

In the Words of the Caliph

His Holiness

Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad

Caliph (Spiritual Leader) of the

Worldwide Ahmadiyya Muslim Community

Islam's Response to Extremism



His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad is widely acknowledged as a man of peace, who has continuously spoken out against extremism and called for a concerted effort to promote peace based on absolute justice. We present just a few extracts of his statements in this leaflet.



THE ACTIONS OF EXTREMISTS CONTRADICT THE TEACHINGS OF ISLAM

“... under no circumstances can murder ever be justified and those who seek to justify their hateful acts in the name of Islam are serving only to defame it in the worst possible way.”

(Press Release in the aftermath of the Paris attacks, 14 November 2015)

“In much of the world today there is a belief or perception that Islam is a religion of extremism and force. Let me say at the outset that this is entirely wrong and the reality is the complete opposite... The truth is that there are some selfish Muslims who seek only to serve their own personal interests. To feed their own ambitions and desires they are interpreting Islam’s teachings in completely the wrong way and therefore have enabled various unfounded allegations to be levelled against Islam. Their acts unfairly tarnish Islam’s pure name.”

(Keynote address in Singapore, 26 September 2013)

“If a person does not follow a particular teaching properly whilst claiming to subscribe to it, then it is he who is in error, not the teaching. From cover to cover, the Holy Qur’an teaches love, affection, peace, reconciliation and the spirit of sacrifice. Hence, if anybody portrays Islam as an extreme and violent religion filled with teachings of bloodshed, then such a portrayal has no link with the real Islam.”

(Message to Pope Benedict XVI, 6 December 2011)

“It is a tragedy and injustice of the heaviest proportion that such hateful and vengeful acts are being carried out in the name of that God, Who is Gracious, Who is Benevolent and All-Merciful. It is being conducted in the name of that God Whose compassion is unparalleled. It is being done in the name of that Prophet (peace be upon him) who has been declared by God Almighty as the

‘Mercy for all Mankind’. And it is being falsely justified in the name of that Sharia, which advocates peace and justice for all...”

(Press Release Condemning Peshawar School Massacre, 20 December 2014)

ISLAM – A RELIGION OF PEACE

“Islam’s real teachings are of peace and security for all people. If we look at the Holy Qur’an and also the life and character of the Prophet of Islam, the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), it becomes clear that the early Muslims never initiated any war or violence. If ever the Muslims took part in a war it was purely defensive and their only objective was to stop the oppressors from their cruelty and never to assert their own superiority or to resort to injustice. They never sought to occupy lands or nations or to subjugate the people.”

(The 11th National Peace Symposium, Baitul Futuh Mosque, London, 8 November 2014)



“... a fundamental and basic teaching of Islam is that a true Muslim is a person from whose tongue and hand all other peaceful people are safe. This is the definition of a Muslim given by the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).”

(European Parliament, Brussels, 4 December 2012, see photo above)

EXTREMISM HAS NO PLACE IN ISLAM

“Today, if ISIS or any Muslim government acts against these principles of true justice and equality, then they are doing so only to fulfil their own personal or political interests. Even if they claim to act in Islam’s name, the truth is that

their actions have no link with Islam or the teachings of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) whatsoever.

... it is never permissible, in any circumstances, to force another person to accept Islam or indeed any religion ... All people are free to believe or not to believe. And so when the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was permitted only to convey the message of Islam and nothing further – how then can the so called Muslim leaders of today go beyond this and think they have more power, authority or rights than the Prophet of Islam?”

(The 11th National Peace Symposium, Baitul Futuh Mosque, London, 8 November 2014)

ROLE OF WORLD POWERS IN STOPPING ISIS

“... any Ahmadi Muslim or indeed any peace-loving Muslim feels great pain that their pure religion is being tarnished and exploited in this unjust way. However, I would also hereby like to question those people, organisations or politicians who claim that Islam is a religion of violence on the basis of the atrocities of the extremist groups. I would ask them to consider how these groups are able to acquire such funds that allow them to continue their terrorist activities and warfare for so long? How do they acquire such sophisticated weapons? Do they have arms industries or factories? It is quite obvious that they are receiving the help and support of certain powers. This could be direct support from very oil-rich Muslim states or it could be other major powers covertly providing assistance...

... Thus, something has to be done to stop the funding of these groups urgently...

Why is there not a joint, united and concerted effort to tackle all forms of extremism? Even the efforts being made now are too little compared to the devastation this group will cause... ..Personally, I believe that the militant and extremist groups can be stopped in a much shorter period of time if the world is determined to eradicate them.”

(The 11th National Peace Symposium, Baitul Futuh Mosque, London, 8 November 2014)



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