreme: Glory to Allah! (High is He) above the partners they attribute to Him. He is Allah, the Creator, the Evolver, the Bestower of Forms (or colours); to Him belongs the Most Beautiful names: whatever is in the heavens and on earth, doth declare His praises and glory: and he is the Exalted in Might the Wise.” {Al- Qur’ân: Chapter 59:vs.22-24}

Ahmed Moosa
22 April 2015

³ This small chapter of four verses is the touchstone of theology in understanding the concept of God Almighty

⁴ This verse deals a death blow to any form of idol worship

⁵ There are 14 attributes of God Almighty mentioned in just one verse. None of them conjures any mental picture as these are His powers that are over His creation