

(iii) Fighting was a **sign of true faith**:

4:76; 9:44,45;49:15.

(iv) **Allah prefers** fighters to sitters-at-home
4:95

(v) Muslims are **promised victory** in war:

48:1,22; 54:45; 58:21; 61:13.

(vi) Killing is with Allah's **permission**: 3:152

(vii) Allah puts **terror** into enemy hearts:

3:151; 8:12; 33:26; 59:2

(viii) Allah fights **on behalf of** the Muslims:

3:13,160; 33:25; 33:26; 8:17;
59:2; 63:4; 110:1-3

(d) Emotional incentives to fight

(i) Some **wept** because they could not be involved in Jihad: 9:92

(ii) The handicapped, sick and poor were

exempted from Jihad: 9:91; 4:95

(iii) Acts of mercy or spirituality are **not as**

worthy as fighting: 9:19; 73:20

(e) Psychological incentives to fight

(i) Morale must be maintained,

because **victory was assured**: 3:139

(ii) Those who made treaties against the

Muslims would not support each other: 59:14

II - How was Jihad to be conducted?

(a) Methods of warfare are outlined

(i) Prepare for war with **all resources** 2:195,

even if the resources were few:

8:60; 9:41; 57:10

(ii) Villages were attacked in **unexpected**

raids: 7:4; 100:1-5; Trees **destroyed**: 59:5

(iii) Close neighbours **threatened**: 33:60-62

(iv) Retreat by the Muslims was **punishable**

“with painful torment”: 48:16

(v) Fight **wholeheartedly**: 8:16, 17; 8:12,45;

9:14; 22:78; 29:6; 61:10,11; 5:35

(vi) **Be patient in war**: 2:177

(vii) Not all Muslims had to fight each time –

some could stay behind: 9:122,

but they would not be considered equal

(b) Post-war behaviour

(i) **Do not sue for peace** if you have the upper hand: 47:35. Muslims' enemies will flee 3:111

(ii) Muhammad was ordered to **kill**

instead of taking prisoners: 8:67.

(iii) **Pursue** the enemy: 4:104

(iv) **Be harsh** with the unbelievers:

9:73,123; 25:52; 66:9.

(v) **Punish** the enemy severely: 8:57; 5:33

(vi) **Execute, crucify, amputate, or exile**

those who have resisted your armies 5:36

(vii) **Do not seek** for reconciliation 4:89; 60:1

(viii) Maintain military **guards** 3:200

(ix) But Muslims should try to reconcile

with other Muslims: 49:9

III - The Goals of Jihad

(i) The **destruction** of other religions and

supremacy of Islam: 2:193; 8:39; 48:28

(ii) Collection of **ransom** or tribute and

total **subjugation** of others: 9:29; 47:4

IV - The Results of Jihad

(i) Fighting would bring **rich reward** (booty)

in this world and **Allah's mercy** in the next:

2:218; 2:244, 245; 4:94; 4:95, 96; 5:35; 8:60;

8:74; 9:20; 9:88; 9:111; 16:110; 29:69;

48:15,19,20.

(ii) **Allah loves those who fight**: 61:4.

(iii) Booty is **lawful**, to be enjoyed 8:69

(iv) 1/5th booty was for **Muhammad** 8:1,41

(v) Booty was not necessarily allocated to

those who fought in the battles: 59:7,8; 8:41

(vi) Captives could be **sold for ransom** 2:85;

47:4 or **kept as slaves** (4:3,24,25,36; 16:71;

23:6; 24:31,33,58; 30:28; 33:50,52,55; 70:30)

or **executed** (8:67)

(vii) Dying “in the way (or cause) of Allah”

assures entrance to Paradise: 2:154; 3:157,

158, 169, 170, 195; 4:66, 67, 74, 100; 22:58;

47:4-6

War or Peace?



What does the Qur'an teach about peace ... and violence?



PEACE, HARMONY, FORGIVENESS

There are 45 Qur'anic verses encouraging tolerance & peace. They are mostly from the earlier (Meccan) chapters

- a) **Freedom of religion** was allowed: 2:256; 109:6
- b) Muslims should **live quietly**: 5:105; 50:39
- c) Non-Muslims were to be **persuaded peacefully**: 3:186; 29:46; 5:8; 15:94; 16:125; 42:15; 50:45
- d) Non-Muslims to be **left alone** if they refused to listen: 3:176,177; 6:70,106,112; 7:180; 15:3; 19:74; 47:32; 70:42; 87:17.
- e) **Avoid mockers** 4:140; 6:68.
- f) **Withdraw** from them: 43:89; 54:6.
- g) **Don't insult** them 6:108 ;
- h) Be **patient** 46:35
- i) Hatred of others should **not result in unjust treatment** towards them: 5:8.
- j) **Forgiveness** was important: 2:109 (abrogated); 5:13; 7:199; 15:85 & 45:14 (abrogated); 3:134
- k) **Justice, benevolence and giving** to your relatives is important 16:90.
- l) Return **evil with good**: 13:22, 23:96, 28:54; 41:34
- m) Turn **enemies into friends** 41:34
- n) Killing was **forbidden**: 5:32, (initially 4:77a)
- o) **Peace-making** was encouraged: 8:61
- p) Judgement and punishment was **left up to Allah**: 51:60; 43:83

WAR, FIGHTING, KILLING, JIHAD

There are 413 verses that describe, endorse, encourage or command violence.

They are from the later, Medinan chapters.

Those verses are:

2:85, 154, 177, 190-195, 216-218, 244-251, 279; 3:13, 52, 111, 112, 121-125, 139-180, 195, 200; 4:24, 25, 36, 66-84, 88-104; 5:20-26; 33-35, 54; 7:4, 5; 8:1, 5-30, 39-49, 56-75; 9:5-16, 19-29, 36, 38-57, 73, 74, 81-83, 86-102, 111, 117-123; 16:71, 110; 17:4-7, 16; 22:38-40, 58, 78; 23:6; 25:52; 29:6, 69; 33:9-27, 60-62; 42:39-41; 47:4-8, 20-38; 48:1-29; 49:9-18; 54:43-45; 57:10, 18, 19; 58:11, 21, 22; 59:2-15; 60:1, 2, 7-13; 61:4-14; 63:2-9; 64:12-18; 66:9; 73:20; 100:1-5; 110:1-3 This is 1 in 15 verses and 1 in 4 suras

According to some Islamic scholars, there is a progression in witness and Jihad

Stage 1: Peaceful, non-confrontational

witness in Mecca & early Medina 2:256

Stage 2: Defensive fighting in Medina- 2:190, 191

Stage 3: Attacking within limits – 9:36

Stage 4: Unconditional warfare – 47:4; “kill wherever you find them” – 9:5; 4:89; 2:191

Stage 2: IN SELF-DEFENCE & FOR JUSTICE

(a) Muslims were told initially to fight only in self-defence, but this was abrogated (cancelled later):

2:190, 194; 9:12, 13; 22:39, 40a.

B) Fight those who fight you: 4:90,91; 60:9

(a) Taking revenge is acceptable: 42:39-41

(d) Fight to protect the oppressed: 4:75

(e) War is declared against usurers 2:279

STAGE 3: ATTACKING WITHIN LIMITS

- (a) Muslims were told to attack others only outside the holy months, but this was later abrogated: 9:36; 9:5; 2:217 (abrogation)
- (b) Fighting in Mecca was prohibited unless there was resistance: 2:191

STAGE 4: UNCONDITIONAL WARFARE

I – Incentives to be involved in Jihad were given

(a) Overcoming their reticence to fight

(i) Some Muslims were reluctant to fight, but were ordered to do so:

2:216; 3:167, 168; 4:77; 9:38; 33:20; 48:11

(ii) Some tried to discourage others from fighting: 63:2-6

(ii) Those who refused to fight were criticised and threatened with hell-fire: 3:156; 4:88; 9:24; 9:39; 9:81,86, 87,90, 101; 9:120; 47:20

(b) Examples from history:

(i) Previous prophets had fought for Allah: 3:146

(ii) The Jews in Moses' time were ordered to fight, but they turned away 2:246; 61:14

(iii) Jesus called on his disciples to be the helpers of Allah: 3:52; 61:14, who fight and kill 9:111

(c) Spiritual incentives to fight

(i) Willingness to fight was a test from Allah: 9:16; 47:4; 47:31

(ii) Muhammad was ordered to fight and to encourage others to do so: 4:84; 8:65; 8:72; 8:75