

We read in the Qur'an 8:67: "It is not for a prophet to have captives of war until he inflicts massacre upon Allah's enemies in the land. You [Muhammad] desire the commodities of this world, but Allah desires for you the Hereafter."

(C) *Mutilating captives' dead bodies*: ISIS has displayed in public, and with pride, the heads of those they slaughtered. Photos of the beheaded American journalist James Wright Foley (Daily Mail, Australia, 21 August 2104), as well as the photo of a child, the son of Australian Khaled Sharrouf, holding the head of a slaughtered man (CBC News, 10 August 2014) and many others, have stirred the emotions of the world. The Qur'an 47:4 commands the beheading of the unbelievers. Muhammad observed a similar scene: "When Abu Jahl was killed, Abdullah Ibn Masoud stood with his feet on his dead body, got hold of his beard, cut his head off and then carried it to the Apostle of Allah. This act brought comfort into the hearts of believers" (Ibn Kathir, Al-Bidaya Wa Al-Nihaya, 1988).

(D) *Slavery of women and rape*: The world has witnessed that in Raqqa, Syria, and Mosul, Iraq, non-Muslim women are being sold in slave markets. ISIS' call has gone out in the streets of the city of Mosul, threatening severe punishment to women who would not submit themselves to the Islamic state. The action was described as barbaric and inhumane, violating women's basic rights. Was that an un-Islamic act?

Islamic history tells us that the Prophet of Islam attacked the Jewish town of Khaibar in the seventh year of Hijra (629 AD). Among the captives was Safia bint Huyai, a seventeen year old Israeli girl. She had only recently been married. Muhammad was attracted to her by her beauty. Muhammad killed her husband, her father and her brother. On his way back from the battle, he impregnated the grieving girl claiming that he married her in exchange for setting her free. Afterwards Safia said that Muhammad was the most hated man to her. (al-Shafii, Al-Sirat Al-

Halabia, 1875). Burning unbelievers alive and setting their houses on fire were early Islamic practices. Narrated Abi Al-Zinad bin Al-A'araj of Abi-Hurairah that the Apostle of Allah said: "By Him in whose hand is my soul, I have commanded to prepare burning coal, then call for prayer. I will, then, command the houses of those who don't respond to the call to prayer to be set on fire" (al-Bukhari, Book 11, Hadith 617). Ali bin Abi Talib, the fourth Caliph, burned alive some people who left Islam: "Narrated Ikrima that Ali burned alive some apostates. When Ibn Abbas heard about it, he came to Ali and said to him: 'if I were you, I would not have burned them, but rather killed them, in obedience to the command of the Prophet: 'Kill the apostates.'" (al-Bukhari, Hadith 6524).

(4) Does ISIS use Islamic texts to justify its actions?

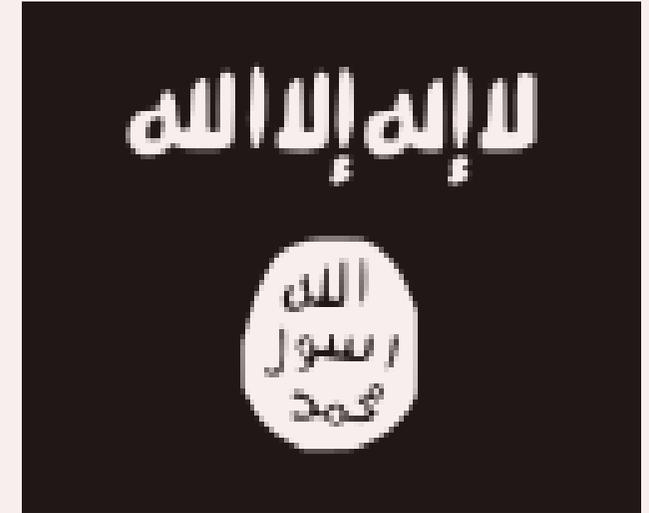
ISIS does not shy away from displaying Qur'anic verses on their videos in support of their horrific actions. As shown above, every act of ISIS can be found in the Qur'an and the Sunnah (example) of Muhammad.

Conclusion

Today's Islamic State seeks to be a resurrection of the first century Islamic state. It follows, almost to the letter, the teachings of Islam and walks in the footsteps of Muhammad, its Prophet. ISIS claims to be very Islamic. Dr Ahmed Al-Tayeb, Imam of Al-Azhar mosque, declined to declare ISIS as infidels, saying that "no Muslim should be called an infidel no matter how big his transgressions are."

If you want to know about the Bible and the Person of Jesus Christ, visit the following site: www.mylanguage.net.au

Is the 'Islamic State' un-Islamic?



"فَإِذَا لَقِيتُمْ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا فَضَرْبِ الرِّقَابِ حَتَّىٰ إِذَا أَثَخَّنْتُمُوهُمْ فَشُدُّوا الْوَتَاقَ فَإِمَّا مَنًّا بَعْدُ وَإِمَّا فِدَاءً حَتَّىٰ تَضَعَ الْحَرْبُ أَوْزَارَهَا" (سورة محمد 4)

"So when you meet those who disbelieve, strike their necks until, when you have inflicted slaughter upon them, then secure their bonds, and either confer favor afterwards or ransom them until the war lays down its burdens" (The Qur'an 47:4)

What is The Islamic State?

The world is witnessing atrocities committed by ISIS (Islamic State in Iraq and Syria). The media has displayed scenes of humiliating and inhumane beheadings, mass genocides, expulsions of Christians and Yazidis who refused to convert to Islam from their homes in Mosul, Iraq and other towns, as well as forcing women into slavery. Many people, Muslims and non-Muslims alike, deny Islam has anything to do with ISIS. There are, however, those who publicly support ISIS, e.g. Wassim Doureih, Spokesman of Hizb ut-Tahrir and 18 year-old Numan Haider who was shot dead by Victorian Police after stabbing two Police officers on 18 October, 2014. It is estimated that over 100 Australians have joined ISIS in Syria and Iraq. Among those are Khalid Sharouf, his 7 year old son and 17 year old Abdullah Elmir.

ISIS was born of the terrorist group Al-Qaeda in Iraq, (AQI) in 2010. The Islamic State in Iraq was proclaimed in January 2014; and the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria, ISIS, under Caliph Ibrahim (Abu-Bakr Al-Baghdadi), was declared on June, 29, 2014, a date that, non-accidentally, corresponds to the first day of Muslims' Holy month of Ramadan and the triumph of Muslims in the Battle of Badr. Thus it became the first terror group to establish a Caliphate.

BUT Is ISIS really Un-Islamic, as many think?

Four questions are asked in this brief pamphlet, namely:

Does ISIS have Islamic objectives?

Are ISIS followers true and strict Muslims?

Are ISIS' means to achieve its objectives Islamic?

Does ISIS use Islamic texts to justify its actions?

A positive answer to each of those four questions will leave little doubt that ISIS applies the teachings of Islam, almost to the letter.

(1) Does ISIS have Islamic Objectives? ISIS has made it crystal clear that the formation of a Caliphate, with the whole Islamic world under a single ruler, is their objective and that Jihad is their way to achieve that objective. ISIS displays Qur'anic verses, e.g. 9:5 and 8:39, as sub-titles when showing the *mujahidin* ('jihad warriors') marching to fight. The concept of the Caliphate has its roots in both the Qur'an and Hadith. The Qur'an 24:55 states "Allah has promised, to those among you who believe and work righteous deeds, that He will, of a surety, grant them in the land, inheritance of power, as He granted it to those before them; that He will establish in authority their religion -the one which He has chosen for them; and that He will change their state, after the fear in which they lived, to one with security and peace." About this verse, Al-Tabari (839-925) said that Allah will give to Muslims, as an inheritance, the land of the Arab and Persian infidels. The hadith teaches a similar concept: Ibn Hanbal reports that a coming Caliphate will take after the model of the Prophet. Nations will then be taken into captivity for as long as Allah wishes. Then the Caliphate according to the Prophet's model will be established (Hanbal, 2008, Book 4/273).

(2) Are Followers of ISIS Strict and True Muslims?

ISIS' followers claim to be strict and true followers of Islam. Caliph Abu Bakr has a PhD in Islamic Shari'a and worked as an Imam in Iraq. The 20 year old Briton Naser Al-Muthanna, who joined ISIS and has appeared in several of their videos, was described by his own father as a strict Muslim, along with his brother (TV interview reported in the newspaper 'Al Arabiya' on 23 June, 2014). These followers do not hide their Islamic identity.

(3) Do ISIS atrocities mirror Islamic Teachings?

(A) *Ethnic cleansing*: About 40000 Iraqis, Christians and other religious minorities were expelled from their homes in Mosul, Iraq when they refused to convert to Islam or pay Jizya (protection tax) to ISIS. Many of those were stranded on Sinjar Mountain, to die from heat and thirst (The Telegraph, 23 August, 2014). The last command that Muhammad gave to Muslims is this: "There should be no two religions in the Arabian Peninsula" (Hanbal, 2008, Hadith 25758). The Qur'an 9:5, 9:29 and 47:4 teach the same spirit of intolerance. During Muhammad's rule of Medina, two Jewish tribes were banished and the remaining tribe slaughtered -a day long process in which all the men were systematically executed by the sword (Moore, History of Religions, Vol 2, 1941).

(B) *Public execution of prisoners of war*: ISIS has publicly beheaded innocent civilians and carried out group executions of its prisoners of war, while placing the black flag on their necks. In doing so, ISIS claims to be following the example of Muhammad, the Prophet of Islam. Ibn Ishaq wrote: "When the Apostle was in Al-Safra'a (a place), he killed Al-Nadr bin Al-Hareth. He was killed at the hands of Ali bin Abi Taleb, as I was told by some people of knowledge in Mecca. The Prophet then went out to Irq Al-Zabia (a place) where he killed Aqaba bin Abi Ma'ait. When Aqaba knew that Muhammad was going to kill him, he begged him:

'O' Muhammad, who would take care of my children?' Muhammad answered 'They go to hell'. (Ibn Kathir, Al-Baydaia Wa Al-Nyhai, 2003).

Both Al-Nadr and Aqaba were prisoners of war. In fact, Allah in the Qur'an rebuked Muhammad for sparing the lives of some captives, in order to exchange them for ransom money: