

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الْمُبْدِيِّ الْمُعِيدِ، الْفَعَّالِ لِمَا يُرِيدُ، عَالِمِ الْغَيْبِ وَالشَّهَادَةِ  
الْعَزِيزِ الْحَمِيدِ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ  
أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا وَنَبِيَّنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُ اللَّهِ وَرَسُولُهُ، فَاللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ  
عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا وَنَبِيِّنَا مُحَمَّدٍ، وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ، وَعَلَى مَنْ  
تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ.

**All praises are for Allah, the Originator, to whom all things return, He does what He wills. Knower of the seen and unseen. Most honorable, Most praiseworthy. And I testify that there is nothing worthy of worship except Allah, who has no partners. And I testify that our Sayyid and Prophet Muhammad is the slave of Allah and His Messenger. O Allah send Your peace and blessings upon our Sayyid, our Messenger, Muhammad ﷺ. And upon his family and companions, all of them. And upon whoever proceeds upon their guidance till the Last Day.**

"لَا تَقُومُ السَّاعَةُ حَتَّى يُقْبَضَ الْعِلْمُ، وَتَكْثُرَ الزَّلَازِلُ، وَيَتَقَارَبَ الزَّمَانُ، وَتَظْهَرَ الْفِتْنُ، وَيَكْثُرَ الْهَرْجُ - وَهُوَ الْقَتْلُ الْقَتْلُ " (Sahih al-Bukhari) - حَتَّى يَكْثُرَ فِيكُمْ الْمَالُ فَيَفِيضُ "

Islam is inherently a peaceful religion, the 10 years in Makkah are testament to that as is the constitution of Madinah. Only when pushed to extremes does Islam permit limited violence or retaliation for the greater good of the community, society and world. Rampant & indiscriminate killing, unchecked violence, terror, threats, torture, destruction, war or corruption is explicitly forbidden & abhorred in Islam.

### ISLAMIC RULES OF ENGAGEMENT:

*"And fight in the way of God those that fight you, but do not transgress, for indeed God does not like the transgressors." (2:190)*

*"God does not prohibit you from showing kindness and being just with those who do not fight you nor have driven you out of your homes. Indeed God loves those who are just." (60:8)*

**1<sup>st</sup> verse** - You are allowed to fight those that fight you, but not to tyrannize those who have done you no harm.

**2<sup>nd</sup> verse** - Fighting innocent civilians is forbidden, & Muslims are ordered to be kind and just with those who did no harm to them.

## **1. THE PROHIBITION OF KILLING WOMEN AND CHILDREN**

*The Prophet forbade the killing of women and children. (Muslim)*

Compare this with the Spanish Inquisition or the slaughter of civilians during the Crusades. The genocides of South America and Australia, or the widespread slaughter of humans during the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> World War

## **2. KILLING OF NON-COMBATANTS SUCH AS OLD PEOPLE, MONKS AND WORKERS IS EXPLICITLY FORBIDDEN IN ISLAMIC SCRIPTURE**

*“Do not kill any old person”. (Bayhaqi) “Do not kill the workers”. (Ahmad)*

These rules of engagement specify that the old who cannot participate in any aggression, the monks who have forsaken worldly life, and those regular workers not involved in politics or war, are to be left alone.

## **3. THE PROHIBITION OF HURTING THE DISABLED AND INFIRM**

The blind, the sick and disabled - according to legal scholars are not from among the combatants and must be left alone. (Al-Mugni)

## **4. ISLAM PROHIBITS THE MUTILATION OF DEAD COMBATANTS**

*“Fight in the name of Allah and in the way of Allah... do not break your pledge; and do not mutilate bodies; do not kill the children. (Muslim)*

## 5. TO SHOW MERCY TO THOSE COMBATANTS WHO SURRENDER

“If one of the polytheists surrenders and pleads mercy, then show mercy so that they can hear the words of Allah, and then allow him to go back to his place of safety. (9:6)

## 6. TREATMENT OF PRISONERS OF WAR

In the battle of Badr, the POW were Mushriks, but the Prophet ﷺ commanded them to be kind to their prisoners. To feed, water & secure them with dignity & care. **1400 Years Ago Muslims Were Honourable**, whereas the Geneva convention only outlawed torture in 1977.

## 7. CUTTING TREES, POISONING WELLS, DESTROYING CROPS, KILLING ANIMALS WITHOUT REASON IS ILLEGAL

Abu Bakr Siddiq رضي الله عنه said, “do not cut the trees, or destroy homes. & do not wound the sheep, goats or cattle except to for eating”. (Muwatta)

## 8. THERE CAN BE NO FORCED CONVERSION

“Let there be no compulsion in religion” (2:256)

## 9. RETURN BACK TO A STATE OF PEACE & SAFETY

“If they incline to peace, then incline to it [also] (8:61)