

## **A Manifesto for change by Muslims for Dawah through Peace (MDP)**

*"the world is not divided between fundamentalism and democracy, rather the world is split between those who want war and those who want peace."*

*"Nor can Goodness and Evil be equal. Repel (Evil) with what is better: then will he between whom and thee was hatred become as it was thy friend and intimate!" (Quran: 41:34).*

*"Never aspire for confronting your enemies (in a fight). Pray to God to be among those who seek living peacefully with others." (Bukhari).*

This is the manifesto of the MDP, a networked organisation that opposes Al-Qaeda and its damaging interpretation of Islam. This organisation must spread throughout the Ummah (the Muslim people). Every Muslim must be engaged in this, giving some time to a new kind of holy struggle, a jihad for peace.

1. We state that Osama Bin Laden's religious arguments have taken verses from the Quran out of context from their original meaning and intent. Fundamentally, we must see the main message from Allah, (SWT) which states that Islam means peace. Therefore Muslims are shown the means through which they may complete God's project which is the spread of Islam, through peace. For example it says in the Holy Quran:

*".. if anyone kills a person who did not kill, and did not mischief on earth, it would be as if he killed all human beings. And if any one saved a life of one person, it would be as if he saved the life of all human beings." Quran (5: 32)*

It is also in the Sunnah:

*"Tell them what Islam is, if God made of you a tool for guiding one single human being to the Path of Truth, that is better for you than having the whole world under your thumb".*

And remember the importance of forgiveness:

*"and who shun the more heinous sins and abominations; and who, whenever they are moved to anger, readily forgive" Quran (42:37)*

*"Tell all who have attained to faith that they should forgive those who do not believe in the coming of the Days of God, [since it is] for Him [alone] to requite people for whatever they may have earned." Quran 45:14*

2. We state that the purpose of the Muslim ummah is Dawah, the spread of Islam. This has been the first mission of the Prophet, peace be upon him.

3. The tactic to use is given by God, a clue to solve our problems. This clue is in the meaning of the name of the religion Islam. Islam translates as 'peace'. In our darkest times we have been given a viable route to save the World

It should be noted that many people in the West have inclined towards peace forming a peace movement. It says in the Quran:

*"But if they incline towards peace, do thou (also) incline towards peace, and trust in Allah" (8: 61).*

4. The route to a safer world is therefore for all Muslims to work to create peace in every corner of the world. Muslims should develop strategies for making peace between all people in every part of the world, whether they are Muslim or not. Training should be given to brave Muslims who can go out to places where there is war and engage in making peace, ending hatred. This is a holy struggle (jihad) and some lucky people will find themselves martyred by trying to achieve this since they will be travelling to dangerous places. They will be the true inheritors of the highest levels of Paradise, not the suicide bombers who will face eternal torment in hell for transgressing against the law of God. The law of God is justice and it is not a just thing to kill the innocent. It is tactically weak to attack the soldiers of America, Britain and other members of the coalition, since they only stand to gain by our resistance. The whole premise of American foreign policy is that it is fighting terrorism. End terror and you end American foreign policy.

5. The tactical superiority of spreading peace in this world is two fold. Firstly, the American government would no longer be able to justify invading the Land of Islam. It would have to withdraw from Iraq and other places once Muslims have established peace. Thus the goal of Osama Bin Laden is achieved but through means that are entirely peaceful. The second point is that if Muslims are seen to be the best promoters of peace, then many people will come to see Islam in a favourable light. This will spread Islam as the good of our actions finds the hearts and minds of the West. Jihad is striving to establish Islam. By making peace across the world, you are making Islam more acceptable to non-Muslims and therefore you are spreading Islam. Thus striving for peace is a noble jihad. This is the way to establish Islam that the West with all its power cannot stop.