

## **Claiming The True Version Of Islam**

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Thousands of Muslims are getting killed every day in Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine, and now even more in the war between Saudis and Yemen.

What is happening between Muslim's?  
Why are they going down this destructive path?  
Why do Muslims hate one another?  
Why is Islam suddenly seen as two religions?  
Why do Muslims hate Christians and Jews?  
Why have Muslims become the monsters of the world?  
Why are we seen as the threat to freedom, peace and stability?

The latest news headlines tell us enough about where we are headed!

“Hundreds of residents of a Palestinian refugee camp, in the Syrian capital of Damascus, fled Sunday after shelling by Islamic State fighters, Free Syria army, and government forces, and Palestinian militants, activists said” (1).

The Syrian conflict reaches the point of no return when the opposition is driven by the ideology of Islam instead of democracy and freedom. We have witnessed this volatile conflict speed up or slow down simply based on who is paying more and who is supporting whom. Some from Saudi Arabia and Qatar are supporting Al-Nursa Front (Alqueda's affiliates) while some support ISIS. ISIS is the real opposition who started this mess in Syria. They were looking for some freedom and became the super minority in this conflict. What matters now is how "conservative" Muslim are you? Are you willing to be in the opposition group, and face the reality that we sold our freedom now to the new Muslim dictators?

Iraq, suddenly after all the money and power funded by the USA, again goes into the same conflicts of Islamic division, between Siit's and Sunni's. All what was hidden in the last hundreds of years is surfacing and guiding people toward disaster. The Sunnis started supporting ISIS, because of the abuse they faced by PM Maliki. Maliki was driven by the Shi's ideology leading to the follow up disasters, while the world is watching and underestimating this coming crisis.

Egypt, where suddenly political Islam is supported by some Sunnii's government in the Gulf, became a super power. This led to the Muslim Brotherhood to take over the political system, and instead of using their power to promote democracy, they used their new power to suppress democracy, under the umbrella of defending Islam. This brotherhood believes that Muslims should be ruled under the Sharia law, leading to some of the non believers to rise up and protest. Ultimately, it has led to another disaster in the Middle East. Similar disasters happened in Tunis, where the Muslim's brotherhood alliance failed and forced out of the government.

On Saudi-Iraqi borders the Islamic State Organization (ISIS) takes place as Saudi Arabia on the top of its aims, ISIS sees it the capital of the Islamic caliphate, that what a German journalist said after visited ISIS location and heard their goals.

And now we see the latest conflict, the Saudi leading an alliance of Sunni's against the Shiit's Huthies in Yemen. This is not because of democracy or Yemeni's freedom, which would be a valid reason, but because the feeling and thinking that Iran is surrounding them, and that threatens their Monarchy.

In Iraq, the Iranian leverage takes place and might reach a military intervention, which has provoked Saudi Arabia the most. A week ago, when the Islam Front faction and The Liberal Army bombarded Damascus, Al-Sayed Hassan Naserallah called Saed Al Harery and informed him " If Damascus was targeted one more again, we would have ended the Gulf power in Lebanon"—in reference to AL-Mostaqbal Faction.

In terms of religion, the Houthis are part of the Shia Zaidi, a branch of the Shia Imamiya of Iran. The Zaidi believe that only a descendant of Prophet Muhammad whom they call an Imam should rule Muslims. Such Imams ruled Yemen for more than 1,000 years and their rule ended only in 1962. The Zaydis of Yemen are the only sect in the world that is viewed as 'Shi'ite' by the Sunnis, and as 'Sunni' by the Twelver Shi'ites. The Saudis and their allies are attacking them for their 'deviant' beliefs and to 'protect the Sunnah'. Make no mistake about it: this is a war of political and personal interest; and both sides to bolster their positions through sectarianism.

This is interesting because the Zaidi do not represent a majority in Yemen. But the ideological differences between them and the Sunni Shafi'i majority are not as big as in the cases of Iraq and Iran. Both sects harmoniously lived together and prayed in the same mosques for hundreds of years.

What is happening between two Muslim countries in the Gulf region is indeed sad. The two sides in this conflict ask Allah for help against their 'enemy'. These opposing sides who are supposed to be their brothers in Islam have now become enemies! The foreign outsider and it's attempt to influence the politics of this region are even more concerning because it is ideology driven and not based on legitimacy. Let no one be confused: what we are seeing is a blatant misuse of sectarian differences for political reasons.

Juan Cole (2), a well-known historian of the Middle East, has pointed out the split between Sunni and Shiites in Iraq is of relatively recent origin:

*I see a lot of pundits and politicians saying that Sunnis and Shiites in Iraq have been fighting for a millennium. We need better history than that. The Shiite tribes of the south probably only converted to Shiism in the past 200 year s. And, Sunni-Shiite riots per se were rare in 20th century Iraq. Sunnis and Shiites cooperated in the 1920 rebellion against the British. If you read the newspapers in the 1950s and 1960s, you don't see anything about Sunni-Shiite riots. There were peasant/landlord struggles or communists*

*versus Baathists. The kind of sectarian fighting we're seeing now in Iraq is new in its scale and ferocity, and it was the Americans who unleashed it.*

In 2014 Professor Cole (3) up the differences between Sunni and Shiite this way: *Shiites are more like traditional Catholics in venerating members of the holy family and attending at their shrines. Contemporary Salafi Sunni Islam is more like the militant brand of Protestantism of the late 1500s that denounced intermediaries between God and the individual and actually attacked and destroyed shrines to saints and other holy figures, where pleas for intercession were made*

Sadly, the conclusion of what is happening in the Gulf and the Middle East leads us to the conclusion that people who suffer are the innocent masses. On whose heads are those bombs dropped? On people who have nothing to do with this conflict who are just trying to live innocent and simple lives.

The most important lesson taught from the war in Iraq and Syria is one of a very harsh reality. Once you let the genie of sectarianism out of the bottle, you can never put it back. By invoking sectarian differences now in Yemen and everywhere else, I genuinely worry about the possibility of this hatred spilling out into a decade-long civil war. This benefits no one and harms millions of Muslims everywhere.

Pope Francis (4) called for peace “above all” in Syria and Iraq in his message at the Vatican, describing the violence associated with the Islamic State group and other extremist organizations there an “immense humanitarian tragedy.” “We ask for peace, above all, for beloved Syria and Iraq, that the roar of arms may cease and that peaceful relations may be restored among the various groups which make up those beloved countries,”

Pictures (5):



The Shiit and Sunnii's, distribution in the Middle East. Data source: The Gulf/2000 Project and United Nations ReliefWeb (The Washington Post)

I am wondering where are the Muslim's Clerks? Where are the Muslim's leaders calling for peace and dialogue and for ending this messacres everywhere between Muslim's. The bigger question- Do they even exist?

I am wondering who is pushing for these daily conflicts to arise leading to division, seperation and most importantly changing the image of Islam to the hatridism of Islam. I see no leaders, but only dictators moving us as puppets as they want. Dictators control the money and politics and that lead them to be self serving in everything they do. They do not care about the people, the freedom, the religion; they care about how to save their power and monachy. I am wondering if they learned any thing from history, no one last forever. That goes to all of them, in Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, Syria, Iraq, Yemen, and Egypt, and everywhere the leaders think they are immune from their own people.

I call on every one, and especially on on the Clerks, to remember that Islam believes in one god, "one god is allah, and no other gods". Remind them that division is weakness not strength, deepining the differences is self-destruction not winning, and finally, remind them that when you hate your Muslim brother you hate every one else, and the world can see that.

I call on all presidents and kings, to go back and use the common sense of reality to avoid killing their own people for the sake of politics.

Its about time to wake up and recognize the painful reality, that if we continue down this path there will be no recovery or peace. Maybe we deserve the title of camel rider, since we never believed in civilization yet clearly we believe in tribal war.

References:

1. <http://sputniknews.com/middleeast/20150405/1020503828.html?>
2. Juan Cole: <http://www.juancole.com/>
3. Juan Cole: [http://www.juancole.com/2014/06/second-american-switch.html?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+juancole%2Fymbn+%28Informed+Comment%29](http://www.juancole.com/2014/06/second-american-switch.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+juancole%2Fymbn+%28Informed+Comment%29)  
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4. The Gulf/2000 Project and United Nations ReliefWeb (The Washington Post)
5. [Easter Sunday](#)

**Term: Sectarianism:** Bigotry, discrimination, or hatred arising from attaching importance to perceived differences between subdivisions within a group, such as between different denominations of a religion, class, regional or factions of a political movement.

**Topic:** This essay explains the various divisions of Islam in various countries and how this now divided religion is fighting itself. Even though each group claims to be the true "version" of Islam, the true motive is always for personal or political gain.