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CALIPHATERS: A CONTEMPORARY MILLENNIAL MOVEMENT

By Richard Landes*

In 1400 AH (1979/80 CE), a new Muslim apocalyptic millennial movement began and has since gained great momentum. Caliphaters are defined by their millennial goal--world conquest--and the apocalyptic timetable--in this generation; they operate on two major registers: kinetic war (jihad) and cognitive war (da'wa). The movement expanded greatly at the turn of the Western millennium (2000 CE), with the Western news media's coverage of the "second intifada" (opening round of jihadi war on Western democracies), the U.S. response to September 11. These empowered da'wa campaigns designed to pressure Western infidels into the posture of dhimmi.

Caliphater: one who believes that in our day, Islam will triumph over all other religions and establish a global Caliphate.

Among the currently active apocalyptic movements worldwide, none has had the success of Caliphaters in promoting their rhetoric and mobilizing action in pursuit of their millennial goal: Islam's global dominion.¹ Caliphaters believe that now is the time for Islam to fulfill its disrupted destiny, and where there was *Dar al-Harb* (realm of war, of free *kuffar*/infidels), there shall be *Dar al-Islam* (realm of submission to Allah and his servants, of *dhimmi kuffar*). With this global victory, Caliphaters believe, Islam will redeem humanity through Allah's/its dominion.

Like all millennial movements, the Caliphaters' embrace a salvific goal. Indeed, one finds among the faithful of all monotheistic traditions those who believe that the ultimate salvific destiny of humanity is either to convert to their religion (whatever that means) or to serve their superior religion. As long as the faithful believe that those dramatic moments are far off (say, the year 6000 *Annus Mundi*), such beliefs have a limited impact on the lives of non-believers. In practice, it can even encourage deep passivity in believers who patiently await a promised redemption.²

However, when activated by an apocalyptic sense of "now, at long last, is the time!" millennial dreams gain momentum and can become historical movers.³ Driven by a sense of cosmic urgency, drawn together with the goal of transcendent beauty, millennial movements are hyperactive. *The Deeds of God through the believers* will transform the current world along its destined arc of perfection.⁴ People who enter apocalyptic time, whether they are violent or not, lose their conventional inhibitions and fears; they stop committing to long-term strategies ("planting trees"), and instead commit to active, daring, radical, agendas whose success they fervently believe will change and transform the (unjust) rules and conventions, that they, apocalyptic warriors, so readily violate.

When the Muslim Brotherhood formed in the 1920s CE/1340s AH, Hasan al-Banna judged the time not yet right for Islam's triumph. He thus set in motion a multi-generational millennial project of first restoring *Dar al-Islam* where it once was, and then moving onto the *Dar al-Harb*.⁵ In technical terms, Caliphaters have a triumphalist millennial goal (world dominion), an apocalyptic time horizon (our lives), and an active scenario whereby their deeds would bring on redemption: *jihad* and *da'wa* (or summons).

Caliphaters first caught the attention of the outside world with the advent of the *mujaddid* (renewer) at the Muslim century mark, in this case, 1400 (1979)--most notably in Khomeini's stunning victory in Iran, but, to those paying attention, also in the assault of followers of a Mahdi on

the Grand Mosque of Mecca on the first day of 1400,⁶ and the emergence of the Maitatsine in Nigeria.⁷ It was also the occasion of a meeting in Switzerland of the Muslim Brotherhood exiles from “secular” Arab countries that, three years later, produced a document that outlined the plan for an invasion and conquest of the West by da’wa.⁸

From the perspective of several decades since, that mujaddid became a key moment in the emergence of Caliphaters in this century (1500/2076). Yusuf al-Qaradawi, the Muslim Brotherhood preacher turned the mujaddid of 1400 into a generations-long process. “This is what I prefer in understanding this noble hadith [*mujaddid*] and its implementation in our century which we parted from [the fourteenth Hijri century which ended in 1980] in order to receive a new century; in which we ask Allah to make our today better than our yesterday, and our tomorrow better than our today.”⁹

Five years later, al-Qaradawi made clear what this “better tomorrow” would look like: Da’wa conquers the Crusaders’ in their own lands.¹⁰ From the perspective of several decades since (late teens of the fifteenth century), the Caliphater energy released by that mujaddid of 1400 became a key moment in the emergence of Caliphaters in this century that will end in 1500/2076.¹¹

Like many other millennial movements, Caliphaters view the current state of the world as irredeemably evil and corrupt: It must pass away to make way for the coming redeemed world. Among their apocalyptic signs of growing corruption and evil are key Western cultural tendencies and values: women’s liberation, freedom of speech and press, equal rights for all (including LGBTs, atheists, Jews, other infidels), freedom of speech and assembly for all.¹² For them, the permissiveness involved has corrupted morals (sexual freedom, especially for women), and equality between Muslims and infidels undermines social structures (end of patriarchy, of triumphalist religiosity).¹³ Indeed, for them, the West’s very scholarship, with its critical analysis of holy documents and the intellectual movements that produced them, constitutes an unacceptable blasphemy against the one true faith, Islam.

On the millennial question of what this coming heaven on earth, this world of global Dar al-Islam triumphant, will look, Caliphaters like to remain vague, just as Marx and communists were vague about the workers’ paradise. The vaguer, the more people can be drawn into the apocalyptic excitement. Actual attempts to realize it, like the Islamic State, may disappoint, but, as with communists, they don’t dissuade.¹⁴

Once inside the apocalyptic time of Caliphater circles, however, major disagreements prevail on three major questions: 1) How fast will the redemption occur? 2) Where are we in the process? 3) How much of what is to come is due to the active work of the faithful, and, if so, what actions do the times demand? The answers to these apocalyptic questions give a wide range of potential groupings within the movement. At the two extremes stand:

Jihad: *Active cataclysmic apocalyptic:* The global Caliphate will happen rapidly *because of* the faithful. By destroying evil (the unjust world that now prevails), *they* will bring on Allah’s promised redemption. Thus, *mujahidin* (jihadists) are Allah’s soldiers on earth to destroy evil and pave the way for the Caliphate. For some, like Hamas, this means implementing the promise of the Hadith of Rock and Trees, and exterminating the Jews.¹⁵ Tribal jihad has had a remarkable success in the twenty-first century, especially in the Muslim majority world, where whole regions have melted down into states of chronic war, dislocating millions of victims and tens of millions of refugees.¹⁶ They have also penetrated Western societies with dramatic acts of suicide terror. These *shahids* have turned warriors into apocalyptic weapons, creating a new and extremely potent weapon of twenty-first century jihadi warfare: “The demons released by this age of chaos and war in the Middle East have become an unstoppable force,” notes Patrick Cockburn.¹⁷

Da’wa: *Active transformative apocalyptic:* At the other end of the range are Caliphaters who believe the process will happen more gradually, through persuasion rather than force. Da’wa (summons to the faith), they insist, is how Islam should spread: The faithful summon, the infidels will respond, and if they do not become Muslims, they become *proleptic dhimmi* (accept subjection before conquest).¹⁸ The global Caliphate might come now, but it might also take another generation,

it might take till the end of this fifteenth century, so auspiciously begun in 1400 (1979) and destined to conclude with a global Caliphate in 1500 (2076). For Qaradawi, *da'wa* is an alternative form of conquest: political jihad.

A jihadist forces infidels to convert or die; a *da'i* summons infidels to conversion. Both are Caliphaters striving for global Muslim dominance. Despite their vast and all too often murderous differences, they share an ultimate and fervent cause--the dominion of the umma. For them, *wala wa'l bara*, "one of Islam's main foundations" means: "two major prerequisites of true faith: *al-wala* is a manifestation of sincere love for Allah, his prophet and *the believers*; *al-bara* is an expression of enmity and hatred towards falsehood *and its adherents* [i.e. infidels]."¹⁹

Those who fail to keep this perspective can end up having real friendships with infidels--a profound infidel hope, and a cardinal triumphalist Muslim sin that proliferates in modern times.

For Jihadi ideologue, Ayman al-Zawahiri, *al-wala wa'l bara* was the key to the age: "We believe that the greatest challenge facing Islamic belief in this age is the threat of deviation from allegiance to believers and animosity of the *kuffār*."²⁰ *Al-wala wa'l bara*, here, is the religious equivalent of the tribal code of solidarity (*asabiyya*): my side right or wrong.²¹ It is by its nature triumphalist, and rejoices in "lording it over" the infidel. For British Muslim Abu Walid, for example, Muslims should humiliate Christians into converting.²²

Of course, as with all such movements, the scenario with which one enters apocalyptic time never pans out, and all believers end up having to negotiate the inevitable disappointments; but the zealous rarely give up: They shift scenarios in order to maintain apocalyptic time (hope). They are capable of moving back and forth from violence to pacifism, from *da'wa* to jihad as they feel appropriate. In apocalyptic time, categories are fluid, constantly reconfiguring. One has not begun to see the end of Caliphater creativeness in generating combinations of *da'wa* and jihad.

CALIPHATER WAR ON INFIDELS: AIMS, TARGETS, AND STRATEGIES

For Caliphaters, *Occidens delendus est*: everything that the West prides itself on, and every technical advantage that they have over Muslims and Islam, must either be seized or destroyed. Indeed, for some Caliphaters, Western technologies prepare their way; globalization, the internet, rapid transportation, and open borders are all vehicles of *their* salvific victory, their messiah's donkey.²³ Just as Eusebius declared the Roman Empire a *praeparatio evangelica* (empire that laid the groundwork for the spread of the Gospels),²⁴ so is globalization in the twenty-first century a *praeparatio califatae*. Today's technology enables their global dominion, if only they can seize control. From a Western (infidel) point of view, this is obviously a crazy ambition, based on a wild overvaluation of their capabilities. However, for people moved by "outrageous hope," nothing is impossible; and right or wrong, like the Taiping and many other messianic movements, they can do immense damage in the process of failing.²⁵

Ironically, this Western incredulity at their ambitions has worked greatly to the Caliphaters' advantage. Westerners hearing of Caliphater goals in the later twentieth century--Queen in a burqa, green flag of Islam flying from the White House--could not take the movement seriously. Anyone warning about the problem was told to stop the bad joke; those who persisted were labeled Islamophobes.

For Caliphaters, the two crucial global targets for destruction in the battle for world dominion are Israel, the invader of (historical) Dar al-Islam, and the West, the most powerful civilization of (current) Dar al-Harb. Both constitute successful autonomous infidel entities, therefore, as insults to Muslim triumphalism, what Shi'i Caliphaters call the "Great and Little Satan." By their insulting defiance, they are therefore inhabitants of the realm of the sword, *harbis*--destined to the sword. Israel, an autonomous Jewish state into the heart of Dar al-Islam, makes the global humiliation unbearable,²⁶ and as a result, in the apocalyptic literature of the fifteenth century AH (1979-2076),

Israel is the heartland of evil from which the *Dajjal* (Antichrist) will appear.²⁷ Caliphaters do not fight local wars; they grapple with cosmic evil.

Asymmetrical Warfare's Cognitive Campaigns: Caliphater Da'wa

Under modern conditions, however, an open war with the West is impossible. Thus, like all asymmetrical wars, the early stages largely take place on the cognitive battlefield: Convince your more powerful foe not to use its superior force, while mobilizing your own side to place their faith in promised violence.²⁸ In the *invasive* cognitive war (cogwar) that Caliphaters wage, convince your more powerful enemy to stand down and not resist your invasion. Thus while mujahidin attract the most attention from specialists and do spectacular damage where they cannot be controlled (from Afghanistan across the Middle East to Nigeria), by far the most active arm of the Caliphater movement in the West wages cognitive war (da'wa).

Da'wa Caliphaters living in Dar al-Harb, however, need to disguise their real goals. (People tend to resist when they know they are being invaded.) Thus the primary early Caliphater concerns while operating in enemy territory are, by their very nature, deceptive. They have to hide their intentions from the people they target; spread dissension in their enemy's ranks; and leverage jihadi attacks into concessions, even as they publicly condemn those jihadists. In order to do so, da'is must find allies within target cultures, cultural leaders who (like dhimmi leaders throughout the history of Islamic rule) suppress criticism of Islam among their people, and instead attack fellow infidels who criticize the Caliphaters.²⁹

In early 2000, shortly after the Y2K bug had passed without incident--with the West leading the global community into a new millennium of civil society--the likelihood of a global Caliphate seemed, even to some wannabe Caliphaters, like an awfully tall order: impossible militarily, ridiculously quixotic as a cogwar. Only the most fervent of true believers could think that, even with Allah's help, the global Caliphate was possible. In order to succeed, da'wa Caliphaters needed a long list of *desideranda* among the information professionals of the targeted kuffar population to:

- *Disguise their ambition to subject the kuffar, by downplaying jihadi acts of war and their deployment among the targeted population.*
- *Insist that "except for a tiny minority," the "vast majority" of Muslims are moderate and peaceful, and Islam is a "Religion of Peace" that has nothing to do with the violence of jihadists.*
- *Accept those who fight for the Caliphate with da'wa as "moderates" who have "nothing to do" with "violent extremists."*
- *Engage these "moderate" Caliphaters as advisors and consultants in intelligence and police work, as prison chaplains, community liaisons, college teachers, and administrators.*
- *Present Caliphater war propaganda as reliable information, as news.*
- *Attack those who criticize Islam (including Muslims) as xenophobic and racist Islamophobes.*
- *Adopt the Caliphater's apocalyptic enemy as their own, so that the kuffar join in an attack on one of their key allies.*
- *Legitimate jihadi terrorism as "resistance" and denounce any recourse to violence in their own defense as "terrorism."*
- *Respect the dignity of Muslim beliefs even as Muslims heap disdain on their beliefs.*
- *Take seriously Caliphater invocations of human rights when, in reality, they despise those rights for women, slaves, and infidels.*
- *Welcome an angry "Muslim Street" in the heart of their capital cities.*

Despite how obviously ill-advised such a course of action is for Western information professionals, that is precisely how they behaved, and by the mid-2000s (2005/2006), a spate of books warning of Europe's pending demise appeared.³⁰ These were roundly ridiculed and denounced as belligerent conspiracy theories.³¹ Other authors, ignoring the icebergs, forged full speed ahead toward their dream of Europe replacing the United States as global hegemon.³²

Progressives and policymakers have adopted the tropes "Islam is a 'religion of peace,' and consider discussions of terrorism as a manifestation of "radical" Islam, as an insult to peaceful Muslims.³³ They insist that there should be "no lumping" between the "vast majority of moderate Muslims" and violent extremists--*pas d'amalgames!*³⁴

This in turn has allowed da'wa Caliphaters to claim inclusion among the moderates seeking peace and among the progressives seeking social justice. Intelligence and security services in the (infidel) West have (how often unwittingly?) partnered with da'wa Caliphaters. As a result, no less than the National Security Advisor James Clapper, for example, described the Muslim Brotherhood as "moderate," and "largely secular," encouraging that the United States favor them at the time of the Arab Spring (2011).³⁵

Caliphaters have greatly expanded the presence of a "Muslim Street" in Western capitals, first seen in the anti-Zionist and "anti-War" demonstrations of the early aughts; then taking the initiative by burning suburbs across France (fall 2005); protesting the cartoon blasphemy and papal insult controversies (winter and spring 2006); more recently seen setting fires to cities across Europe in the summer of 2014, in the wake of another wave of lethal journalism about the IDF in Gaza³⁶; and in the summer of 2017, as part of a refugee crisis that can only get worse.

Among activist information professionals--journalists, academics, NGO researchers, policymakers--there is a marked reluctance to identify violence *qua* Muslim violence,³⁷ and to accommodate their genocidal rhetoric.³⁸ At the same time, these same professionals showed much greater enthusiasm for attacking those who criticize the Caliphaters. These, they accuse of Islamophobia/racism and consider the provokers of the conflict; and far from criticizing Muslims, instead portray them as victims.

Perhaps the most extensive and spectacular victory for Caliphaters, one that involved major failures on the part of a democratic culture's defenses, was getting the progressive left to adopt as its own enemy, the worst jihadi apocalyptic foe, Israel.³⁹ From the worldwide demonstrations about Muhammad al-Dura (October 2000), to Durban (August/September 2001), through the heights of the "anti-war" movement (February 2003), progressives enthusiastically adopted the Caliphater narrative that Israel is the global evil that must be destroyed for world peace. The ferocious anti-Zionism of the left in the twenty-first century, corresponds exactly to the wave of success in jihadi war propaganda, getting Western journalists to report Palestinian lethal narratives as news.

This meant that Westerner progressives could not--refused to--see the attack on Israel in 2000 as part of a larger Muslim triumphalist assault on sovereign infidels everywhere (including them). Instead, thinking they were siding with the little guy, progressives, led by their lethal journalists, cheered on the Palestinian "resistance."⁴⁰ In 2002, in response to a powerful round of lethal journalism about the Israeli "massacre" at Jenin, progressives demonstrated their solidarity with the Palestinians, cheering on the new and terrible apocalyptic jihadi weapon of the twenty-first century, suicide attacks on civilians (2002).⁴¹

Given that the global jihadists would soon (had already) turned this on other infidels (United States, 2001), why would progressives cheer on the weapon of their own destruction? Because they, trusting their media, believed Israel--not they--deserved that punishment at the hand of jihadists: "What choice did the Palestinians have?" asked progressives, assuming that if the Palestinians did such terrible things, the Israelis must have done even more terrible things.⁴² By 2006, members of the "global progressive left" welcomed Hamas and Hizballah into their anti-imperialism of fools.⁴³

Under cover of anti-Zionism, Caliphater violence (jihad) against infidels made inroads in the West in the aughts (2000s) without arousing alarm or defensive measures.⁴⁴ Since initially the jihadists attacked primarily Jews in Europe, especially France,⁴⁵ Western thought-leaders fell prey to the amalgame they rejected in thinking about Muslims: They misidentified Muslim attacks on the Jews of Europe as attacks *only* on Jews (because of Israeli sins).⁴⁶ When jihad targeted non-Jews, the misinformed infidel public asked in pained bewilderment, “Why?”



Paris, Place de la République, January 2015, right after the Charlie Hebdo Massacre (Photo: Richard Landes)

There is a significant overlap between the list of desideranda above and the plan laid out by Sa’id Ramadan (son-in law of Hasan al-Banna, founder of the Muslim Brotherhood and father of Tariq), in his 1982 plan for conquering the West. It is not clear how long Sa’id Ramadan thought his plan would take at the time of composition, but after 2000, the timetable speeded up notably.⁴⁷

LUMPERS VS/ SPLITTERS: IDEOLOGY VS. STRATEGY

The association of da’wa and jihad as part of a larger millennial project challenges a number of currently prevailing approaches to the problem of religious “terrorism.” Experts prefer splitting, differentiating various groups according to specific characteristics and actions, whereas the notion of Caliphaters lumps a much larger range of believers into a single problematic dynamic.

Splitting Between Jihadi Groups

In the case of Hamas and the Islamic State, for example, when the UN condemned the latter for its barbarity, Israeli PM Netanyahu said, predictably, “Hey, the Islamic State and Hamas are the same.” “Oh no they’re not, they’re totally different,” said some pundits,⁴⁸ emphasizing that “localized” groups like Hamas “adopt a strong nationalist agenda that separates them starkly from the global

jihadi aspirations entertained by Al Qaeda.”⁴⁹ Yet both these movements feed and feed off of a generation of seekers who have come to their Caliphate shores, there to expend their triumphalist passions. These seekers on any side of global jihadi “organizational” divides share a common vision. The Islamic State learned its cyber-savvy from Palestinian cyber-jihadists,⁵⁰ and when the two movements actually cross paths, they recruit from the same pool of seekers.⁵¹

In fact, far from being some local, nationalist movement, Hamas holds a place of special honor in the world of global, Caliphate jihad. Certainly in their own minds, they see themselves as fighting on the key front, against the blasphemy of Israel, invader and desecrator of Dar al-Islam. In launching the “intifada” against Israel from the river to the sea in 2000, they announced that the time for the apocalyptic hadith of the Rocks and Trees, for the extermination of the Jews had come.⁵² With the image of Muhammad al-Dura, broadcast everywhere in the Muslim world by al-Jazeera,⁵³ they awoke the umma to the threat of Western infidels and aroused a thirst for revenge that literally legitimated suicide terror.⁵⁴ Cheered on by Western progressives, Palestinian jihadists legitimated and refined the weapon with which global jihadists intend to conquer the West in this mujaddid.⁵⁵ For Shaykh Raed Salah, head of the Islamic Movement in Israel, “Inshallah, Jerusalem will soon become the capital of the global Caliphate.”⁵⁶

Whether other Caliphates shared the same opinion of their centrality, Hamas certainly shared their global vision. A Palestinian Authority cleric commenting on the genocidal hadith about the rocks and the trees explained the larger apocalyptic scenario of a millennial conquest that began with this slaughter:

We believe in this Hadith. We are convinced also that this Hadith heralds the spread of Islam and its rule over all the lands... Oh Allah, annihilate the Jews and their supporters... Oh Allah, raise the flag of Jihad across the earth... Oh beloved, look to the East of the earth, find Japan and the ocean; look to the West of the earth, find the country and the ocean. Be assured that these will be owned by the Muslim nation, as the *Hadith* says, “from the ocean to the ocean.”⁵⁷

Bin Ladin and Caliphates the world over who saw the video applauded every word.⁵⁸

In June of 2017, in response to the metal detector incident on the Temple Mount, Palestinian preacher Nadhal Siam urged the faithful to slaughter the infidel to the amens of his supporters:

Oh Allah, enable us to slaughter the Americans! Amen!
And the Europeans! Amen!
And our criminal and treacherous [Arab] rulers! Amen!⁵⁹

A month later, half a way around the world, imams in Davis, California, recited the genocidal hadith of the rocks and trees, calling for the slaughter of every last Jew on earth, and mainstream media helped him “apologize.”⁶⁰

All Caliphate jihadists, whether operating locally or globally, share five fundamental beliefs that dwarf any differences:

1. They consider all *kuffar* (infidels) and *murtadd* (apostates, backsliders) guilty, and, therefore, legitimate targets;⁶¹
2. They preach the paranoid imperative: The enemy wants to annihilate Islam; we must annihilate the enemy;
3. They teach absolute hatred of their apocalyptic enemies and call for genocidal jihad against them.⁶²
4. They have a special apocalyptic fear of Jews (anti-Semitic Judeophobia), who, must be exterminated not only because of the hadith, but because they are “sons of pigs and apes,” and yet also at the heart of an international conspiracy to destroy Islam and enslave mankind;⁶³

5. They approve and will use suicide martyrs to target their enemies, including, increasingly, fellow Muslims, and random kuffar in the West.⁶⁴

Caliphater groups come together, develop, succeed briefly or longer, fail or lose steam, at which point seekers will improvise apocalyptic scenarios; they will either regroup or get replaced by other fresher groups. Caliphater seekers go from leader-driven to acephalous and back again with ease.⁶⁵ For they are fighting a generational war, and their ranks are fed by waves of Muslim seekers--youth like Maajid Nawaz or Ed Husain, attracted to Caliphater identity-entrepreneurs (like Hizb al-Tahrir), who promised to restore their honor by galvanizing their hostility and promising them cosmic rewards for attacking the enemy.⁶⁶

For varying periods and at different times, these global currents coalesce around religious warlords and their wars, like Hamas' Oslo jihad, al-Qa'ida, Muqtada al-Sadr, the Islamic State: They rise, do damage, and morph into other shapes, all with the same millennial goal.⁶⁷ This surge of triumphal millennialism has deep roots.⁶⁸ Such assaults on the West will continue to come in waves for decades at the least.

Part of the enduring power Caliphaters exercise over Muslim seekers is a discourse that, within its belligerent parameters, is ecumenical: Its adepts have many visions of the Caliphate and many options on how to get there and when. Whatever path one chooses, whatever combination of/alternation between da'wa and jihad, one holds firm to the faith that the sum total of the efforts of all Caliphaters will lead to ultimate triumph. Caliphaters may scan the horizon: "Who is the Mahdi who will lead the final assault? On Israel? On Rome? On Washington?" And accordingly, messianic candidates do and will appear all the time, bottom-up. Islam's fifteenth century (1400-1433/1979-2012) has already produced more than its share of jihadi warlords with messianic pretensions;⁶⁹ and the world will probably see still more at the approach of the fifteenth mujaddid, in 2076.

Splitting Between Jihadists and Da'is

If Western policy experts tend to overestimate distinctions *between* jihadi groups, how much the more do they do so with Caliphaters who (for the time being) restrict themselves to da'wa? Indeed, since September 11, the dominant consensus has been to treat da'is and jihadists as fundamentally different. Western infidels may and should want to handle various jihadi and da'wa groups differently, but to fail to see the deep solidarity--the asabiyya of the cosmic tribe--is a potentially lethal conceptual error.

Caliphater da'is think in terms of (apocalyptic) strategies: *When* is the time to say and do what, to whom? ...to Muslims? ...to infidels? In apocalyptic time, scenarios can change dramatically, and ideologies serve primarily as narrative jazz to prolong the apocalyptic experience.⁷⁰ Viewed retrospectively, the apocalyptic "ideologies" appear as rationalizations for behavior driven by the desire to bring on the millennium as fast as Allah will allow it.⁷¹

The choice, then, of violence or non-violence, of appropriate relations with varying kinds of infidels (*wala wa bara*) and dissenters (*takfir*), depends more on the perception of an apocalyptic (redemptive) timeline than matters of principle: The more urgent and imminent the anticipated apocalyptic change, the more coercive the Caliphater (strike terror); the more extended the time horizon, the more seemingly patient (speak softly). Overall, the perception of apocalyptic time--how close the redemptive victory--results from a combination of the perception of relative strength or weakness of the Muslim forces, and the urgency of the need to assert dominion.⁷²

Little in these differing assessments of a given seeker's place in the present timeline prevents Caliphaters of all styles from cooperating. Indeed they have mastered the tough-cop, nice-cop routine, especially successful with those infidels who have difficulty discerning demopathy, like the Human Rights NGOs.⁷³ Ironically, da'wa is actually easier *after* terror strikes: In his "strong horse" speech, bin Ladin exulted in how, after September 11, the Western conversions poured in.⁷⁴

However, even da'is have limits to their patience. Disappointed transformative expectations (e.g., an insufficiently compliant infidel response to “summons”) inevitably lead to shifts in attitude: Some might extend their timeline and become more patient,⁷⁵ while others, exasperated, might turn to violence and coercive purity.⁷⁶ The key question about Caliphaters is: When do they think the time has come no longer to conceal (*taqiyya*) what they really think, namely: Islam is here to dominate⁷⁷: “Happy Hanukah to my Jewish neighbors. Bas ballah jan. I think it’s time you moved out, no?”⁷⁸

Says the Caliphater to the infidel: “Jihadi phase or da’wa phase? Your choice. Cross my da’wa and you’ll get Jihad.”

CASE STUDY: HIZB AL-TAHRIR

Hizb al-Tahrir offers a good look at a Caliphater organization occupying the hinge from normative Islam to the jihadi extreme. Its teachings began in the early 1950s in reaction to Israel’s creation, renouncing Arab nationalism as a divisive Western plot and Muslim “nation-states” as part of a degenerate Westernization. The true Muslim path was a unified Caliphate spanning all of former Dar al-Islam.

A generation later, with Israel still going strong, and the Caliphate not restored to Muslim lands, Hizb al-Tahrir expanded in Europe, shifting its focus from conquest of former Dar al-Islam (too hard in the authoritarian political culture) to the conquest of Dar al-Harb (where the authorities don’t fight back). Hizb al-Tahrir in Britain in the 1990s saw “‘the Khilafah,’ a Muslim superstate, as the answer to all the injustice meted out to the Muslim populations of the world.”⁷⁹ This Caliphater identity provided a powerful scapegoating meme, attracting a generation of seekers, humiliated by their elders’ disgrace, and desirous of glorious revenge.

Under the leadership of Omar Bakri Muhammad (1986-1996), Hizb al-Tahrir “swept across the UK,”⁸⁰ where it recruited youth ready for cyber-Islamism among second generation immigrants. They had particular success in the universities, where they used the al-Dura lethal narrative as an introductory trope.⁸¹ They turned a Middle Eastern Caliphate movement into a global one; they prepared the final generation, “generation Caliphate.”⁸²

During this period of strong influence, Hizb al-Tahrir stayed scrupulously on the non-violent side, even as its rhetoric encouraged jihadi violence. Maajid Nawaz describes the modus operandi: “We disguised our political demands behind [freedom of] religion and multiculturalism, and deliberately labeled any objection to our demands as racism.”⁸³ This strategy paid off handsomely. Western infidels focus almost exclusively on the open denunciation of terrorist violence as a litmus test for “moderation.”

Here da’i groups split: Some refuse to denounce at all, like Hizb al-Tahrir’s Australian spokesman Wassim Doureih. ⁸⁴ Others take advantage of Western naiveté to denounce the killing of “innocent civilians,” meaning innocent Muslims, since kuffar are, by definition, guilty, as Anjem Choudary explained to a stunned Stephen Sackur after the July 7, 2005, London bombings.⁸⁵ At this hinge of hatred for the infidel, a group like Hizb al-Tahrir could serve as a way-station to jihadi organizations, whose Muslim right to wage war on the country they lived in were only suspended by their agreement not to be violent... right away.⁸⁶

Hizb al-Tahrir’s formal response to the July 7 London bombings, give us the authentic voice of Caliphater da’wa, complement to jihad. They viewed infidels expressing outrage at Muslims attacking innocent civilians, as an act war on Islam: “These latest [angry] comments... have clearly exposed the reality of this so-called war on terror.... These *offensive* comments about the Shariah and the Caliphate will leave no doubt in the Muslim world that this is a *war against Islam* and not about individuals or groups committing acts of violence.”⁸⁷

The West is to blame and every act it takes in its defense aggravates the situation. Note the message to the infidel here: “Do not offend Muslims (even when Muslim beliefs and deeds offend you), for we will take it as a declaration of war and strike back (jihad).”

Astonishingly, this raw, completely unreciprocal, Muslim triumphalism gets the desired response from many infidels: “We can’t go to war with 1.6 billion Muslims, so let’s show them some consideration.”⁸⁸ After September 11, an extensive consensus among progressive infidels emerged: Criticizing Islam feeds the fires of jihad; suppressing criticism of Caliphaters makes it possible for dialogue.

Infidels’ reluctance to criticize Muslims, and readiness to criticize their own counter-measures, a stance they so earnestly hope will appease Muslim “anger,” merely quiets the jihadi track and opens up the cognitive attack. For Caliphaters, “dialogue” means one-way da’wa, summons to the true faith. They read infidel compliance as affirming the notion that, with the right display of jihadi terror, infidels will accept da’wa and either convert or submit “voluntarily” (dhimmi). “Jihadi phase or da’wa phase? Your choice.”

Instead of provoking sound Western responses that resisted this accusation of Western guilt, when historically, Muslims in power behaved at least as badly, and current Caliphaters embody everything progressives reject in Western culture, infidel thought leaders, obsessed with their own society’s “evil”--Bush! Sharon!--allowed Caliphater groups like Hizb al-Tahrir to wage flourishing anti-Western war campaigns within Western society.⁸⁹ Ed Husain, who knew Hizb al-Tahrir from the inside, marveled at the folly of the Western progressives in giving the Caliphaters a free hand, and adopting the rhetoric of appeasement.⁹⁰

This technique of accusing the West and exonerating jihadists, picked up by Western (and Westernized) radicals, has become a staple of Caliphater discourse in no small part because of its success with Western infidels.⁹¹ “I remember how we used to laugh in celebration whenever people on TV proclaimed that the sole cause for Islamic acts of terror like 9/11, the Madrid bombings and 7/7 was Western foreign policy... they did our propaganda work for us. More important, they also helped to draw away any critical examination from the real engine of our violence: Islamic theology.”⁹²

Under the guise of moderation (defined by renouncing violence) and anti-imperialism (defined as fervently opposing American imperialism), Caliphaters have invaded the Western public sphere--journalism, academia, even policy circles. No invasive cogwarrior could ask for better cooperation from the target--infidels shouting “We are Hamas!” in European capitals.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The response of productive societies committed to tolerance of diversity and individual freedoms (Europe, America, democratic countries, including Israel) to this kind of military and cognitive pre-modern religious assault needs to engage on many fronts. This is not a war on terror, but on an imperialist-totalitarian apocalyptic drive that damages and devours everyone in its path, including (so far, especially) Muslims.⁹³ However well or poorly the West has done on the military front, its work on the cognitive front has been consistently weak. Caliphaters have had great success in dominating what is (not) said about them in the Western public sphere.⁹⁴

Dealing with an invasive cognitive war plan of this magnitude is unfortunately relatively unknown terrain and parallels to the invasive cognitive war waged by the Communists and their useful idiots in the West in the twentieth century, however strong, are only partial.⁹⁵ Certainly the number and solidarity of the invaders has significantly increased over the Communists; and suicide bombing has changed the dynamics dramatically. Since Rushdie (1989/1410), the Shari’a of blasphemy can strike fear anywhere in the world, a fear reinforced by the Danish Cartoon riots of 2005-2006/1426-1427, and the executions at Charlie Hebdo in January of 2015/1436. Thus the combination of intimidation and blandishments for Western thought-leaders has a particularly strong force in the new century/millennium, and thus Westerners adopt the narrative da’is want them to adopt--“Islam is peaceful, let’s show them some respect.” Perhaps that explains why today’s useful

infidels behave much as did the useful idiots of yore, but in greater numbers (?), and with far less ideological justification.⁹⁶

Western infidels don't even have vague answers to key questions. How many self-conscious Caliphaters are there? How susceptible is any Muslim to the appeal of the Caliphater dream? What will redirect Caliphaters into more sane, demotic forms of millennial religiosity, so that non-triumphalist Muslims can live in peace with members of other religions?⁹⁷

“Caliphater” is an inherently disturbing term. Once one looks for them, one finds levels of Caliphaters in the Muslim world far greater than any infidel would like to acknowledge, and a much wider range of sympathy for them and their dream among Muslims (who almost all share the triumphalist millennial anticipation that someday, all humanity will “submit” to Allah). When infidels say, “We can’t go to war with 1.6 billion Muslims,” they seem to forget that Caliphaters, however many they are, *can* and *do* go to war with those they view as infidels. When infidels repeat after da’is, “it’s only a tiny minority of extremists who have nothing to do with ‘real’ Islam,” they delude themselves.

Nor do infidels who confront this inconvenient truth that Caliphaters have gone to war have to go to war with Caliphaters, at least not *kinetic* war. Presumably most, hopefully the “vast majority” of Muslims, are people capable of, if not necessarily inclined at the moment, towards the peaceful and tolerant relations with infidels that a free society (dare one say, humanity and Allah) requires. Western progressives have every right to demand it and every right to confront the ideology that assaults them, indeed that seeks either their submission or their annihilation, without being assaulted by their fellow infidels as “Islamophobes.” When infidels cease to view Muslims as stable items they can slot into factitious categories like moderate and extremist, and begin to see them as people making faith choices, analysts can begin to perceive long-term strategies for peaceful relations between Muslims and infidels.

Progressive infidels should, thus, oppose non-violent Caliphaters in the cogwar battlefield in which they operate, not by targeting them as jihadists, but by refusing the da’i’s demand that they become proleptic dhimmi.⁹⁸ This means not giving them the moral, intellectual, and institutional support that makes their da’wa possible, and not proffering the submissive responses that give that da’wa such success. Rather than adopting their ideological demands—carefully cleaned up for them in the language of “human rights”—progressives need to demand reciprocity.

Of course, this pushback will frustrate no small number of da’is who, aggravated, might then become jihadists. In such a case, it is better to force early recognition than to make concessions to people who respond by upping their demands. It is one matter to go after hate speech when it is a definition that applies to all, and Muslims do not get exemption.⁹⁹ If infidels go after Islamophobes identified (in their exquisite sensitivity) by da’is, they go after anyone whom Caliphaters consider a threat to the coming Caliphate.

Currently, experts argue differently. In response to a proposed ban on an extremist organization like Hizb al-Tahrir, they warn about alienating the “mainstream” Muslim community.¹⁰⁰ These concerns underline the infidel dilemma: They tacitly acknowledge the hinge in the Muslim community between non-violence and terror, even as they try to pretend it is a divide they can discourage “moderate Muslims” from crossing over, by appeasing them. Hence the dilemma’s horns: If Western infidels ban Caliphater groups, they help them proliferate; if they do not ban them, they help them proliferate. Says the Caliphater to the kuffar: “Jihadi phase or da’wa phase? Your choice.”

Bluntly put, Westerners have to directly challenge Muslims on the meaning of *al-wala wa’l bara*, whose tribal nature clashes fundamentally with the ecumenical thrust of progressive values and global civil society no matter how much one is committed to multi-culturalism. If this means holding Muslims accountable like anyone else, if it means asking of Islam what civil society asks of all the religions to which it gives that so precious a gift as freedom of worship, then so be it. In a civil society, every religion renounces religious triumphalism and its hate speech; and they certainly renounce the kind that demands public displays of its superiority.

After an epic, millennium-long, battle against this kind of belligerent zero-sum political religiosity in European and American culture, Western infidels have certainly earned the right to demand reciprocity from others who wish to share in the bounty of civil polities. Freedom is not an entitlement; it is earned. The alternative, a humanitarian racism that has no moral expectations of Muslims, considers them a force of nature, and then paradoxically treats them as if they were already fully engaged in reciprocity, insults all true Muslims, Caliphater *and* tolerant alike. It is a moral abdication that works to the benefit of the Caliphater (who knows how to exploit useful infidel stupidity), and undermines the tolerant (whom it betrays by belittling their accomplishments).

If, instead, Westerners were as attuned to how their appeasement *fueled* da'wa, as they were to what they so readily assert is true: that "Islamophobia" (as Caliphaters define it) fuels jihad, they might actually fight the fire with water, rather than pouring on accelerants.

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NOTES

¹ On a comparison between global jihad and anti-global climate warming as apocalyptic movements, see Richard Landes, *Heaven on Earth: The Varieties of the Millennial Experience* (NY: Oxford University Press, 2011), chap. 15.

² On the role of millennial dating systems in depressing apocalyptic expectations, see Richard Landes, "Lest the Millennium be Fulfilled: Apocalyptic Expectations and the Pattern of Western Chronography, 100-800 CE," In W. Verbeke, D. Verhelst, and A. Welkenhuysen (eds.), *The Use and Abuse of Eschatology in the Middle Ages*, (Katholieke U., Leuven, 1988), pp. 137-211.

³ Sylvia Thrupp (ed.), *Millennial Dreams in Action; Studies in Revolutionary Religious Movements*, (New York: Schocken Books, 1970).

⁴ The medieval historian Guibert of Nogent entitled his account of the apocalyptic first crusade, *Gesta dei per francos* [*The Deeds of God Through the Franks*]. On the apocalyptic dimensions of that crusade, see Jay Rubenstein, *Armies of Heaven: The First Crusade and the Quest for Apocalypse* (New York: Basic Books, 2011).

⁵ "The realities of today are the dreams of yesterday, and the dreams of today are the realities of tomorrow." Banna's original plan had three stages: 1) propaganda, 2) formation, and 3) execution, the final "active stage out of which the perfected fruits of the mission of the Muslim Brotherhood will appear." Richard Mitchell, *The Society of Muslim Brothers* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1969), pp. 13f. Cited in Laurent Murawiec, *The Mind of Jihad* (New York: Oxford, 2008), p. 33. On long-term millennial "projects," see Landes, *Heaven on Earth*, pp. 243-44, 266, n. 74.

⁶ Yaroslav Trofimov, *The Siege of Mecca: The 1979 Uprising at Islam's Holiest Shrine* (London: Penguin, 2007).

⁷ Rosalind Hackett, "Theorizing Radical Islam in Northern Nigeria," in Stephen D. O'Leary and Geln S. McGhee (eds.), *War in Heaven/Heaven on Earth* (New York: Equinox, 2005), pp. 143-62;

Abimbola O. Adesoji, "Between Maitatsine and Boko Haram: Islamic Fundamentalism and the Response of the Nigerian State," *Africa Today*, Vol. 57, No. 4 (2011), pp. 98-119. Note also that the aggressive da'wa of the older Muslim expansionist, Sidy Modibo Kane; see, B.F. Soares, "Muslim Proselytization As Purification: Religious Pluralism and Conflict in Contemporary Mali," in A.A. An-Na'im (ed.), *Proselytization and Communal Self-Determination in Africa* (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1999), pp. 228-45.

⁸ Sylvain Besson, *La conquête de l'Occident: Le projet secret des Islamistes* (Paris: Le Seuil, 2005), pp. 35-37; The "Project" document available in Arabic and English: The Muslim Brotherhood "Project," <http://www.investigativeproject.org/documents/misc/687.pdf>.

⁹ Yusuf al-Qaradawi, *Awalawiyat al-Haraka al-Islamiyya fi al-Marhala al-Qadima [The Preferences of the Islamic Movement in the Next Stage]* (Cairo: Maktabat Walraba, 6th ed., 2005 [originally 1990]), pp. 13-14. NB: The text was composed *ex post defectu*, a decade after the passage of the mujaddid in 1979.

¹⁰ Yusuf al-Qaradawi speaking in 1995 to a gathering of the Muslim Arab Youth Association (MAYA) in Toledo, Ohio; excerpts at *The Investigative Project*, https://www.investigativeproject.org/profile/167/yusuf-al-qaradawi#_ftnref3; viewable online: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jzh2mJf2ot4>.

¹¹ On the impact of 1400, see Jean-Pierre Filiu, *Apocalypse in Islam* (Los Angeles: University of California Press, 2011), chap. 4; Landes, *Heaven on Earth* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2011), pp. 445-51. Note that "The Project" for the conquest of the West by da'wa to which Qaradawi refers originates in a famous meeting in Switzerland in 1400/1979 of Muslim Brotherhood exiles from "secular" Arab countries: Besson, *La conquête de l'Occident*, pp. 35-37; Besson considers Qaradawi "the spiritual father," pp. 75-93.

¹² For the best introduction to the apocalyptic Caliphater imagination, see David Cook, *Contemporary Muslim Apocalyptic Literature* (Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 2005); Timothy Furnish, *Holiest Wars: Islamic Mahdis, Their Jihads, and Osama bin Laden* (NY: Prager, 2005); Murawiec, *The Mind of Jihad*; Filiu, *Apocalypse in Islam*.

¹³ On triumphalist religiosity, see Richard Landes, "Triumphalist Religiosity: The Unanticipated Problem of the 21st Century," *Tablet*, February 10, 2016; <http://www.tabletmag.com/jewish-news-and-politics/197151/triumphalist-religiosity>.

¹⁴ On Marx's response to disappointment, see Landes, *Heaven on Earth*, chap. 10. To this very day, believers in the millennial dream will still say, "communism has never really been tried."

¹⁵ "And the end will not come until the Muslims rise up and kill the Jews. And the Jews will hide behind rocks and trees, and the rocks and trees will say, 'Oh Muslim, oh servant of Allah, there is a Jew behind me, come kill him'." Sahih Muslim, *The Book Pertaining to the Turmoil and Portents of the Last Hour*, Book 41:6981-85, <http://cmje.usc.edu/religious-texts/hadith/muslim/041-smt.php>.

¹⁶ On tribal Jihad, see Murawiec, *Mind of Jihad*, chap. 4.

¹⁷ Patrick Coburn, *The Rise of the Islamic State: ISIS and the New Sunni Revolution* (London: Verso, 2014).

¹⁸ See Natana DeLong's post-Orientalist treatment of da'wa among the Wahhabis: "a more positive and inclusive approach of dialogue and discussion geared toward reconciliation and cooperation whenever possible," *Wahhabi Islam: From Revival and Reform to Global Jihad* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2004), p. 201.

¹⁹ Muhammad Saeed al Qahtani, *Al Wala' wa'l Bara': According to the Aqeedah of the Salaf 1401/1980*, <http://en.islamway.net/book/14155/al-wala-wal-bara-according-to-the-aeedah-of-the-salaf> (current author's italics). On the doctrine, see Harold Rhode, "The Concept of Brotherhood in Islam: How Muslims View Each Other and How They View Non-Muslims," Gatestone Institute,

November 9, 2011, <http://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/2572/brotherhood-in-islam>; David Bukay, "Islam's Hatred of the Non-Muslim," *Middle East Quarterly* (Summer 2013), pp. 11-20.

²⁰ Zawahiri wrote an extensive treatise on the subject in 1422/2002, "Loyalty and Enmity, An Inherited Doctrine and a Lost Reality," available in Raymond Ibrahim (ed.), *The Al Qaeda Reader*, (New York: Doubleday, 2007), pp. 63-114.

²¹ Murawiec calls it "Manichaeism tribalism," *The Mind of Jihad*, chap. 4.

²² "British Islamist Abu Waleed Muslims Should Humiliate Christians to Make them Convert to Islam," Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI), Clip #4263, January 16, 2014, <https://www.memri.org/tv/british-islamist-abu-waleed-muslims-should-humiliate-christians-order-make-them-convert-islam>.

²³ On Messiah's donkey, which takes many forms, see Seffi Rachlevsky, *Hamoro shel meshiach [Messiah's Donkey]*, (Tel Aviv: Yedi'ot Aharonot, 1998).

²⁴ Eusebius, *Demonstratio Evangelica*, Books 3-5.

²⁵ On the Taiping, see Landes, *Heaven on Earth*, chap. 7.

²⁶ Landes, "The Emotional Nakba," *Tablet*, June 24, 2014, <http://www.tabletmag.com/jewish-news-and-politics/176673/emotional-nakba>.

²⁷ Cook, *Contemporary Muslim Apocalyptic*, chap. 5; Filiu, *Muslim Apocalyptic*, chap. 5.

²⁸ On cognitive warfare, see Stuart Green, *Cognitive Warfare*, Thesis presented to Joint Military Intelligence College, Washington DC, 2008; Ron Schleifer, *Psychological Warfare in the Intifada* (Portland, OR: Sussex Press, 2006); Landes, "The Final Battle," *Tablet*, August 3, 2011, <http://www.tabletmag.com/jewish-news-and-politics/76511/final-battle>.

²⁹ See Bat-Ye'or on both the Muslim identification of criticism with blasphemy, and a mimicry complex in which the dhimmi adopt the beliefs of their masters in order to ingratiate themselves: Bat Ye'or, *Islam and Dhimmitude*, Trans. from French by Miriam Kochan and David Littman (Madison, New Jersey: Associated University Presses, 2001), pp. 106-10.

³⁰ Bat-Ye'or, *Eurabia: The Euro-Arab Axis* (Madison, NJ: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 2005); Bruce Bawer, *While Europe Slept: How Radical Islam Is Destroying the West from Within* (New York: Doubleday, 2006); Tony Blankley, *The West's Last Chance: Will We Win the Clash of Civilizations?* (Washington, D.C.: Regnery Publishing, Inc., 2005); Oriana Fallaci, *The Force of Reason* (New York: Rizzoli International, 2006); Melanie Phillips, *Londonistan: How Britain Is Creating a Terror State Within* (San Francisco: Encounter Books, 2006); Mark Steyn, *America Alone: The End of the World As We Know It* (Washington, D.C.: Regnery Publishing, Inc., 2006).

³¹ Matt Carr, "You Are Now Entering Eurabia," *Race and Class*, Vol. 48, No. 1 (2006), pp. 1-22; "Tales from Eurabia," *The Economist*, June 22, 2006, http://www.economist.com/node/7086222?Story_ID=7086222.

³² T.R. Reid, *The United States of Europe: The New Superpower and the End of American Supremacy* (New York: Penguin, 2004); Jeremy Rifkin, *The European Dream: How Europe's Vision of the Future Is Quietly Eclipsing the American Dream* (New York: Penguin, 2004); Mark Leonard, *Why Europe Will Run the 21st Century* (London: Fourth Estate, 2006).

³³ Adam Garfinkle, "The Peace Movement and the Adversary Culture," in Paul Hollander (ed.), *Understanding Anti-Americanism: Its Origins and Impact at Home and Abroad* (Chicago: Ivan Dee, 2004), pp. 301-21.

³⁴ In France, the expression "pas d'amalgames (no lumping)" has become so common, especially after jihadi atrocities, that it has become a subject of derision: "Pas d'amalgame !" <http://catechisme-adulte.blogspot.co.il/2015/01/pas-damalgame.html>.

³⁵ On the U.S. government working with "Islamists" (i.e., da'wa Caliphaters), see Daniel Pipes, "The U.S. Government's Poor Record on Islamists," *Middle East Forum*, June 23, 2004, <http://www.danielpipes.org/blog/2004/06/the-us-governments-poor-record-on>

[islamists?utm_source](#). For the British cases, see Phillips, *Londonistan*. Matters have only gotten worse since the mid-aughts. National Security Advisor James Clapper characterized the Muslim Brotherhood as “moderate... and largely secular,” showing a stunning level of uninformed naïveté one does not normally expect from the head of an intelligence agency: “Clapper: Muslim Brotherhood Is Secular,” C-Span, February 10, 2011, <https://www.c-span.org/video/?c4340637/clapper-muslim-brotherhood>. See Joshua Muravchik, “US ‘Intelligence’: Blinded by Ideology,” *World Affairs*, February 11, 2011, <http://www.worldaffairsjournal.org/blog/joshua-muravchik/us-intelligence-blinded-ideology>.

³⁶ Robert Wistrich, “Summer in Paris,” *Mosaic Magazine*, October, 2014, <http://mosaicmagazine.com/essay/2014/10/summer-in-paris/>.

³⁷ To cite only two of the countless examples of this Omertà, see the case of expurgating any mention of Islam in the case of Major Hassan’s attack on Fort Hood in 2009 (Andrew McCarthy, *The Grand Jihad: How Islam and the Left Sabotage America* [New York: Perseus Books Group, 2010], pp. 357-66); and the *taharush* (mob harassment/rape) of the celebrations in Cologne the night of December 31, 2015, which went unmentioned in the mainstream news until discussions on Facebook forced it into the open: Justin Huggler, “‘Cover-Up’ over Cologne Sex Assaults Blamed on Migration Sensitivities,” *Daily Telegraph*, January 6, 2016, <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/germany/12085182/Cover-up-over-Cologne-sex-assaults-blamed-on-migration-sensitivities.html>.

³⁸ A notable early example came from William Orme in 2000, who cited a sermon from Palestinian Shaykh Halabiya that called for extermination of the Jews everywhere in the world, and left out any genocidal passages: Alex Safian, “NYT Covers Up Call to ‘Kill the Jews,’” *CAMERA*, October 25, 2000, http://www.camera.org/index.asp?x_context=6&x_article=118. For a more recent example, see the *Washington Post*’s Michele Boornstein’s treatment of two California imams who preached the genocidal hadith of the rocks and trees (below, n. 60).

³⁹ This is an explicit goal of “The Project,” Besson, *La conquête de l’Occident*. “To adopt the Palestinian cause as part of a worldwide Islamic plan, with the policy plan and by means of jihad, since it acts as the keystone of the renaissance of the Arab world today... To create a link between the mujahadin in Palestine and those throughout the Islamic world. To nourish a sentiment of rancor with respect to the Jews and refuse all coexistence.” See Landes, “Fatal Attraction: The Shared Antichrist of the Global Progressive Left and Jihad,” in Cary Nelson and Gabriel Brahm (eds.), *The Case Against Academic Boycotts Of Israel* (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 2014), chap. 20.

⁴⁰ Landes, “The Wages of Moral Schadenfreude in the Press: Anti-Zionism and European Jihad,” in Eunice G. Pollack (ed.), *From Antisemitism to Anti-Zionism: The Past & Present of a Lethal Ideology* (Brighton, MA: Academic Studies Press, 2017), pp. 186-214.

⁴¹ Oriana Fallaci, “I Find It Shameful,” *Panorama*, April 12, 2002, http://www.hsje.org/oriana_fallaci_on_antisemitism.htm.

⁴² Richard Landes, “‘What Choice Do They Have?’: Meditations on Liberal Folly, Jenin 2002,” *Augean Stables*, <http://www.theaugeanstables.com/multiple-part-essays/what-choice-do-they-have-meditations-on-liberal-folly-jenin-2002/>.

⁴³ Michael Totten, “The Anti-Imperialism of Fools,” *World Affairs*, August 28, 2012, <http://www.worldaffairsjournal.org/blog/michael-j-totten/anti-imperialism-fools>.

⁴⁴ Landes, “The Wages of Moral Schadenfreude in the Press.”

⁴⁵ From Salem (2003) and Ilan Halimi (2006), to Sarah Halimi (2017): Nidra Poller, “The Murder of Ilan Halimi,” *Wall Street Journal*, February 23, 2006, <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB114064452021880485.html>; Guy Millière, “France: Islamic Antisemitism, French Silence,” June 12, 2017, <http://www.jewishpress.com/indepth/opinions/france->

islamic-antisemitism-french-silence/2017/06/12/.

⁴⁶ For an example of this attitude, see BBC's Tim Wilcox interviewing a French Jew after the attacks on Charlie Hebdo and the Hyper-Cacher: Nick Cohen, "The BBC: Blaming the Jews for attacks on Jews," *Spectator*, January 12, 2015, <http://blogs.spectator.co.uk/coffeehouse/2015/01/the-bbc-blaming-the-jews-for-attacks-on-jews/>.

⁴⁷ Besson, *La conquête de l'Occident*, pp. 193-205. Besson calls it a 100-year plan (which it may have been) but the only reference to 100 years in the document refers to the previous century. Note that for Muslims in 1982, the year is 1402, and references to a century would mean the fourteenth (1882-1979) and fifteenth (1979-2076). The important point here, however, is that the Muslim Brotherhood can and does think in generational terms, which very few Westerners do. Should circumstances change, members are only too happy to conclude that, Allah willing, things are happening even faster than expected.

⁴⁸ "...totally distinct... ideologies," Max Fisher, "No Netanyahu, ISIS Is Not Hamas," *Vox*, August 25, 2014, <http://www.vox.com/2014/8/25/6064467/no-netanyahu-hamas-is-not-isis-isis-is-not-hamas>; Allesandria Massi, "What Is the Difference Between ISIS And Hamas?" *International Business Times*, July 19, 2014, <http://www.ibtimes.com/what-difference-between-isis-hamas-1653782>. See also lengthy analysis at a site, apparently dedicated to splitting: Tapas, "Differences Between ISIS and Hamas," *DifferencesBetween*, July 18, 2014, <http://www.differencebetween.net/miscellaneous/religion-miscellaneous/differences-between-hamas-and-isis/>.

⁴⁹ Assaf Moghadam, *The Globalization of Martyrdom: Al Qaeda, Salafi Jihad, and the Diffusion of Suicide Attacks* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2008), p. 59; see Table 1.1 for a list of differences.

⁵⁰ Patrick Kingsley, "Who Is Behind ISIS Terrify Online Propaganda Operation?" *Guardian*, June 23, 2014, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/jun/23/who-behind-isis-propaganda-operation-iraq>.

⁵¹ Asama al-Goul, "Gaza Salafists Pledge Allegiance to ISIS," *al-Monitor*, February 27, 2014, <http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/tr/originals/2014/02/isis-gaza-salafist-jihadist-qaeda-hamas.html>.

⁵² See Safar Ibn 'abd al-Rahman al-Halawi, "The Day of Wrath: Is the Intifadha of Rajab [October 2000] Only the Beginning?" <http://www.azzam.com/>.

⁵³ "[Al Jazeera] played and replayed the heart-rending footage of 12-year-old Muhammed al-Durra, who was shot in Gaza and died in his father's arms. The images' ceaseless repetition signaled the arrival of a new, sensational breed of Arab journalism." Fouad Ajami, "What the Muslim World Is Watching," *New York Times*, November 18, 2001; <http://www.nytimes.com/2001/11/18/magazine/what-the-muslim-world-is-watching.html>. "Al-Jazeera ran repeatedly the clip of the boy being shot, and for several days the picture of his dying became the network's emblem of the intifada. This had a deeply galvanizing effect on the wider Arab public." Hugh Miles, *Al-Jazeera: The Inside Story of the Arab News Channel That Is Challenging the West* (New York: Grove Press, 2006), p. 73.

⁵⁴ *Suicide Bombing Terrorism During the Current Israeli-Palestinian Confrontation (September 2000–December 2005)*, (Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center at the Center for Special Studies (CSS), January 1, 2006), http://www.terrorism-info.org.il/Data/pdf/PDF_19279_2.pdf, pp. 2, 5. On the theological debate, see Haim Malka, "Must Innocents Die? The Islamic Debate over Suicide Attacks," *Middle East Quarterly*, Vol. 10, No. 2 (2003), pp. 19-28, <http://www.meforum.org/530/must-innocents-die-the-islamic-debate-over>. For a representative sample that cites the excitement that traversed the Arab world at the suicide bombing of Israeli children at the Sbarro Pizza in Jerusalem, Fahmi Huweidi, "I Cannot Hide My Happiness," *al-Ahram*, August 14, 2001, <https://www.memri.org/reports/i-cannot-hide-my-happiness-about->

[martyrdom-operation-took-place-jerusalem-op-ed-egypts](#). The event was later memorialized at a Palestinian university in the form of an exhibit recreating the moment of the explosion, allowing visitors to savor the impact of the bomb: Ian Fischer, “An Exhibit on Campus Celebrates Grisly Deed,” *New York Times*, September 26, 2001, <http://www.nytimes.com/2001/09/26/world/an-exhibit-on-campus-celebrates-grisly-deed.html>.

⁵⁵ See Cockburn, *Rise of Islamic State*, above, n. 11.

⁵⁶ Raed Salah, “Jerusalem Will Be the Capital of the Global Caliphate,” MEMRI, Clip #4587, November 6, 2014, <https://www.memri.org/tv/israeli-islamist-leader-raed-salah-jerusalem-will-be-capital-global-caliphate>.

⁵⁷ “Friday Sermon on Palestinian Authority TV,” MEMRI, Special Dispatch, No. 370, April 17, 2002, <https://www.memri.org/reports/friday-sermon-palestinian-authority-tv>. On the hadith, see Sahih Muslim, *Portents of the Last Hour*, Book 41:6981-85.

⁵⁸ For bin Ladin’s use of the al-Dura footage in his recruiting video for global jihad, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rqJqaIxuGf0>.

⁵⁹ “Sheikh Nidhal Siam Prays in Al-Aqsa Mosque Address for Allah to Enable the Slaughtering of the Americans and Europeans,” MEMRI, June 18, 2017, <https://www.memri.org/tv/al-aqsa-mosque-address-slaughter-americans-europeans-arab-rulers>.

⁶⁰ Characteristically, the MSNM played it down: Michelle Boornstein, “California Imam Apologizes for Sermon Seen As Inciting to Jews, Condemns Anti-Semitism,” July 28, 2017, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/acts-of-faith/wp/2017/07/28/did-a-california-imam-call-for-violence-against-jews-faith-leaders-meet-to-calm-tensions/>; while serious bloggers explained the meaning of such sermons: David Gerstman, “Washington Post Whitewashes California Imam’s ‘Annihilate the Jews’ Sermon,” *Legal Insurrection*, July 30, 2017, <http://legalinsurrection.com/2017/07/washington-post-whitewashes-california-imams-annihilate-the-jews-sermon/>.

⁶¹ Daniel Pipes, “Can Infidels Be Innocents?” *Lion’s Den*, August 7, 2005, <http://www.danielpipes.org/blog/2005/08/can-infidels-be-innocents>.

⁶² Itamar Marcus and Barbara Crook, “Kill a Jew,” *Palestinian Media Watch*, http://palwatch.org/STORAGE/special-reports/Kill_A_Jew.pdf.

⁶³ Cook, *Contemporary Muslim Apocalyptic*, chap. 5.

⁶⁴ With some, the imperative to sow terror among infidels overrides concern for collateral Muslim damage. In 2016, the majority of victims of suicide terror were Muslims: Yoram Schweitzer, Aviad Mendelboim, and Yotam Rosner, “Suicide Attacks in 2016: The Highest Number of Fatalities,” *INSS Insight*, No. 887, January 5, 2017, <http://www.inss.org.il/index.aspx?id=4538&articleid=12773>.

⁶⁵ After mentioning the hate-filled rivalries between Salafists and Hizb al-Tahrir in London in the early 1990s, Nawaz notes, “A few years later, this would change: Salafism and Islamism would fuse to form Jihadism, most famously seen in the eventual rise of al-Qaeda.” Maajid Nawaz, *Radical: My Journey out of Islamist Extremism* (London: Lyons Press, 2013), p. 68.

⁶⁶ Excellent analysis of the role of identity entrepreneurs and cognitive warfare, Green, *Cognitive Warfare*, pp. 86-108. Nawaz rose in the movement by becoming an identity entrepreneur himself, rallying the intimidated Pakistani students at his London college, Nawaz, *Radical*, pp. 72-3. On Hizb al-Tahrir, see below.

⁶⁷ Connie Cass, “Al-Qaida’s Heirs Thrive in Mideast, Africa Chaos,” Associated Press, September 16, 2014, <http://www.standard.net/National/2014/09/16/As-core-al-Qaida-weakened-its-successors-spread>.

⁶⁸ For critical insights into the psychology of jihadists, see Nancy Kobrin, *The Jihadi Dictionary* (Mamaroneck, NY: Multieducator Press, 2016).

⁶⁹ Timothy Furnish, *Sects, Lies, and the Caliphate: Ten Years of Observations on Islam* (2016).

⁷⁰ John Gager argues that that was the role of the Book of Revelation in the early Christian movement, to revive apocalyptic time in the imaginary. John Gager, *Kingdom and Community: Social World of Early Christianity* (Engelwood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1975), pp. 49-57.

⁷¹ For a discussion of the role of apocalyptic (imminent) expectations in setting millennial dreams into action, see Landes, *Heaven on Earth*, chap. 2.

⁷² Raymond Ibrahim, "How Circumstance Dictates Islamic Behavior: Preach Peace When Weak, Wage War When Strong," *Middle East Quarterly*, January 18, 2012, <http://www.meforum.org/3154/circumstance-dictates-islamic-behavior>.

⁷³ Richard Landes, "Demopaths and Their Dupes," *Augean Stables*, <http://www.theaugeanstables.com/reflections-from-second-draft/demopaths-dupes/>. On the HRNGOs, see "Extremist Populism and NGOs – Misinformation, Radicalization, and Incitement to Violence," *NGO Monitor*, <http://www.ngo-monitor.org/key-issues/extremist-populism-ngos-misinformation-radicalization-incitement/about/>.

⁷⁴ Brendan Bernhard, *White Muslim: From L.A. to New York...to Jihad?* (New York: Melville Press, 2006).

⁷⁵ See the role of redating the End several centuries into the future (Filiu, *Apocalypse in Islam*, p. 80-83; Landes, "Lest the Millennium Be Fulfilled").

⁷⁶ Lee Quinby, "Coercive Purity: The Dangerous Promise of Apocalyptic Masculinity," in Charles B. Strozier and Michael Flynn (eds.), *The Year 2000: Essays on the End* (New York: New York University Press, 1997), pp. 154-65.

⁷⁷ Haitham Ibn Thbait of the American chapter of Hizb al-Tahrir, speaking at the Khilafah 2016 conference, held in Chicago on May 15: "Islam is here to dominate! This was an ideological struggle, the sole purpose of which was to organize Man's affairs in accordance with a system revealed by Allah." "Muslims to Refrain from Voting in USA Elections: 'Islam Is Here to Dominate,'" MEMRI, November 12, 2016, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3oe9YFe4PI8>.

⁷⁸ Leyan Saleh. Also, "May god ruin the homes of the Jews. Ya5rib bait al yahud," <https://twitter.com/canarymission/status/823440426413785088>.

⁷⁹ Nawaz, *Radical*, p. 61.

⁸⁰ Ibid., p. 71.

⁸¹ On the al-Dura blood libel, see Nidra Poller, *Al Durah: Long-range Ballistic Myth* (Paris: Authorship International, 2014); for evidence and analysis see *Al Durah: The Birth of an Icon*; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pmgII73S7t4>. According to one former radical, recruited in the later aughts, al-Dura's picture adorned the cover of the recruiting video and played a key role in the introduction to the world of global jihad: As Bin Laden argued, they kill our innocent children; we must, in self-defense, kill theirs. Raymond Ibrahim (ed.), *The al Qaeda Reader* (New York: Doubleday, 2007), pp. 137-71.

⁸² ISIS uses the term Generation Caliphate as a slogan. See "Islamic State Video: Generation of the Caliphate," *TRAC*, <https://www.trackingterrorism.org/chat/islamic-state-video-generation-caliphate-wilayat-khayr>.

⁸³ Maajid Nawaz, *Radical*, p. 69.

⁸⁴ When asked to condemn Islamic State barbarity, Doureihi immediately went to the "context" of Western guilt: "ISIS doesn't appear in a vacuum; it's a response to Western crimes [like interference in the Muslim world]. In fact what the West does in Iraq is far worse than ISIS." Emma Griffiths, "Islamic State: Hizb ut-Tahrir Spokesman Says Allied Mission in Iraq and Syria 'Infinitely Greater in Barbarity,'" ABC, October 8, 2014, <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-10-08/allied-mission-more-barbaric-than-is-hizb-ut-tahrir-says/5799856>.

⁸⁵ See the remarkable exchange between Steven Sackur of BBC's *Hardtalk* and Anjem Choudary: "Transcript: Anjem Choudary HARDTalk Interview-7/7 London Bombings," September 9, 2008,

2008, <http://keepetonyblairforpm.wordpress.com/2008/09/09/transcript-anjem-choudary-hardtalk-interview-77-london-bombings/>; Pipes, “Can Infidels Be Innocent?”

⁸⁶ On the “covenant of peace” the British thought they had with their jihadists, see Phillips, *Londonistan*, chap. 3.

⁸⁷ “Communiqué from Hizb ut-Tahrir - America and Britain Declare War Against Islam and the Muslims,” October 14, 2001, <https://web.archive.org/web/20050301161600/www.khilafah.com/home/category.php?DocumentID=2428&TagID=3>.

⁸⁸ Hillary Clinton represents this trend, explaining that she refuses to use the term “radical Islam” because it “sounds like we are declaring war against a religion. It doesn't do justice to the vast number of Muslims in our country and around the world who are peaceful people... No. 2, it helps to create this clash of civilizations that is actually a recruiting tool for ISIS and other radical jihadists who use this as a way of saying, ‘We are in a war against the West --you must join us.’” Eric Bradner, “Clinton Explains Why She Won't Use Radical Islam,” CNN, December 7, 2015, <http://edition.cnn.com/2015/12/06/politics/hillary-clinton-radical-islam/index.html>.

⁸⁹ On the anti-war marches and the politicization of the Muslim community in Britain, see Pickerall, “New Social Movements, Coalitions and Religion: Muslim Anti-War Activists in Britain,” April 2006, <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/255450979>; Garfinkle, “The Peace Movement.”

⁹⁰ Ed Husain, *Islamist*, chap. 15; see Nick Cohen, *What's Left?* postscript.

⁹¹ For an excellent example of this aggressive victim rhetoric, see Linda Sarsour's address to the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA) Convention, in which, invoking the victim status of Muslims, and in solidarity with intersectional revolutionaries, she called for jihad against the president of the United States, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1zsMnvh5D0Q>.

⁹² Hassan Butt, “My Plea to Fellow Muslims: You Must Renounce Terror,” *Guardian*, July 1, 2007, <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2007/jul/01/comment.religion1>.

⁹³ Despite the enthusiasm of Muslims for suicide bombing when Israelis were the target in the early aughts, Muslims are now, by far, the largest number of victims of suicide terror.

⁹⁴ Andrew McCarthy, *Willful Blindness: A Memoir of the Jihad* (New York: Encounter Books, 2008); Philip Haney, Art Moore, *See Something, Say Nothing: A Homeland Security Officer Exposes the Government's Submission to Jihad* (Washington, D.C.: WND Books, 2016). According to a Google algorithm developed in coordination with a “liberal” media oversight group (Media Matters), the (true) statements “ISIS is a terrorist group,” and “Hamas' charter calls for the killing of Jews” have an 87 percent and 92 percent chance of being perceived as “toxic” hate speech and getting filtered out of online discussions. See Sam Westrop, “Silicon Valley Censorship,” *Gatestone Institute*, July 26, 2017, <https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/10722/google-perspective-censorship>.

⁹⁵ Stefan Posony, *Waking up the Giant: A Strategy for American Victory and World Freedom* (New Rochelle, NY: Arlington House, 1974). On the useful idiots/fellow travelers, see Paul Hollander, *Political Pilgrims: Western Intellectuals in Search of the Good Society* (New York: Harper, 1981);

⁹⁶ Landes, “From Useful Idiot to Useful Infidel: Reflections on the Folly of 21st Century Intellectuals,” in Anna Geifman and Helena Rimón (eds.), *Intellectuals and Terror: the Fatal Attraction*; special issue of the journal *Terrorism and Political Violence*, Vol. 25, No. 4 (2013), pp. 621-34.

⁹⁷ Landes, “Triumphalist Religiosity.”

⁹⁸ In response to a concocted outrage sparked by fake and deeply blasphemous “Danish Cartoons” forged by Caliphater imams, the UN and EU came out with the following statement: “We understand the deep hurt and widespread indignation felt in the Muslim world. The freedom of the press, which entails responsibility and discretion, should respect the beliefs and tenets of all religions.” Javier Solana, “Joint UN, European Union, Islamic Conference Statement Shares ‘Anguish’ of Muslim

World at Mohammed Caricatures, but Condemns Violent Response,” February 7, 2006, <http://www.un.org/press/en/2006/sg2105.doc.htm>. Jytte Klausen takes appeasement of Muslim sensitivities as a given: *The Cartoons That Shook the World* (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2009), and probably should not have been surprised by Yale UP’s decision not to print the cartoons in her book: Patricia Cohen, “Yale Press Bans Images of Muhammad in New Book by Jytte Klausen,” *New York Times*, August 12, 2009, <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/08/13/books/13book.html>.

⁹⁹ “Swedish Court Allows Mosque Freedom to Incite Against Jews,” *Tundra Tabloids*, March 2006, <http://tundratabloids.com/2006/03/swedish-court-allows-mosque-freedom-to/>.

¹⁰⁰ Adrian Cherny, “Why Australia Shouldn’t Ban Islamic Group Hizb ut-Tahrir,” *The Conversation*, October 9, 2014, <http://theconversation.com/why-australia-shouldnt-ban-islamic-group-hizb-ut-tahrir-32745>.