

ERADICATING THE MISUNDERSTANDING



TAX (JIZYAH)	SLAVERY	APOSTASY	ISLAM SPREAD BY SWORD
KILLING NON MUSLIMS	CUT-OFF HANDS	HIJAB	POLYGAMY
	POLYGAMY OF PROPHET	MARRYING AISHA	

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PREFACE

In the Name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

All praises are due to Allah, alone; peace and blessings of Allah be on the last prophet, Muhammad, his family, and companions. This small handout intends to assist people working at online dawah activities which aim to introduce Islam to non-Muslims and clear out some common misconceptions. This handout is resigned in bullet format for easier citation and understanding. Routinely, some online users throw some misconceptions and wrong understanding about Islam. It is the pure function of dawah to produce the true image of Islam and clarify these misconceptions in the finest manner.

For that purpose, this small handout has been produced and hopefully this handout becomes useful for online dawah workers.

Best wishes,

Mohammed Abdulhay

Ahsa, February 2015

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HINT:

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TAX (JIZYAH)

1. JIZYAH or poll tax is a tax collected on a section of an Islamic state's non-Muslim subjects, who meet certain criteria. The tax is to be collected on able-bodied adult males of military age (but with specific exemptions. JIZYAH is a material proof of the non-Muslims' acceptance of subjection to the state and its laws. In return, non-Muslim subjects are permitted to practice their faith, to enjoy a measure of communal autonomy, to be entitled to the Muslim state's protection from outside aggression, and to be exempted from military service and from the zakat tax collected upon Muslim citizens
2. JIZYAH or poll tax existed before Islam i.e. Islam did not invent this practice.
3. Islam excuses disable people from paying JIZYAH such as (blinds, children, olds, poor). Moreover, the disable people were given money as a support and aide.
4. The amount of JIZYAH is simple and trivial, ranged from (\$4.75 - \$19)
5. JIZYAH is for providing security, privileges to practice religious rituals, not involvement in war. Plus, showing the rule of Islamic government in the community.
6. Zakah is higher than JIZYAH. This also one evidence showing that embracing Islam has no link with money offers.
7. Jesus himself gave poll tax **(Matthew 17:27) 27"But so that we may not offend them, go to the lake and throw out your line. Take the first fish you catch; open its mouth and you will find a four-drachma coin. Take it and give it to them for my tax and yours."**
8. Jesus agreed on giving poll tax to others **(Matthew 22:17-21) 17 Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" 18 But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, "You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me? 19 Show me the coin used for paying the tax." They brought him a denarius, 20 and he asked them, "Whose portrait is this? And whose inscription?" 21 "Caesar's," they replied. Then he said to them, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's."**
9. In the New Testament, poll tax is considered as right of the government **(Romans 13:6-7) 6 This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. 7 Give everyone what you owe him: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.**

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SLAVERY

1. Slavery existed before Islam (Roman, Greek) i.e. Islam did not invent this practice.
2. Both Old Testament and New Testament do not forbid slavery.
3. In the early time of Islam, it was too difficult to eliminate slavery in one-shot because it had financial impact and spread widely among Arab.
4. Islam requests to treat slaves nicely.
5. Islam struggled to eliminate the slavery sources by the meaning of atonements. Plus, Islam urged people to free the slaves.

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ISLAM SPREAD BY SWORD

1. Islam started by single one person (Muhammad). His few followers were poor or weak
2. Belief fixes in heart by conviction and not by force or sword
3. Islam spread in Madinah by nice and wise preaching not by force or wars
4. In Islam, the normal situation is peace, war is a contingency plan in case of emergency
5. Islam is the fastest spread religion according to Gneiss record.
6. Why many non-Muslims (educated, priests, nun, professors,) converted to Islam?
7. Malaysia and Indonesia are the largest Islamic community; however, there is no record in the history that Muslim fighters approached there.
8. Islam ruled India for 1000 years and today the major religion in India is Hinduism
9. Islam ruled Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, and Palestine. During which, Christians had privilege to practice there rituals and there were churches in there countries.
10. The prophet Muhammad forgave many of his enemies and many of people who were trying to kill him.
11. During the first 23 years of Islam age, total non-Muslims killed during wars were less than 400 persons.
12. All non-Muslims killed during wars were buried by Muslims in order to not leave their dead body for dogs or hyena eating.
13. Islam urges Muslims to take care about captives and treat them nicely
14. Most of wars were not started by Muslims and most of wars were un-equivalent (the number of non-Muslims soldiers was more than the Muslims soldiers)

KILLING NON MUSLIMS

1. There is no verse in Quran ordering Muslims to kill non-Muslims.
2. If Islam requests his followers to kill any non-Muslims, it means no non-Muslim must be alive and exist today.
3. What about killing Red Indian, Japan bomb (Nagasaki, Hiroshima) by America...!
4. It is not correct way to consider one verse and ignore the remaining rest of the verse i.e. you have to consider the complete all verse (cut & paste)
5. **(Deuteronomy 20:16-18)** 16 However, in the cities of the nations the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance, do not leave alive anything that breathes. 17 Completely destroy them--the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites--as the LORD your God has commanded you.
6. **(Deuteronomy 20:10-17)** 10 When you march up to attack a city, make its people an offer of peace.11 If they accept and open their gates, all the people in it shall be subject to forced labor and shall work for you. 12 If they refuse to make peace and they engage you in battle, lay siege to that city.13 When the LORD your God delivers it into your hand, put to the sword all the men in it. 14 As for the women, the children, the livestock and everything else in the city, you may take these as plunder for yourselves. And you may use the plunder the LORD your God gives you from your enemies. 15 This is how you are to treat all the cities that are at a distance from you and do not belong to the nations nearby. 16 However, in the cities of the nations the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance, do not leave alive anything that breathes. 17 Completely destroy them--the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites--as the LORD your God has commanded you.
7. **(Numbers 31:17-18)** 17 Now kill all the boys. And kill every woman who has slept with a man, 18 but save for yourselves every girl who has never slept with a man.
8. **(Joshua 6:21)** 21 They devoted the city to the LORD and destroyed with the sword every living thing in it--men and women, young and old, cattle, sheep and donkeys.
9. **(Joshua 11:10-12)** 10 At that time Joshua turned back and captured Hazor and put its king to the sword. (Hazor had been the head of all these kingdoms.) 11 Everyone in it they put to the sword. They totally destroyed them, not sparing anything that breathed, and he burned up Hazor itself. 12 Joshua took all these royal cities and their kings and put them to the sword. He totally destroyed them, as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded.
10. **(1 Samuel 15:3)** Go now and put Amalek to the sword, putting to the curse all they have, without mercy: put to death every man and woman, every child and baby at the breast, every ox and sheep, camel and ass.
11. **(Matthew 5:17)** Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them
12. **(Matthew 10:34)** Do not have the thought that I have come to send peace on the earth; I came not to send peace but a sword.

13. (Luke 19:27) And as for those who were against me, who would not have me for their ruler, let them come here, and be put to death before me.

Among the biggest misconceptions about Islam is that it is a militant religion. A few verses from the Qur'an are often quoted out of context by its opponents or by those who know little about it in order to perpetuate the myth that Islam promotes violence, bloodshed and brutality and exhorts Muslims to kill non-believers.

"Then kill the polytheists wherever you find them." But in order to understand these words it is necessary to put them back into their proper context. After several military campaigns in which the pagans of Makkah attempted to annihilate the Muslims, a peace agreement was drawn up between the two sides. The pagans soon violated this treaty, so the Muslim army was instructed to resume combat against those who were fighting them. So this verse cannot be used as proof that Islam promotes violence or orders the killing of anyone outside its fold.

The people being referred to in this verse are the pagan Arabs who had been waging war against the Prophet and who had broken their covenant and treaties with him. The verse is not speaking about others and most definitely it is not speaking about the Jews, Christians or the pagans outside of Arabia.

The verse that follows, which is conveniently ignored by the adversaries, completes the picture:

"If any one of the polytheists asks you for asylum, then grant him asylum so that he may hear the words of Allah [i.e., the Qur'an]. Then deliver him to his place of safety. That is because they are a people who do not know."

What army general today would direct his soldiers to spare an enemy during a battle and then escort him to a place of safety? But this is what God has instructed in the Qur'an. Islam keeps warfare at a level of mercy and respect for the enemy unlike that of any other system. It orders that armies deal with the enemy justly even on the battlefield and has drawn a clear line of distinction between combatants and non-combatants in enemy territory.

Prophet Muhammad instructed his armies, "Do not kill any old person, child or woman,² and do not kill monks in monasteries."³For those enemies active in combat and those taken as prisoners of war, the list of rights is lengthy. There should be no torture, no killing of the wounded and defenseless, and no mutilation of enemy corpses. Had the purpose of battle been to force unbelievers to accept Islam, the Prophet would never have commanded the Muslims to refrain from hostilities once the enemy had relented and would not have prohibited the killing of priests and monks.

Moreover, Islam permits war only in specific and critical circumstances as a last resort when all other attempts at obtaining peace and justice have failed. This is indeed the logical option for any nation. Western countries themselves defend the necessity of war to implement or maintain peace and do not regard it as a dangerous evil.

Muhammad was a prophet of mercy, but he was compelled to turn to battle when certain powers refused mercy and morality and sought to deprive others of them. Sometimes he had to fight for the mere survival of his mission. But the total number of days the Prophet was required to spend in defensive warfare comes to less than a year, and his most famous battles did not last for more than one day. Once security was ensured, he immediately reverted to peace and diplomacy.

The Qur'an clearly says:

"Fight in the cause of Allah those who fight you, but do not commit aggression. Indeed, Allah does not like aggressors."⁴

"And if they incline to peace, then incline to it [also] and rely upon Allah. Indeed, He is the Hearing, the Knowing."⁵

Weapons can only be drawn against those who continue to persecute and oppress others and prevent them from following their own consciences in matters of belief. Even when they are compelled to fight and consequently conquer the land, their duty thereafter is to establish God's law and uphold justice for all people, Muslim and non-Muslim. It is not their right to coerce their subjects into accepting Islam. Non-Muslims are allowed to remain on their own faith and to practice it, although they are also expected to respect Islamic laws and not provoke unrest and disorder.

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CUT OFF HANDS

1. The objective is to maintain the society and community
2. Jail is not a solution
3. Community is important than single person

(Exodus 21: 24-25)

21:24 Eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot,

21:25 Burning for burning, wound for wound, blow for blow.

(2 Samuel 4:11-12)

4:11 How much more, when evil men have put an upright person to death, in his house, sleeping on his bed, will I take payment from you for his blood, and have you cut off from the earth?

4:12 And David gave orders to his young men and they put them to death, cutting off their hands and their feet and hanging them up by the side of the pool in Hebron. But they took the head of Ish-bosheth and put it in its last resting-place with Abner's body in Hebron

(Numbers 35:16)

35:16 But if a man gives another man a blow with an iron

instrument, causing his death, he is a taker of life and is certainly to be put to death.

(Deuteronomy 19:21)

19:21 Have no pity; let life be given for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.

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APOSTATE

1. There is not force to embrace Islam rather than self-choice
2. There is different between public Apostasy and silent Apostasy
3. Have you heard any killing of Apostasy? When ? Where? Tell please
4. Some scholars' view state: ' no to kill the Apostate '
5. Killing the Apostate is must be deeply evaluated by court
6. In case of Apostasy, the action is not to directly kill him but: 1. Advise him/her 2. Investigate about the reasons 3. Clear out his misunderstanding
7. It is set to control religion change
8. **(Deuteronomy 13:6-10) 6 If your very own brother, or your son or daughter, or the wife you love, or your closest friend secretly entices you, saying, "Let us go and worship other gods" (gods that neither you nor your fathers have known, 7 gods of the peoples around you, whether near or far, from one end of the land to the other), 8 do not yield to him or listen to him. Show him no pity. Do not spare him or shield him. 9 You must certainly put him to death. Your hand must be the first in putting him to death, and then the hands of all the people. 10 Stone him to death, because he tried to turn you away from the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery**
9. **(Deuteronomy 17:2-5) 2 If a man or woman living among you in one of the towns the LORD gives you is found doing evil in the eyes of the LORD your God in violation of his covenant, 3 and contrary to my command has worshiped other gods, bowing down to them or to the sun or the moon or the stars of the sky, 4 and this has been brought to your attention, then you must investigate it thoroughly. If it is true and it has been proved that this detestable thing has been done in Israel, 5 take the man or woman who has done this evil deed to your city gate and stone that person to death**

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HIJAB

1. Obligation to God is the first motivation and first reason why to wear hijab.
2. Hijab is reflecting of women modesty. It acts as shield to protect women
3. Following way of righteous women 'Virgin Mary'
4. Hijab is to cover head not mind

(1 Corinthians 11:5-6) 5 But every woman who does so with her head unveiled, puts shame on her head: for it is the same as if her hair was cut off. 6 For if a woman is not veiled, let her hair be cut off; but if it is a shame to a woman to have her hair cut off, let her be veiled.

(Song 4:1) 1 How beautiful you are, my darling! Oh, how beautiful! Your eyes behind your veil are doves. Your hair is like a flock of goats descending from Mount Gilead.

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POLYGAMY

1. Polygamy was a normal practice before Islam
2. Islam did not invent / start polygamy
3. Polygamy in Islam is permissible but not mandatory
4. All religions accept polygamy
5. Old testament and new testament have no objection toward polygamy
6. There is no record proving that Jesus Christ was against polygamy
7. Recently forbidden 17th century
8. At the time of Abraham, David, Solomon, and Jesus, polygamy was part of the culture. In Jesus' times, polygamy was allowed and part of the customs of the Israeli people.
 - a. Abraham had 2 wives
 - b. Jacob had 2 wives
 - c. Solomon had 700 wives
 - d. King David had many wives
9. Islam sets two conditions for polygamy: 1. only 4-wives allowable 2. Fairness among wives
10. Polygamy solves some social problems:
 - a. Over-population of female
 - b. Sick wife case
 - c. Non-fertile wife
 - d. Widow women
 - e. Divorce women
 - f. Homosexy husband

POLYGAMY PROPHET MUHAMMAD

1. Polygamy was a normal practice before Islam
2. Prophets like Abraham, David, Solomon, King David were polygamist
 - a. Abraham had 2 wives
 - b. Jacob had 2 wives
 - c. Solomon had 700 wives
 - d. King David had many wives
3. None of his enemies or community members blamed him for his Polygamy
4. Prophet Muhammad was busy with Islamic mission and spreading the message of Islam. He had almost no free time for joy with his wives.
5. Prophet Muhammad has special requirements other than polygamy:
 - a. Obligation of night prayer
 - b. Not allowable to accept money from other as help
 - c. Prophet Muhammad had the authority to continue fasting other than people
6. Let us review his marriage status: The first marriage was when he was 25 years and his wife (Khadijah) was 40 years-twice widow women. Prophet Muhammad had only one wife for 25 years until Khadijah died; his age was 50 years old. After that, Prophet Muhammad was single for a while then Prophet Muhammad married a 60 years-old-divorce woman (Sawdah).
7. All of his wives were widow or divorce except one virgin. Three of his wives were older than him.
8. Prophet Muhammad had more wives to serve humanity / social purposes:
 - a. Aisha: to strengthen his relationship with his friend (Abu Bakr)
 - b. Hafsa: to strengthen his relationship with his friend (Omar)
 - c. Om Salamh: this widow woman had kids as orphans, so Prophet Muhammad will take care about them
 - d. Om Habibah: her family members were not Muslim and they punished/tortured her. So, Prophet Muhammad married her for protection
 - e. Sawdah: this woman was old-widow (60 years). Prophet Muhammad to take care for her
 - f. Juwayraiah: she and her tribe was captive and if Prophet Muhammad married her, all her tribe members including her will be free
 - g. Safyyah: Jewish woman her father was boss and still non-Muslim but she converted to Islam. Protection purpose

AISHA

- 1. Aisha was fit for marriage and was mature and adult:** Engagement contact was established when she was 6-years old and Prophet Muhammad waited 3 years then married her when she was 9-years old. The completion of the marriage was done when Aisha was 9-years old, not when she was 6- years old and there is a reason for that. The reason why this happened is because Aisha had been through puberty by the age of 9- years old and she was fit for marriage.
- 2. It was absolutely legal:** Prophet Muhammad's marriage with Aisha was 100% legal and acceptable by all laws (including his community law at that time). This marriage was a completely acceptable at that time. None of his enemies or community members blamed him for marrying young girl. No one from his enemies objected to the marriage because it was widely practiced.
- 3. Aisha never showed her displeasure:** Aisha's mother & father were O.K with her marriage. Among hundreds of her narrations there is not even a single one showing her displeasure about this marriage. Hence, she had no problem with this relation. She loved the Holy Prophet (Peace be upon him) too much and even felt some sort of jealousy when she found others around him. Does this not prove that she was extremely happy about this marriage?
- 4. Age of Marriage / maturity in Old Ages:** One must first understand that 1400 years ago was very different than now, times have changed and so have humans. 1400 years ago it was something very common to marry young girls. It is a historic fact that girls from the ages of 9 to 14 were being married in Europe, Asia, and Africa, in fact even in the United States girls at the age of 10 were also being married just more than a century ago. Also, lady maturity changes from location to location, and from time to time. i.e. the maturity age in hot Africa is different than cold Scotland. Visit the below link to see how common the child brides were in the Byzantine (Roman) Empire. This article clearly states; this practice was a norm rather than the exception, especially from the late 12th century"
<http://www.luc.edu/roman-emperors/aggiefran.htm>
Bottom line; do not compare acceptance/familiarity of social practices with old days.
- 5. It is common nowadays:** In our world today, we still have people who marry very young girls. This site shows a list of known mothers less than 11 years of age.
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_youngest_birth_mothers
Why should we surprise to someone who married a 9-year old girl 1400 years ago, when we still practice it today?

- 6. Marriage for young girls was widely practiced:** During Prophet Muhammad time, marrying young girl was normal and practice.
- Prophet Muhammad's father married a young girl.
 - Prophet Muhammad's grandfather married a young girl.
 - At 6-years old, Aisha was engaged to a man before Prophet Muhammed .
 - One of Prophet Muhammad wives (Safyyah 17-years old-twice widow-Jewish girl) was married before to two Jewish husbands.

According to catholic Wikipedia, Joseph Carpenter (90 years old) married Virgin Mary (12 years old). Abraham married when he was 100 years old. Moses married when he was 90 year old. This indicates marrying a 9 year girl at that time was ok. She must have been even younger when she was engaged to that man. Why do you blame Prophet Muhammad for marrying young girl? If you have a problem of marrying to young girls, please be fair and blame all these men.

- 7. Great Wisdom behind this marriage:** There was wisdom for Prophet Muhammad to marry a young wife. Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) marriage with Aisha at that age was indeed a great blessings for all the Muslims ever since. Most of the matters related to cleanliness, married relationship and other household issues have been cleared due to her narrations. She lived a long time (47 year) after the death of the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) and continued to teach Muslims about matters of daily routine and great importance. She narrated many of Prophet Muhammad sayings.
- 8. It was a divine inspiration:** Prophet Muhammad married Aisha not of his own desire rather it was a Divine inspiration (request from God). In addition to that, his marriage to Aisha was an advice given by a woman (Khawlah) in order to strengthen his relation with his close friend Abu Bakr (Aisha's father)
- 9. Read his biography:** <http://www.mercyprophet.org/> OR <http://rasoulallah.net/index.php/en>