

Thawbaan ؓ related that the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said: *'Verily, Allah gathered the earth for me so that I saw its east and its west. And truly the dominion of my Umma (Muslim world community) will reach that which He gathered for me. And I have been given the treasures of the Red and the White (i.e. the Persian and Roman Empires).'*' (Muslim)

Indeed, it was the Prophet's Companions who learnt the reality of this prophesy. For, immediately after the Prophet's ﷺ death, they gained the lands of the two superpowers of the age: the Persian Empire and most of the Roman Empire, including its religious heartland. This feat, *'The creation within the space of a single century of a vast Arab empire stretching from Spain to India is one of the most extraordinary marvels of history. The speed, magnitude, extent and permanence of these conquests excite our wonder and almost affront our reason.'* (J. J. Saunders, *A History of Medieval Islam*, 1928:39)

**And there is no victory except from Allah. Verily, Allah is Mighty, Wise.** (Quran 8:10)

While in Europe, Christianity had been forcibly morphed into a Trinitarian confession to placate the Greco-Roman elite and their man-God mythology, in its Near Eastern birthplace, Christianity's more Unitarian and monotheistic Churches were still popular. It is no small coincidence, therefore, that the very lands where Jesus' disciples, in fact, the very regions were all the Biblical prophets without exception had lived and taught; namely, Syria (including Palestine), Egypt, Iraq, Persia and Arabia, became the greatest fountains of Islamic civilisation. After all, the vast majority of the region's Christians recognised Islam as the fulfilment of God's plan for humanity and Muhammad as Christ's natural and prophesised successor.

**Those to whom we gave the Scripture (of the Torah and the Gospel) recognise him (Prophet Muhammad) as they recognise their own sons.** (Quran 2:146)

Islam's single largest territorial expansion occurred during the reign of the second Caliph and Companion of the Prophet, Umar. Two episodes amongst many from his reign illustrate the mercy and justice of true Islamic rule. When Jerusalem's patriarch insisted on surrendering to the Caliph in person, Umar obliged him. Accompanied by one servant with whom he took turns in riding his steed, he left Medina for Palestine. As Umar walked into Jerusalem - it was the servant's turn to ride - he and the servant were actually mistaken for one another! During his tour of Jerusalem, Umar entered the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Christianity's holiest shrine, when prayer time fell upon him. He was about to pray but then thought better because, as he explained, he did not want to give zealous Muslims after him an excuse to confiscate the shrine and turn it into a mosque. Indeed, the adjacent courtyard where he did subsequently pray soon had the *Mosque of Umar* built upon it!

*'... the early Caliphs, who enjoyed a rare ingenuity which was unavailable to the propagandists of new faiths, realized that laws and religion cannot be imposed by force.*

*Hence they were remarkably kind in the way they treated the peoples of Syria, Egypt, Spain and every other country they subdued, leaving them to practice their laws and regulations and beliefs and imposing only a small jizya (a tax able non-Muslims pay the Islamic State in lieu of military service) in return for their protection and keeping peace among them. In truth, nations have never known merciful and tolerant conquerors like the Arabs.'* (Gustave Le Bon, *La civilisation des Arabes*, 1884)

Soon after Egypt's conquest, a Copt complained to Umar of how, after his winning a race against the son of Egypt's Muslim Governor, the sore loser whipped him, saying: *'I am the son of nobles!'* Umar summoned them all before him and had the Christian whip his Muslim oppressor back, saying: *'Beat the son of nobles!'* Umar then turned to his governor and said: *'Since when do you enslave the people whose mothers bore as free men?'* Such justice proves how a major factor in the mass conversions of conquered peoples was precisely because they were not compelled.

**And had your Lord willed, all upon earth would have believed together. So will you then compel mankind until they are believers?!** (Quran 10:99)

*'... the people of Mohammed were the only ones who combined kindness to others and the pleasure of seeing their Faith spread. It was this affection that pushed the Arabs on the way of conquest. The Koran spread its wings behind its victorious troops that invaded Syria and moved on like a thunderbolt to North Africa, from the Red Sea to the Atlantic, without leaving a trace of tyranny on the way, except what is inescapable in every war, and never did they massacre a nation who rejected Islam... Islam was never imposed by sword or by force, but got into the hearts of people out of longing and free will, due to the talents of stimulation and captivation of people's hearts, lodged in the Koran.'* (Count de Castri, *Islam: Impressions and Studies*)

In fact, Islam not only forbids forcible conversion, denouncing insincere Islam as hypocrisy, but it also forbids the counter-productive act of insulting those beliefs held sacred by others.

**And insult not those whom they worship besides Allah, lest they insult Allah wrongfully without knowing. Thus We have made fair-seeming to each people their own deeds; then to their Lord is their return and He shall inform them of all they used to do.** (Quran 6:108)

The Prophet ﷺ had warned: *'Beware! Whoever is hard on the non-Muslim minority, or curtails their rights, or burdens them with more than they can bear, or takes anything from them against their will; I (myself) will be his accuser on the Day of Judgment.'* (Abu Dawud). So it is hardly surprising that Muslim armies were welcomed and assisted as liberators by the multitudes of non-Muslims who gladly threw off the shackles of their Christian, Zoroastrian or Buddhist co-religionists for what they saw as a more enlightened and merciful rule. As the English convert, Muhammad Marmaduke Pickthall, noted in his lecture in Madras, India, in 1927: *'Before the coming of Islam, tolerance had never been preached as an essential part of religion.'*

More is to come. From the Companion, Tameem ad-Daari ؓ: *'I heard Allah's Messenger ﷺ say: "This affair (of Islam) will reach what is reached by the night and the day (i.e. the entire world). And Allah will not leave a dwelling made of brick or pelt (i.e. neither a house nor the temporary abode of a nomad) except that He will enter into it this religion, honouring the honourable or humiliating the lowly; honour which Allah gives to Islam and humiliation which Allah gives to disbelief."*' Tameem added: *'And I came to know this in the people of my own house: goodness, nobility and honour befell those of them who embraced Islam, while humiliation, degradation and the jizya befell those who disbelieved.'* (Ahmad & Muslim)

Indeed, we too have also come to know this. For against the pressures on the youth to waste their lives in hedonism and debauchery; with adolescent girls vying as professional whores for the attention of juvenile delinquents who chase after no greater ambition than to drench themselves in alcohol in clubs and bars, or who fun-seek in stupefying drugs or in stolen cars; against all this, a once godless youth are embracing Islam.

**And whomsoever have embraced Islam, then such are those who have sought right guidance.** (Quran 72:14)

And still more is to come. Hudhayfa bin Yamaan ؓ related that: *'Allah's Messenger ﷺ said: "Prophethood will remain amongst you for as long as Allah wills, then He will raise it when He wills. Then there will be Khilafa (i.e. the Caliphate of Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman and Ali) upon the Prophetic methodology and it will remain as long as Allah wills, then He will raise it when He wills. Then there will be biting monarchy and it will remain for as long as Allah wills, then He will raise it when He wills. Then there will be tyrannical succession and it will remain for as long as Allah wills, then He will raise it when He wills. Then there will (again) be Khilafa upon the Prophetic methodology."*' Then he (Allah's Messenger) was silent.' (Ahmad)

Prophethood ended in 632 with the death of Muhammad ﷺ. The Rightly-Guided *Khilafa* ended shortly after the martyrdom of his Companion, Ali ؓ, in 661, just as the Prophet ﷺ foretold: *'The Khilafa in my Umma after me will last for thirty years. After that, there will be dynastic monarchy.'* (Ahmad)

Allah knows best, but if the reign of the violent monarchies ended with the collapse of the Ottoman State in 1924, then we are now in the penultimate age of tyranny, whereafter that which first brought about the glory and splendour of Islam, the *Khilafa*, will soon reappear. The Prophet's words also make clear that the *Khilafa* will not be born of politics, mysticism or coups, but is something which Allah Himself bestows (see cover, Q. 24:55) upon those who actualise the Prophetic methodology.

**For everyone of you We have prescribed a law and a methodology.** (Quran 5:48)

And the methodology of all the Prophets was about calling to *Tawheed*: the monotheism, unity and oneness of the true God.

**And We sent to every nation a Messenger (saying):  
'Worship Allah and shun false deities.'** (Quran 16:36)

**They (the Prophets and Messengers) are those whom  
Allah has guided. So follow the way and guidance  
which they were upon.** (Quran 6:90)

That the Muslims would lose their premiership in the world was also something clearly foretold by the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. He ﷺ explicitly warned his Companions that the great victories and world dominance which their piety, patience and perseverance would soon reap, would be followed by great discord and division, and that Islam would be attacked from inside and out, to the extent that later generations of Muslims would themselves be conquered, suffering mass humiliation and lowliness. Ibn Umar ؓ said that Allah's Messenger ﷺ said: *'When you (Muslims will start to) engage in usurious transactions, hold on to the tails of cattle - being content with agriculture, and abandon jihad (i.e. righteous striving): Allah will unleash humiliation upon you. And He will not lift it until you return to your religion.'* (Abu Dawud & Bayhaqi)

**Do people think that they will be left alone just  
because they say: 'We believe,' and not (have their  
faith) tested through tribulation?!** (Quran 29:2)

Also from Thawbaan ؓ that Allah's Messenger ﷺ had warned: *'Nations will soon summon each other against you (to take your lands, your wealth and your lives) as you summon guests to feast from a plate of food.'* The Companions asked: *'Will we (Muslims) be few in number on that day, O Messenger of Allah?'* He ﷺ said: *'No. Rather you will be many on that day. But you will be (worthless) like the foam upon the flood waters (i.e. carried wherever the torrent takes it). And Allah will remove the fear (they have of you) from the hearts of your enemies and place in your hearts weakness.'* They asked: *'And what is the weakness, O Messenger of Allah?'* He ﷺ said: *'Love of worldly life and hatred of death.'* (Abu Dawud)

So, the unchecked evil that Zionism inflicts upon the world is not the cause of the Muslims' fall from global pre-eminence. It is merely a symptom. It is man, and the devil that courses through his veins, who is his own worst enemy.

**Whatever of calamity and misfortune befalls you,  
it is because of what your own hands have earned.  
And (yet) He pardons much.** (Quran 42:30)

It is precisely due to man's rebellion against Allah's Orders and his preoccupation with this world at the expense of the Hereafter that he is afflicted with the degradation he vainly tries to escape. No amount of political mobilisation or reactionary acts of violence, even if done in His Name, will remove the consequences of Allah's Displeasure upon His ungrateful and disobedient servants.

**If you support (the Cause of) Allah: then Allah will  
support you and plant your feet firmly.** (Quran 47:7)

As the scholar, Imam Albani (d. 1999), explained: *'The best way to change the evil (that has afflicted the earth since the loss of Muslim world power) is for Muslims to repent to their Lord, correct their beliefs, and nurture themselves and their families according to the correct Islam, as Allah says: "Verily, Allah does not change the condition of a people (from being in His Grace to earning His Wrath) unless they (first) change what is within themselves."* (Quran 13:11) ... Furthermore, it is imperative to establish the foundation upon which the building will stand: *"Verily, Allah will most certainly support him who supports His (Cause). Truly, Allah is Most Powerful, Almighty."* (Quran 22:40) *This is the methodical and orderly approach, and the correct practice based upon the Quran and the Sunna that the Umma must agree upon, enjoin and call to.'*

History has demonstrated how even when the Muslim world reels from invasions, occupations and political chaos, Islam continues to peacefully advance across the planet. The genocidal Tatar-Mongols who had been hell-bent on wiping out all traces of Islamic civilisation were themselves conquered by the faith of their oppressed Muslim subjects. And thanks to the noble Islamic character of honest Muslim traders, practically the entire Indonesian archipelago under Dutch colonial rule was peacefully won over to Islam.

It should be evident, therefore, that a violent *jihad* is not the starting point in the rectification or reformation of the *Umma*, nor is it the goal - even though the abandonment of *jihad* in all its forms was a major cause of the Muslims' humiliation in the first place. Only upon returning to their religion as a whole, specifically, back to the exclusive worship of Allah through *Tawheed*, should the Muslims expect to see a reversal of misfortune. As for combative *jihad*, it is the pride and glory of Islam whose principal purpose is to protect the even greater *jihad* of calling to *Tawheed*. Also, combative *jihad*, as a roof for Islam, crowns and shields its supporting pillars (such as prayer, alms-giving, pilgrimage), themselves built upon the foundation of *Tawheed*.

**So know that there is no deity but Allah, and ask  
forgiveness for your sin and for (the sins of) the  
believing men and women.** (Quran 47:19)

Thus, only when the people cleanse their faith of polytheism and other harmful beliefs and practices, and then nurture themselves, their families and their societies upon that purified faith - as did the Prophets with their followers - then and only then will the righteous inherit the earth. For the methodology of the Prophets alone will usher in the return of the united Muslim world state, the Caliphate, taking the believers back to a future of Islam that is just like its past: flourishing, dynamic and victorious. And how precious is the saying of Imam Malik (d. 795): *'Never will the latter (generations) of this Umma be rectified except with what rectified its first (generation).'*

# PLANET ISLAM

## THE RISE, FALL AND IMPENDING RETURN OF MUSLIM WORLD POWER

Allah has promised those amongst you who believe and work righteousness, that He will surely grant them succession in the earth just as He had granted to those (believers) before them. And He will surely give them the authority to practice their way of life which He has chosen for them. And He will surely give them in exchange, security after their fear: provided they worship Me (Allah) and do not associate anything (in worship) with Me.

﴿Quran 24:55﴾

