الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَنْزَلَ الْكِتَابَ وَلَمْ يَجْعَلْ لَهُ عِوَجًا، وَجَعَلَ لِمَنِ اتَّقَاهُ فَرَجًا وَمَخْرَجًا، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لاَ إِلهَ إِلاَّ اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لاَ شَرِيكَ لَهُ، أَنْزَلَ الْقُرْآنَ هِذَايَةً وَنُورًا، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا وَنَبِيَّنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُ اللَّهِ وَرَسُولُهُ، فَاللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا وَنَبِيِّنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ الطَّيِّبِينَ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا وَنَبِيِّنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ الطَّيِّبِينَ اللَّهِ وَسَحْبِهِ الطَّيِّبِينَ اللَّيْنِ إلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ.

All praise is due to Allah. He revealed the Book and has not made therein any deviance. He also provided relief and a way out for those who obey Him. I bear witness that there is no deity save Allah, having no associates. He sent down the Quran as a guidance and enlightenment to His Creation. I also bear witness that our Master Muhammad is the servant of Allah and His Messenger. May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon our Master Muhammad, his pure family, companions, and all those who follow them in righteousness till the Day of Judgment.

"Our Lord, forgive us and our brothers who preceded us in faith" (59:10)

A Hallmark of Muslims is that we remember & pray for those who have passed away, & learn from their lives & struggles. In July 1995 in Bosnia, the militia lined up and killed over 8,000 Muslim men and boys. They buried their bodies in mass graves, forcibly deported thousands of Muslim women & children, and raped them. This was an act of genocide that shocked the world. Every year the 11<sup>th</sup> of July is marked as Srebrenica Memorial Day.

In Srebrenica it was the Bosnian Militia's intent to destroy Muslims; in Rwanda, it was the Hutu gangs' intent to destroy the Tutsis. In Germany it was the Nazis' with the Holocaust. Now it is the Far Right, Extremist, Terrorists, Elitists, Capitalists, in Europe, America, Asia, destroying Syria, Yemen, Iraq, Burma, Pakistan, Afghanistan & China!!! We must wake up and learn from our history and prevent these catastrophes.

- The common element with all ethnic cleansings & genocides is a deep INTOLERANCE, HATRED of the other & a FALSE SENSE of SUPERIORITY.
- 1. In Islam there is absolutely NO HATRED of others. WE DO NOT Differentiate on Race, Ethnicity, Colour, Nationality or Religion.

You cannot change your parents, skin, race, ethnicity, or nationality. We have 1 earth, no one can go elsewhere. WE MUST LIVE AND LET LIVE.

"That is Allah, your Lord, Creator of all things" (40:62)

"There is no changing God's creation." (30:30) "O Mankind" (49:13)

2. In Islam everyone has a CHOICE. Allah has given us the freedom to decide. We are NOT permitted to violate the religious rights of others.

"Let there be no compulsion in religion: Truth stands out clear from error" "So let whoever wills, believe; and let whoever wills, disbelieve "

Constitution of Madinah, enabled Muslims to live & co-exist with other tribes, nations and religions in Madinah. Muslim PROTECTED the rights, lives and buildings of Christianity, Judaism, and other religions.

The constitution initially applied to approximately 10,000+ citizens.

45% PAGAN ARABS, 40% JEWS, 15% WERE MUSLIMS.

3. In Islam RACISM and PREJUDICE is a MAJOR SIN. The Prophet # welcomed everyone into Islam Inclusively, without discrimination.

"I am better than he is" (38:76)

This evil arrogance of looking down on others is NOT OUR WAY.

4. In Islam INJUSTICE, OPPRESSION & PERSECUTION are VILE actions that are utterly condemned. Allah instructs Muslims to maintain justice in their dealings with others, even with their enemies.

"Do not let the hatred of a people prevent you from being just" (5:8)

The Prophet mission was of mercy, forgiveness, engagement, tolerance,

5. In Islam we are NOT PERMITTED TO RIDICULE PEOPLE. Everyone has a

love & forbearance... What do you want to spread in your mission?

right to be treated with dignity and respect, old, young, rich, poor...

"O you who have believed, let not a people ridicule people" (49:11)

"Hold firmly to the rope of Allah together & do not become divided"

"A faithful believer to a faithful believer is like the bricks of a wall,

enforcing each other." Then the Prophet clasped his hands, by interlacing

his fingers. (Al-Bukhari)

We must also always seek to unite, reconcile, forgive, and work together. We and our families, our towns and our nations will only be safe when all people and communities are tolerant and understand one other.

It is VITAL important that we continue to remember those who were murdered, and PREVENT such heinous crimes reoccurring.