

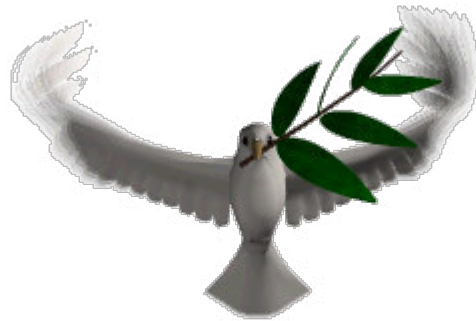


Shafique Keshavjee
08-05.2018
Zürich

vbg  Christlicher
Hochschulverein

ZUERICH.VBG.NET

All the religions talk about peace...

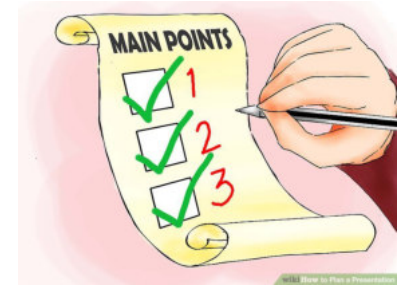


...but in practice...





Violence in the Name of God



Introduction

1. Where?

2. Why?

3. What to do?

Conclusion

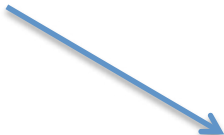
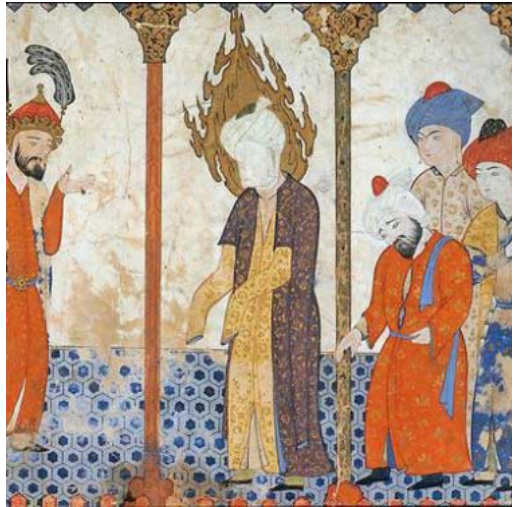
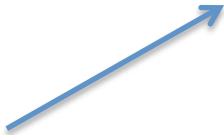
Introduction



Introduction



?



?



Introduction



Christians

Jews

Muslims

Buddhists

Buddhism: No God! No violence?

**Buddhism is « violent » against
all forms of « God » !**

Different forms of violence:

mental, sexual, social, physical, military...



Introduction

Buddhism

Non-violence and violence



Ashoka
(3rd BC)



Dalai Lama



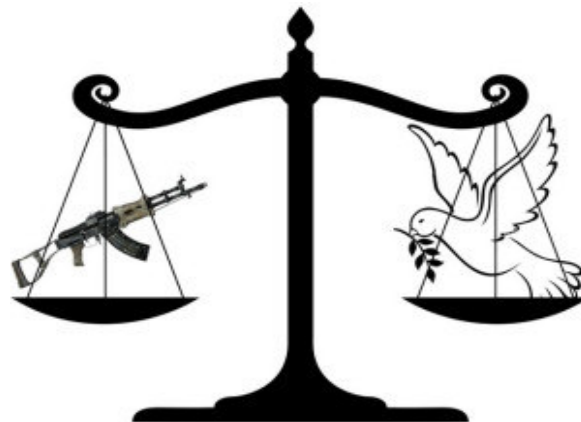
Ashin Wirathu

Introduction

Violence and non-violence
in each religious tradition!

Violence and non-violence
in each human tradition!

?



?

« Violence »

From latin « vis »: strength, power, vigour

Negatif: **misuse of power that hurts or destroys others**

« Gewalt »

Von Althochdeutsch « waltan »: stark sein, beherrschen

Major violence of the 20th century

1. The Second World War (1939-1945):

50 million dead (including the extermination of 6 million Jews)

2. The Mao Zedong regime in China (1949-1976):

48 million dead

3. Stalin's regime in the Soviet Union (1924-1953):

20 million dead

4. The First World War (1914-1918):

15 million dead (including the genocide of nearly 2 million Armenian and Assyrian Christians by the Turks)

5. The Russian Civil War (1917-1922):

8'800 000 deaths

6. Chinese civil wars (1911-1949):

6'500 000 deaths



The most important violence of the 20th century
was not committed in the name of God!

It was committed in the name of
of materialism and nationalism

without God and against God...

Introduction



Violence in the Name of God!

Violence against the Name of God!



Introduction



Theo-logy is the most important topic of the world!

Every human being has a discourse about « God »

by affirming, by negating,
by tradition, or by experience

A-THEISM MONO-THEISM

Introduction



Main focus here on violence in the Name of God

Judaism

Christianity



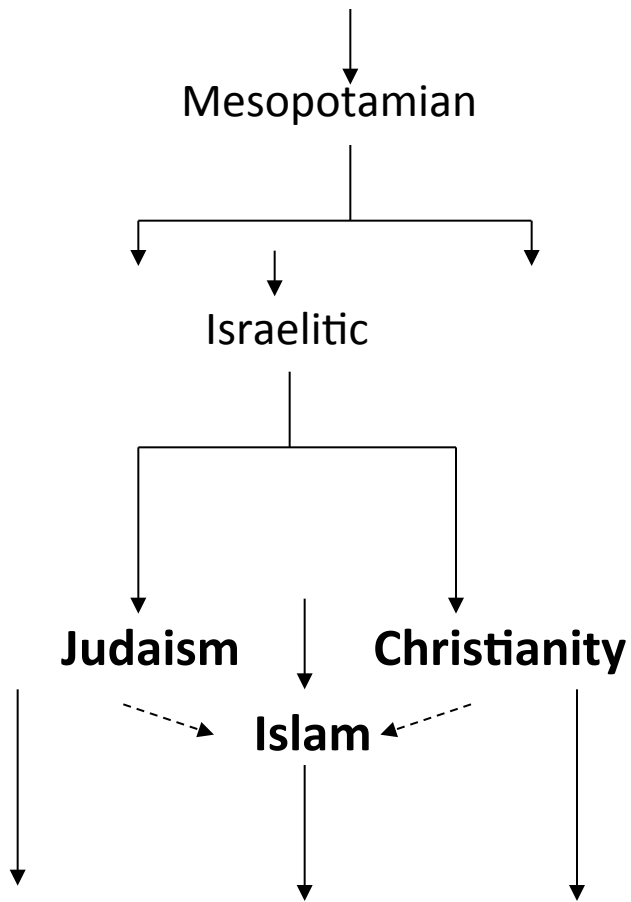
Islam

other religions and spiritualities
atheism, agnosticism, secularism

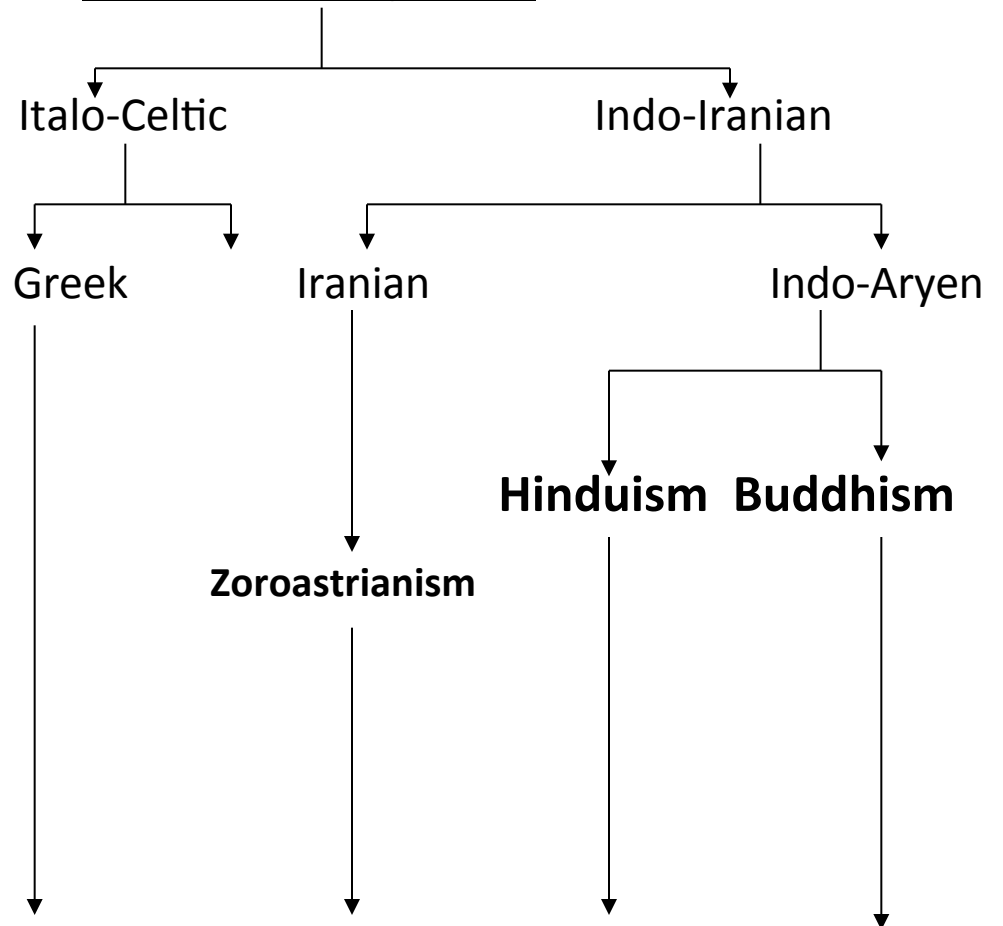
West and East

Basic paradigms

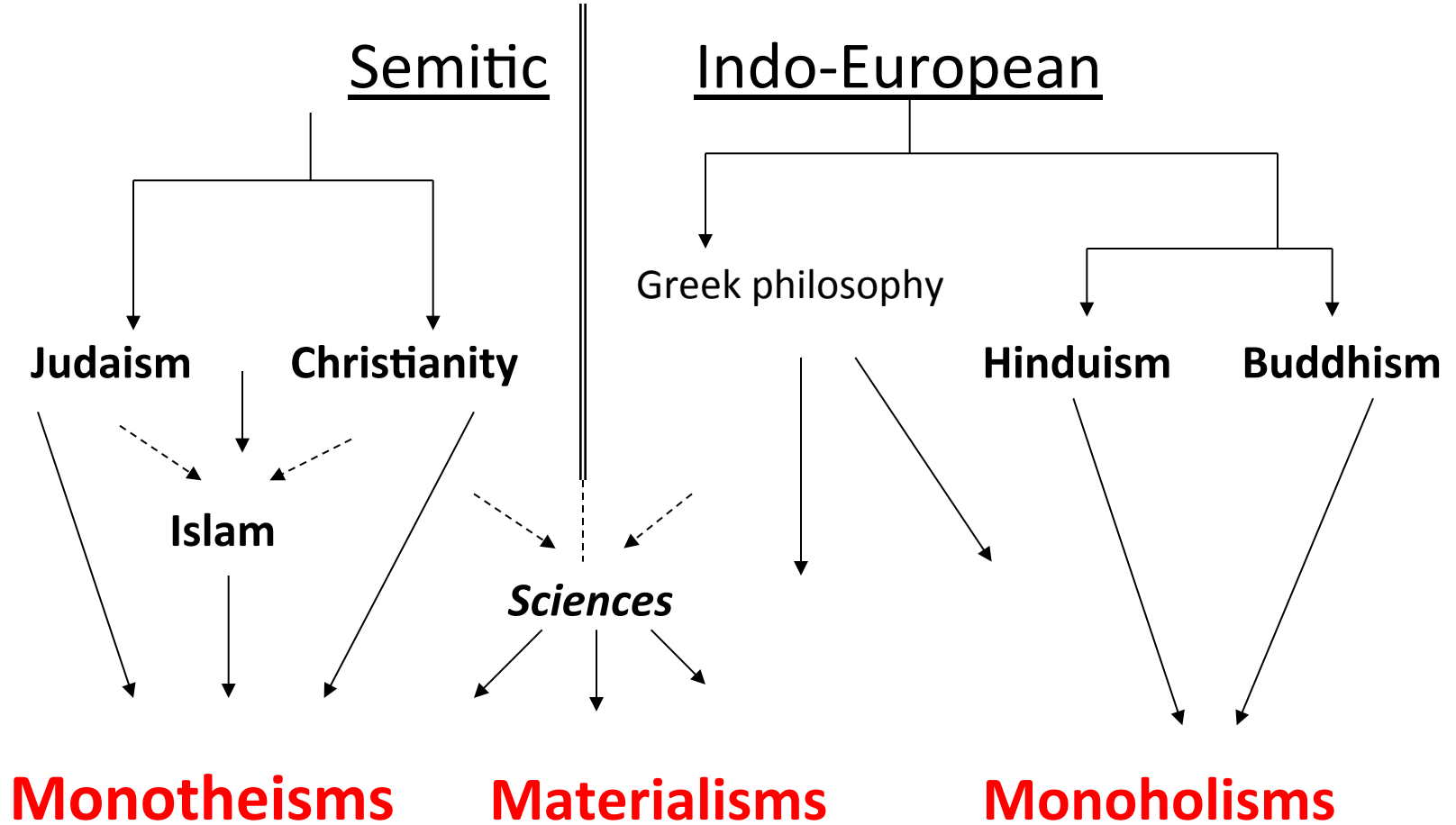
Semitic



Indo-European

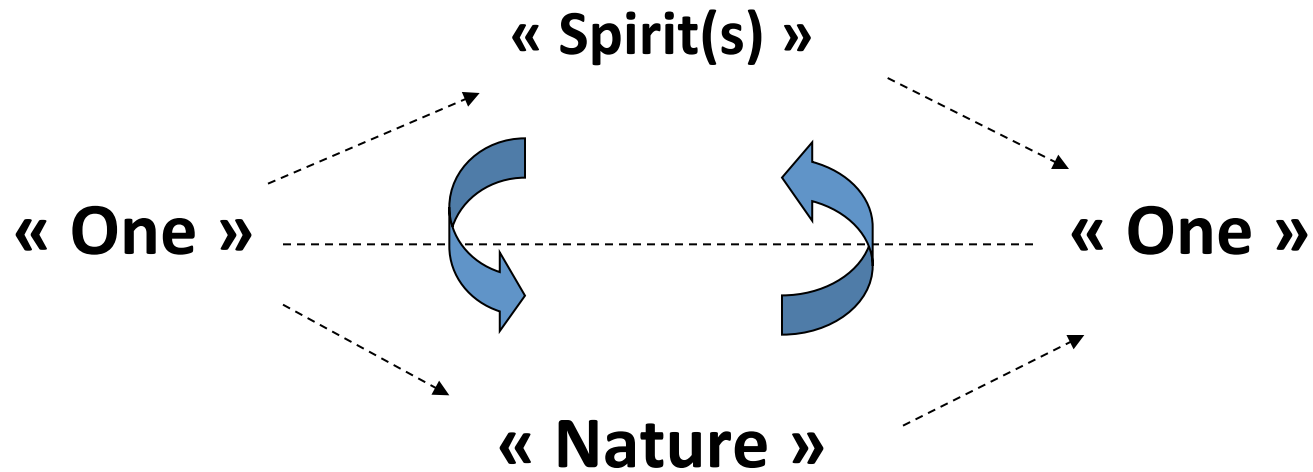


Basic paradigms



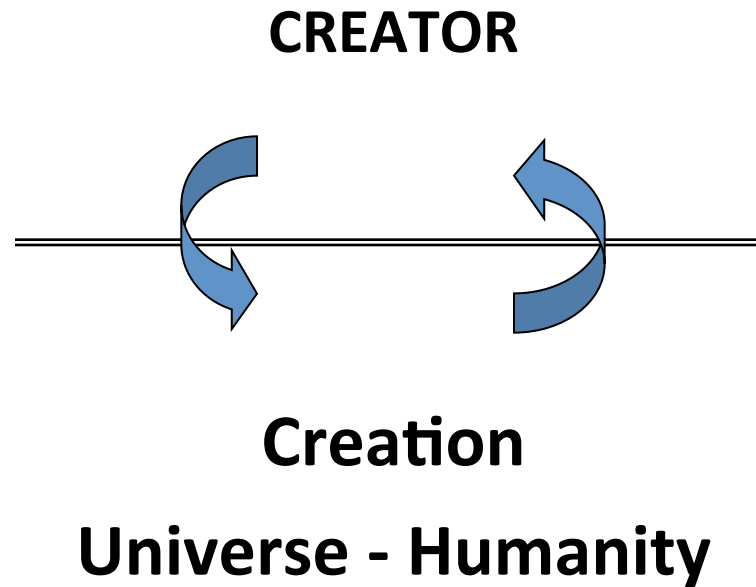
Basic paradigms

1. « Monoholisms » *Unity-Totality paradigm*



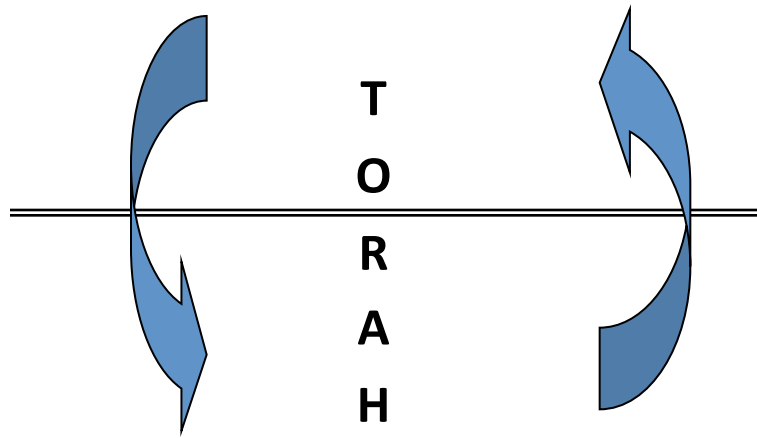
Basic paradigms

2. « Monotheisms » *Creator-creature paradigm*



Judaism

CREATOR

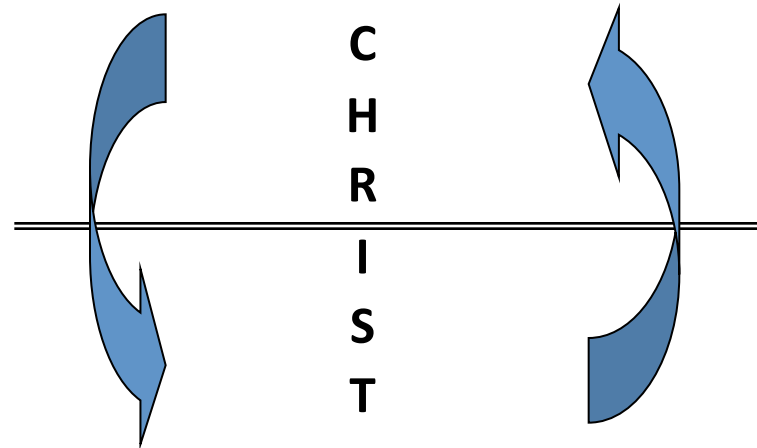


Creation

Universe - Humantiy

Christianity

CREATOR

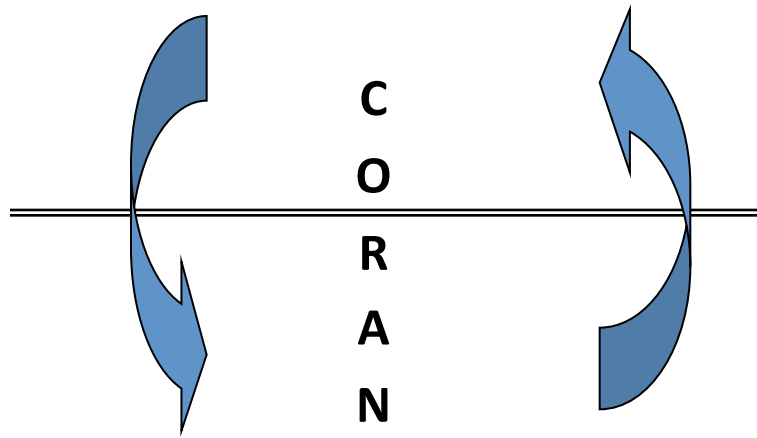


Creation

Universe - Humanity

Islam

CREATOR

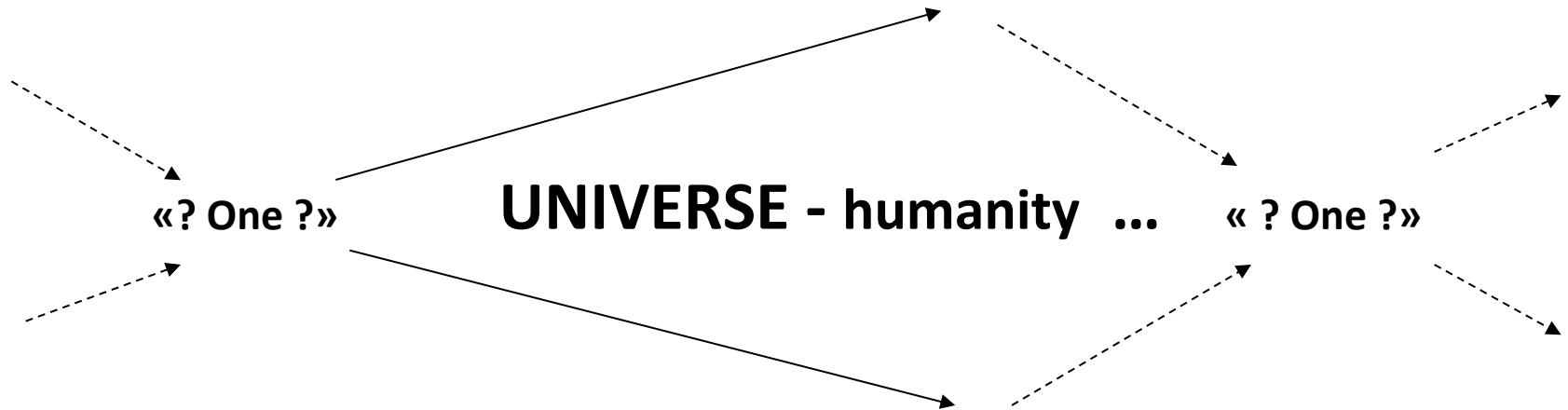


Creation

Universe - Humantiy

Basic paradigms

3. « Materialisms » « Matter » or « nature » paradigm



1. Where?

Everywhere!



The transformations of human traditions
and realities are interdependent

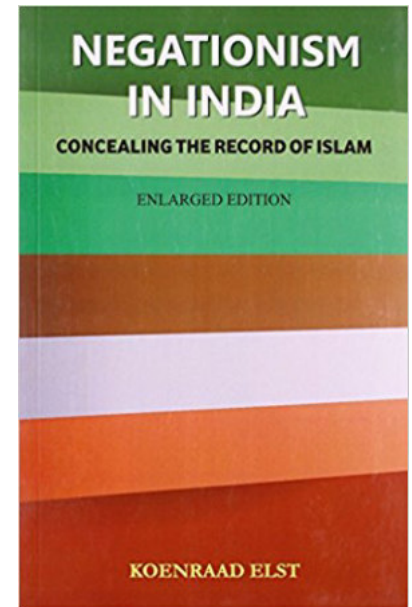
Violence too!

The greatest genocide in history

In India, between 1000 and 1525:

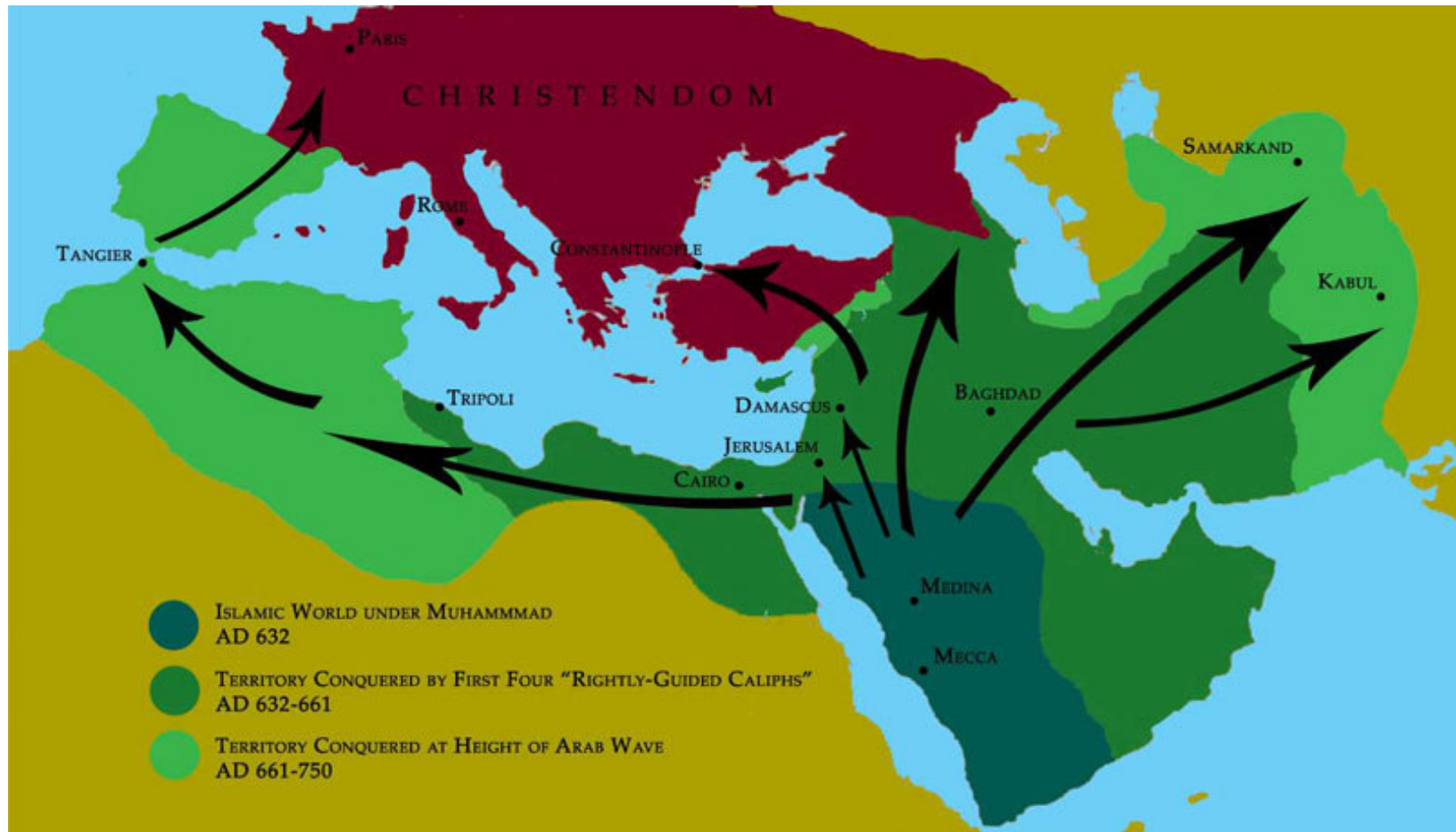
60 million to 80 million (Koenraad Elst)
of Hindus, Buddhists, Sikhs and Jains
were massacred

by Muslims in the name of their God...

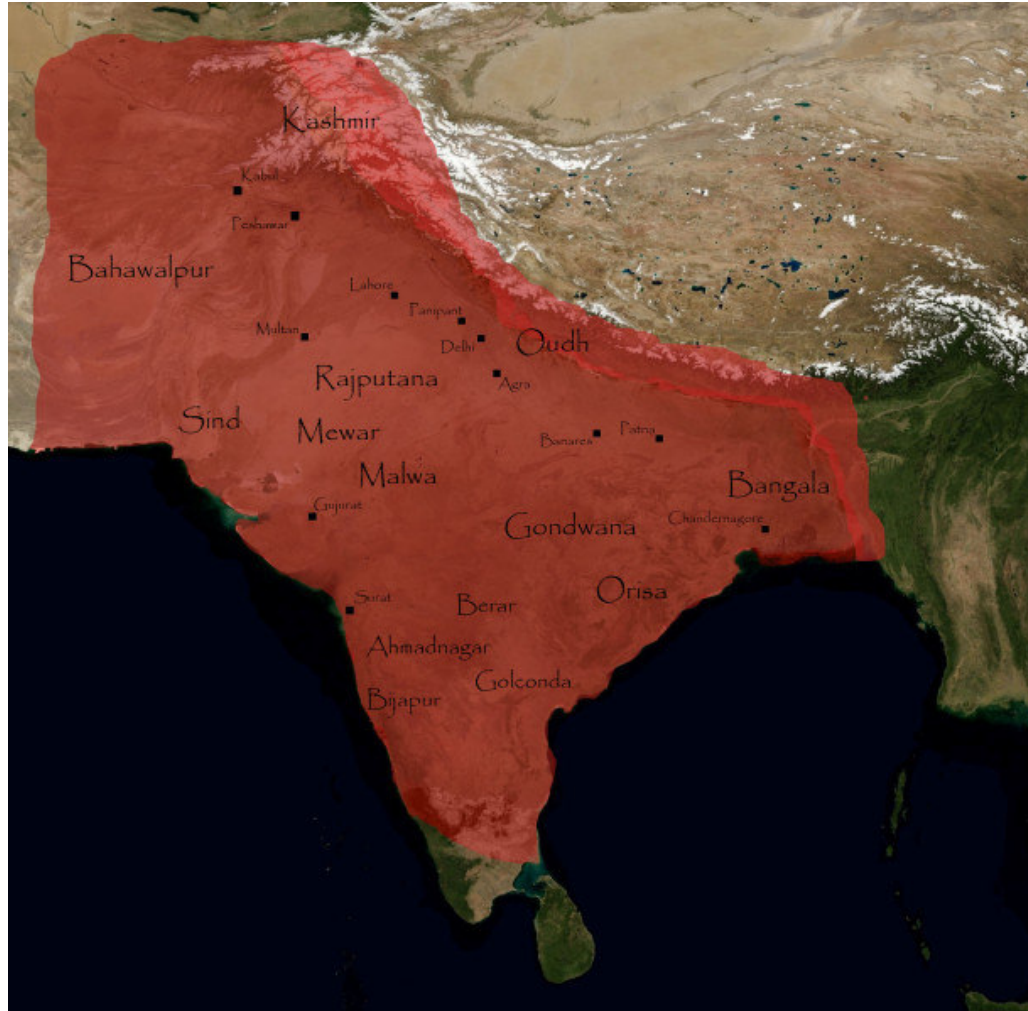


<http://koenraadelst.bharatvani.org/articles/irin/genocide.html>

The expansion of Islam did not only take place towards the West...



**The expansion of Islam did not only take place towards the West...
but also to India and all the East...**



<https://themuslimissue.wordpress.com/2015/08/31/islamic-invasion-of-india-the-greatest-genocide-in-history/>

Speaking of **Muslim India** (1206-1757)...

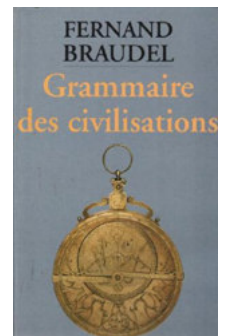
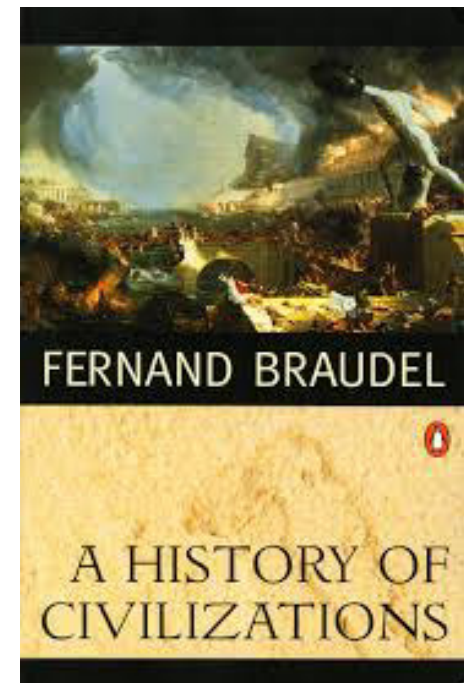
"This conquest, a hundred times restarted, led to a vast military occupation. The Muslims, few in number, settled only in major cities, rule the country only at the cost of a systematic policy of terror.

Cruelty is daily: burnings, summary executions, sentences to crucifixion or paling, bloodthirsty caprices...

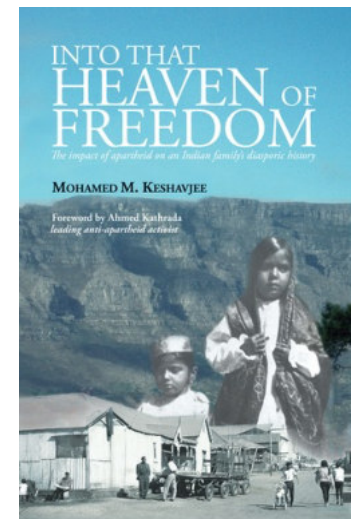
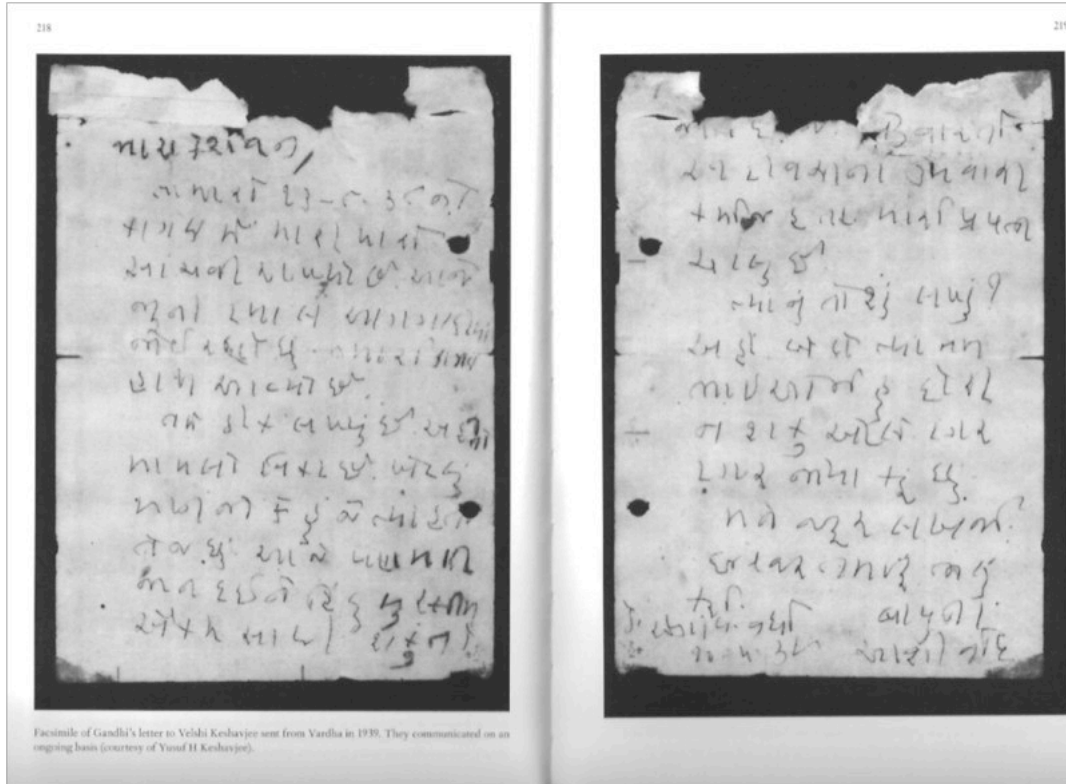
Hindu temples are destroyed to make way for mosques. On occasion, conversions are imposed by force.

Finally, when an uprising occurs, the repression is immediate, savage: houses burned, countries devastated, men slaughtered, women taken into slavery." (p.272)

Fernand Braudel



Letter from Gandhi to Velshi Keshavjee, 10 May 1939



TRANSLATION OF THE LETTER FROM MAHATMA GANDHI
TO MR. V. KESHAVJEE DATED 10. 5. 39.

My Keshavjee,

I have preserved your letter of 13-8-38. Today I was going through my old correspondence in the train when I came across your letter.

You have rightly stated that the situation here is very grave.

Believe me I am the same person as I was there (in South Africa) I am prepared to achieve Hindu-Muslim unity even if I have to die.

I had fasted for 21 days for this purpose, and will continue my endeavours in that direction.

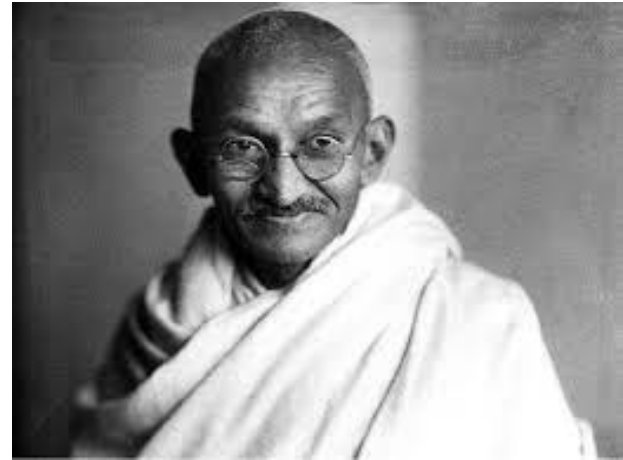
What can I write about the situation there (South Africa), as I cannot guide our bretheren from here. I am constantly keeping an eye on your situation all the time.

Definitely write to me.

May God Bless you.

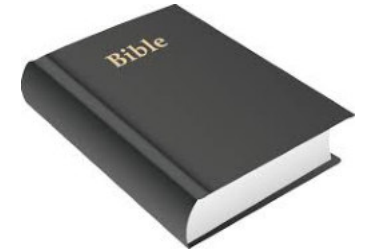
Sevagav Vardha.
10-5-39.

Blessings from Bapu,



Translation of Gandhi's letter into English.

“Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. (...) “And why worry about a speck in your friend’s eye when you have a log in your own?”



How can you think of saying to your friend, ‘Let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,’ when you can’t see past the log in your own eye?

Hypocrite! First get rid of the log in your own eye; then you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend’s eye.

Jesus, Gospel or Matthew 7/1-5.



It is important that Christians and Westerners begin by removing the "beams" in their own eyes!

Other genocides and exterminations

Latin America

From 1492 to the end of the 17th century, the indigenous population decreased from 90 million to 12 million.

North America

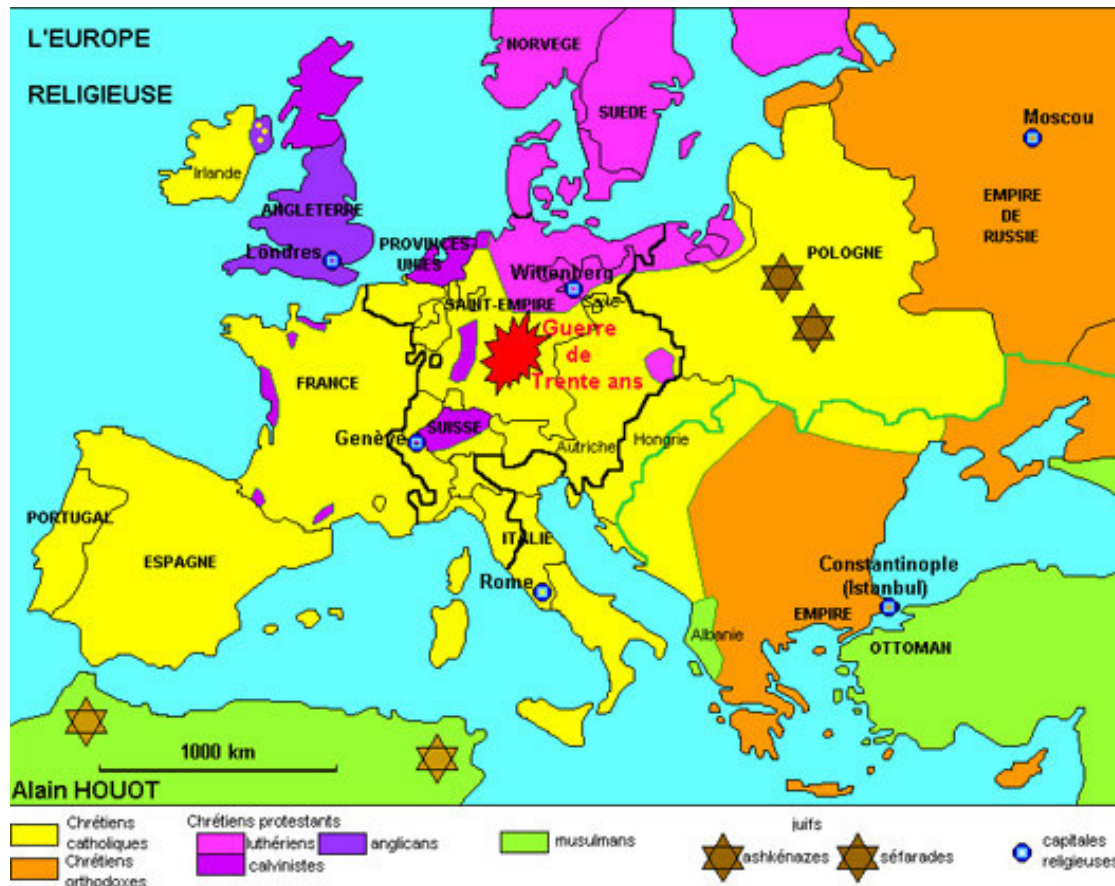
From the 16th century until the end of the 19th century, the Amerindians decreased from twelve million to 250,000.



Religious wars in Europe

Between the 16th and 18th centuries:
numerous wars between Catholics and Protestants.

Thirty Years' War (1618-1648):
3 to 4 million deaths for an initial population of 17 million (?)



Peasants' War (1524-1526)

" (...) all those who can must stun, slit their throats, and sword, secretly or in public, knowing that there is nothing more poisonous, more harmful, more evil than a rebel (...).

This is the time of the sword and anger, not the time of mercy. Therefore, the authority must go boldly and strike with a clear conscience, strike as long as the revolt has a breath of life.

(...) Therefore, dear lords, (...) stab, slay, slit to death. »



Luther (1483-1546)



John Chrysostom (344-407)

Against the Jews,

homilies of 386-387 in Antioch



One of the worst crimes committed by

Christian churches over the centuries:

the contempt, hatred and killing of so many Jews...

2. Why?

Love of Ultimate Truth!

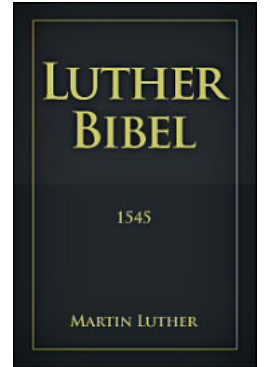
Love of Ultimate Unity!

Love of Ultimate Justice!

Love of Ultimate Love!

Love of Ultimate Revelation!

Christian anti-Semitism was based on quotations from the Bible



«Denn ihr seid Nachfolger worden, liebe Brüder, der Gemeinden Gottes in Judäa in Christo Jesu, daß ihr ebendasselbige erlitten habt von euren Blutsfreunden, das jene von den Juden, welche auch den HERRN Jesum getötet haben und ihre eigenen Propheten und haben uns verfolgt und gefallen Gott nicht und sind allen Menschen wider, wehren uns, zu sagen den Heiden, damit sie selig würden, auf daß sie ihre Sünden erfüllen allewege; denn der Zorn ist schon endlich über sie kommen.»

(1 Thessalonicher 2/14-15)

(Of the same apostle Paul, however, cf. the epistle to the Romans, chapters 9 to 11)

The anti-Semitism of many Christian theologians, and in particular Luther's, has contributed to fuelling anti-Semitism in Germany...



Violence and Peace in Christianity



There has been much violence in countries influenced by Christianity.

Every time Christians killed, it was against the teaching of the Gospels.

Some parables seem to justify extreme violence: cf. the parable of the murderous winegrowers (Matthew 21:33-46) and the parable of the mines (Luke 19/11-28).

But they are parables and not ethical or legal teachings!

Violence and Peace in Christianity



During the first three centuries of Christianity, Christians did not kill anyone.

On the contrary, they were killed for their faith.

As soon as the Church was associated with the power of the Empire (from the 4th century), violence did not cease to spread...

Sous la direction de
Marie-Françoise Baslez
**Chrétiens
persécuteurs**
*Destructions, persécutions et
violences religieuses au IV^e siècle*



Albin Michel
Bibliothèque Histoire

2. Why?

Confusion of Religion and State!

Confusion of Religion and National Identity!

Violence and Peace in Islam



According to the Muslim faith

Allah is the One who gives Peace (*salam*)

Islam is a religion of peace
and
the only way to find ultimate peace

In the Quran and the hadîths, as in the long going Muslim tradition and the lives of many Muslims, there are beautiful examples and beautiful words of peace.

Texts that promote respect and peace



And had your Lord willed, those on earth would have believed - all of them entirely. Then, [O Muhammad], would you compel the people in order that they become believers?

And it is not for a soul to believe except by permission of Allah, and He will place defilement upon those who will not use reason.

Quran, sura 10 (51st) : 99-100

Read also sura 10 (51st): 99-100; 6 (55th): 35; 29 (85th): 46; 22 (103rd): 39-41; 49 (106th): 13; 5 (112th) : 48

Peace and War in Islam



In its ideal, Islam is a call to Peace (*salam*).

But this Peace in fullness only concerns those whom God directs towards Islam, submission to Allah, to Muhammad and to his Message.

A non-Muslim can only hope for Peace if God leads him there and if he in turn submits to Islam.

« I S L A M »



cultural / religious Muslims
imams and scholars

Interpretation

diversity of contemporary Islamic practices
(liberal, mystical, popular, state, radical, revolutionary...)

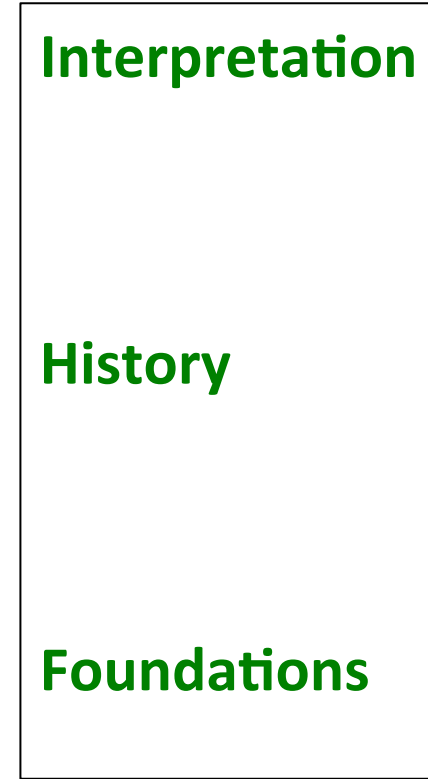
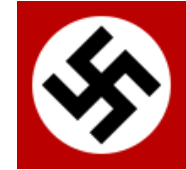
History

diversity of histories,
Muslim cultures and contexts

sunnites-chiites-kharijites

Foundations

Legal schools
The Sîra
The hadîths
The Quran



The diversity of contemporary Muslim practices



Mustafa K. Atatürk
(1881-1938)



Mohammed Arkoun
(1928-2010)



Cheikh K. Bentounès
(1949-)



Karim Aga Khan IV
(1936-)

Secular and liberal

Mystical and spiritual

(brotherhoods)

**Official
and State**



**Popular and
cultural**

**Radical and
conquering**

**Radical and
revolutionary**



Recep T. Erdogan
(1954-)



Hassan Al-Bannâ
(1906-1949)



Youssef Qaradhawi
(1926-)

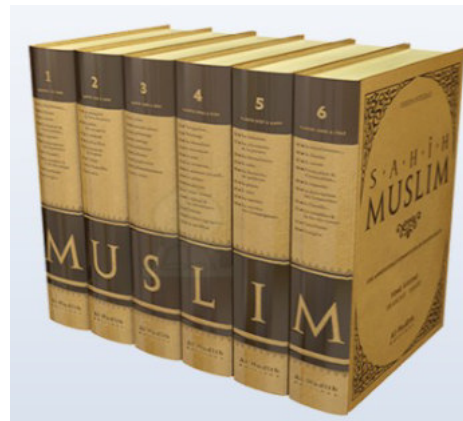
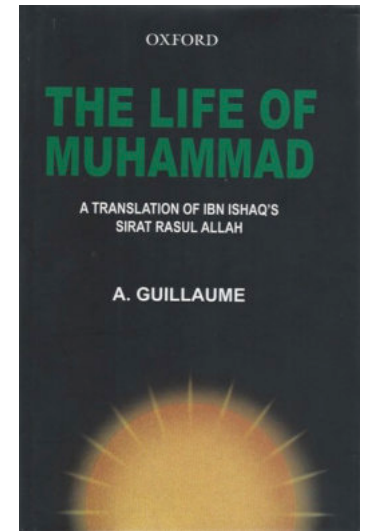
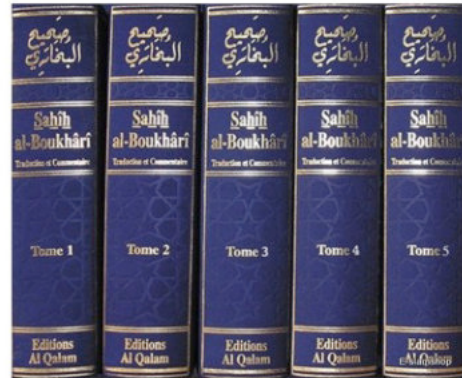


Al-Baghdadi
(1971-)



Ayatollah Khomeiny
(1902-1989)

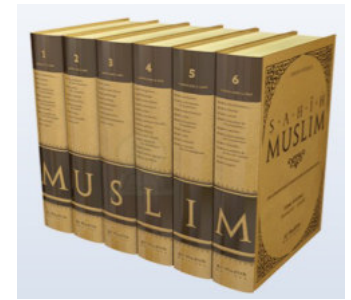
The founding texts





**What did Muhammad perceive as
specific in his mission?**

Synthesis, terror and the spoils



"According to Abû Hurayra, the Messenger of God (ﷺ) said:

"I was given an advantage over the other Prophets by six things:

* I was given the synthetic words.

* I was given **victory by fear**.

* The **spoils of war** have been made lawful to me.

* The earth has been made a pure and purifying element
and a mosque for me.

* I have been sent to all creatures.

* And by me was sealed the succession of the Prophets."

Hadîth reported by Muslim

(Bulletin du Centre islamique de Genève, no 57, mars 2014, p. 3). http://www.cige.org/DocPDF/Bulletin_57.pdf).



Muhammad « emphasized what he considered to be the unique character of his prophetic office: his **warlike character**. »

Tilman Nagel (Arabic language and culture teacher)
Mahomet, Labor et Fides, p. 195.



War Leader

The founding gesture of Islam confuses Bedouin deployment and religious message, functions of war and functions of sacred in the person of the Prophet, then in that of his companions, the first caliphs.

Gabriel Martinez-Gros

(prof. d'histoire médiévale du monde musulman),
L'Histoire, 423, mai 2016, p. 57.





Islam is both

a community spirituality

a political project and

a military strategy

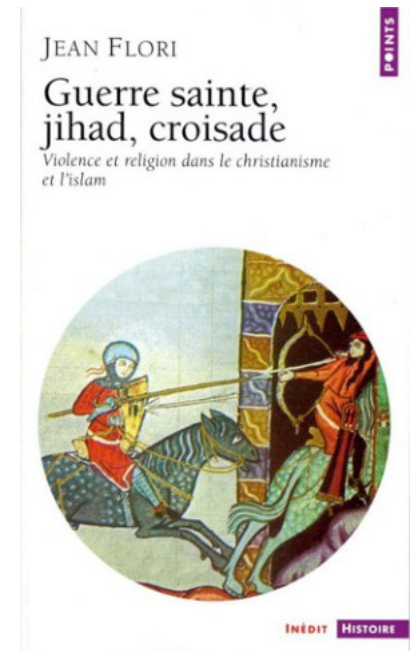
« In the **beginning**, when the Prophet was isolated and there were few Muslims, God advised him to avoid confrontation. This is the raison d'être of "peaceful verses".

After 622, when the community settled in Medina, God encouraged Muslims to practice defensive wars. Then, as the community grows in number and strength, revelations broaden and generalize these incentives to war, and instead reduce restrictions on violent action.

Finally, when the Muslim cause prevails in Arabia over that of the adversaries, the revelation lays down the principle that war against non-Muslims can be waged practically all the time and everywhere, without requiring any pretext. Revelations that go in this direction are considered as "repealing" previous revelations, which refer to an outdated state of the community. »

Jean Flori

Guerre sainte, jihad, croisade. Violence et religion dans le christianisme et l'Islam, Paris, Seuil, 2002, p. 84.



The Raids



Mohammed commanded a hundred military expeditions, raids or *razzias* (in Arabic *gazwa*, of a root meaning conquest) and actively participated in twenty-seven of them.

Abu Hourayra said:

«The Prophet said: I have been ordered to fight people until they declare that there is no God but God.

If they comply, they will preserve their lives and property from me, unless they make an offence punishable by Islam.

It is then up to God to judge them. »

Sahîh al-Boukhârî, Editions Al Qalam, Paris, 2012, tome 2, hadîth 3018, p. 900s.



Fight against polytheists and People of the Book (Jews and Christians)



[5] And when the sacred months have passed, then **kill the polytheists** wherever you find them and capture them and besiege them and sit in wait for them at every place of ambush. But if they should repent, establish prayer (*salât*, compulsory prayer), and give *zakah* (mandatory alms) let them [go] on their way. Indeed, Allah is Forgiving and Merciful.

[29] **Fight** (*qâtilû*) those who do not believe in Allah or in the Last Day and who do not consider unlawful what Allah and His Messenger have made unlawful and who do not adopt the religion of truth from those who were **given the Scripture** - [fight] until they give the *jizyah* willingly while they are humbled.

The Quran, sura 9 (113rd): 5, 29

Jizyah (the capitation/capitulation tax) is the basis of the inferior status of Jews and Christians in land of Islam and their status as « dhimmis ».



[190] Fight (*qâtilû*) in the way of Allah those who fight you but do not transgress. Indeed. Allah does not like transgressors.

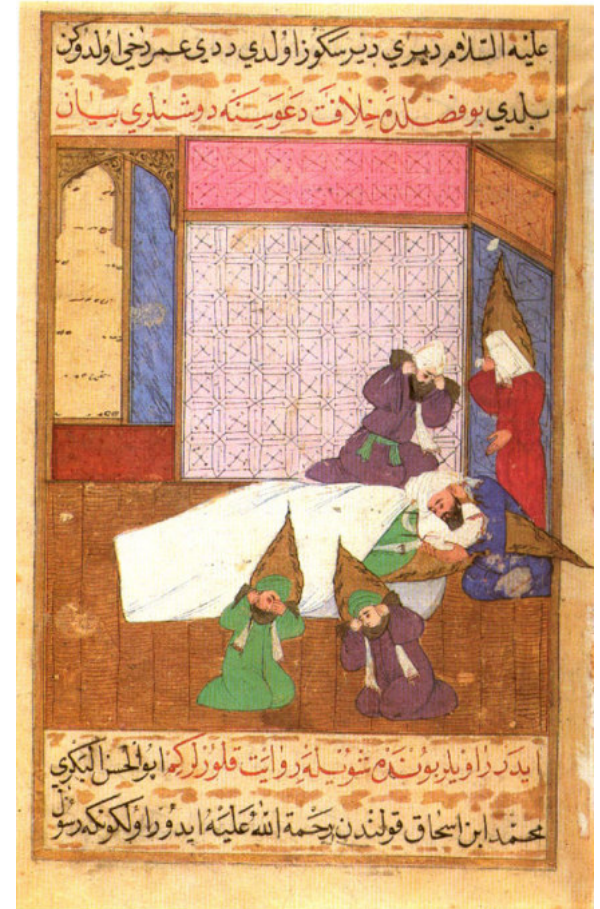
[191] And kill (*uq'tulûhum*) them wherever you overtake them and expel them from wherever they have expelled you, and *fitnah* (subversion) is worse than killing (*al-qatl*).

[216] Fighting (*al-qitâl*) has been enjoined upon you while it is hateful to you. But perhaps you hate a thing and it is good for you; and perhaps you love a thing and it is bad for you. And Allah Knows, while you know not.

The Quran, sura 2 (87th) : 190-191 ; 216

Conquering the world

Muhammad, on his deathbed, sended his troops to call other peoples to Islam and to **dominate them militarily and politically if they refuse.**



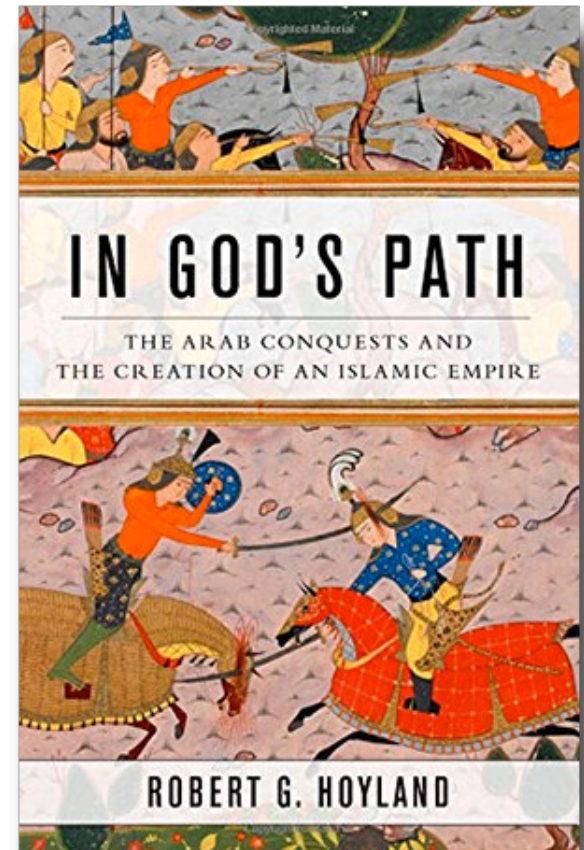
Beginning of Muslim history



«The first sure contemporary information we get about the movements of the west Arabian armies:

(...) some 4000 poor villagers of Palestine were killed there, Christians, Jews and Samaritans, and the Arabs ravaged the whole region .»

Robert G. Hoyland, *In God's Path. The Arab Conquests and the Creation of an Islamic Empire*, New York, Oxford University Press, 2015, p. 42.



Peace and War



We decreed upon the Children of Israel that **whoever kills a soul** unless for a soul or for corruption [done] in the land - **it is as if he had slain mankind entirely**. And **whoever saves one** - **it is as if he had saved mankind entirely**.

And our messengers had certainly come to them with clear proofs. Then indeed many of them, [even] after that, throughout the land, were transgressors.

The Quran, sura 5 (112th)/32-34

Peace and War



Indeed, the penalty for those who wage war against Allah and His Messenger and strive upon earth [to cause] corruption is none but that **they be killed or crucified or that their hands and feet be cut off** from opposite sides or that they be **exiled from the land**.

That is for them a disgrace in this world; and for them in the Hereafter is a great punishment,

Except for those who return [repenting] before you apprehend them. And know that Allah is Forgiving and Merciful.

The Quran, sura 5 (112th)/32-34

...according to Anas Ibn Mâlik who says...

Taken with dysenteric colic, people of the tribe of "Oukl" asked the Prophet then in Medina: "Sent from God! Get us some milk! I can't find you any, he told them, unless you go camping with the dairy camels and drink their urine and milk. When they regained strength and weight, they killed the shepherd, fled with the cattle and recanted their faith!

The Prophet was informed and they were brought back when the sun was already high in the sky.

The Prophet ordered their arms and feet to be cut off, and then he ordered nails to be brought, which he heated and burned their eyes, and had them thrown into the Harra (of Medina). They shouted to drink, but no one served them until they died.

Abou Qilâba'Abdallah Ibn Zayd said: These people were treated this way because they killed, robbed, denied the faith, fought God and his Prophet, and caused disorder on earth. »

Sahîh al-Boukhârî, Editions Al Qalam, Paris, 2012, tome 2, hadîth 3018, p. 900s.



The practice of war by Muhammad



Mohammed certainly said many words of peace,

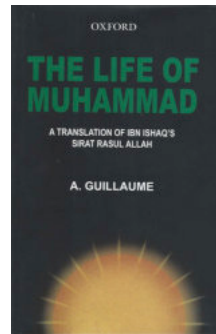
but he also justified:

the beheading of his enemies and torture

war spoils and slavery

the right of having of sex slaves

the right to lie to his enemies.





Muslim sources (Quran, hadiths and official biographies) suggest the following:

**Mohammed had as his final goal the submission
-by persuasion and/or by weapons –
of the whole Earth to Islam.**

If that's true, then....

**the first truly world war did not begin
in 1914, but in 630.**

And this war has never stopped since.

Islam's Universal Mission

« In the Muslim community, holy war is a religious duty because Islam has a universal mission and **all men must convert by will or by force**. Therefore the Caliphate and the temporal power are united there, so that the power of the sovereign can serve them both at the same time. Other communities have no universal mission and do not regard holy war as a religious duty except for their own defence. (...) Those who hold power (...) have no obligation to **dominate other nations as in Islam**. All we ask them is to establish their religion at home. »

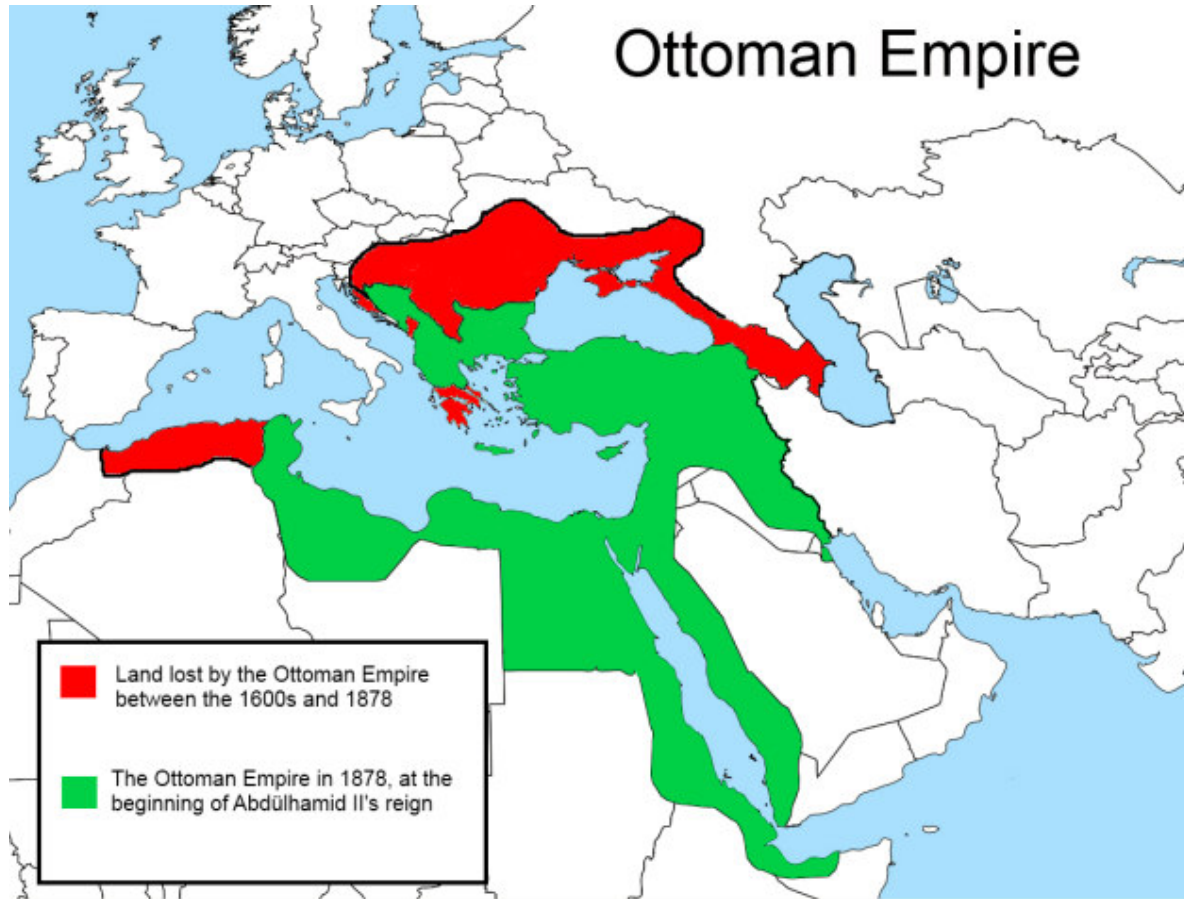
Ibn Khaldun (1332-1406), *Book of Lessons*,
Le Livre des Exemples, Gallimard, 2002, p.532-533.



Muslim conquests between 632 and 750



Ottoman conquests: 1299-1923



May 29, 1453:

Fall of Constantinople

1523:

Vienna Siege

1924:

Abolition of the caliphate

The home



A Muslim has the right to marry a Christian woman.

A Christian who marries a Muslim woman must convert.

Children of mixed couples are necessarily Muslim.

In the general indifference/ignorance of church leaders and politicians, a slow Islamisation is taking place in Europe at the level of couples and families.



Religious communities



Any Christian can freely become a Muslim.

Any Muslim who wants to become a Christian (or an Atheist or a Buddhist) is an apostate threatened with death.

Non-Muslims (Jews and Christians) in Islamic countries have the choice of converting, paying the jizya tax (*dhimmi status*) or emigrating.

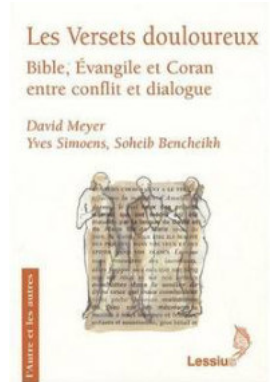


3. What to do?

Dare to take a self-critical and inter-critical look at

all violence

committed in the name of religions
or against religions!



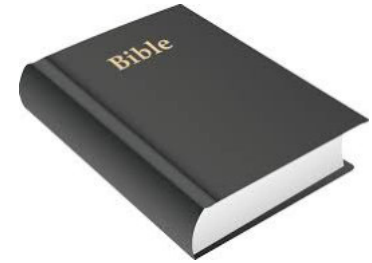


Violence in the Hebrew Bible

In the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament), very violent texts, similar to those of the Quran and hadiths, also exist.

These texts justify the war of conquest, the killing of enemies and apostates, the possibility of having slaves, the stoning of persons who committed adultery...

10“When you approach a city to fight against it, you shall offer it terms of peace. **11**“If it agrees to make peace with you and opens to you, then all the people who are found in it shall become your forced labor and shall serve you. **12**“However, if it does not make peace with you, but makes war against you, then you shall besiege it. **13**“When the LORD your God gives it into your hand, you shall strike all the men in it with the edge of the sword. **14**“Only the women and the children and the animals and all that is in the city, all its spoil, you shall take as booty for yourself; and you shall use the spoil of your enemies which the LORD your God has given you. **15**“Thus you shall do to all the cities that are very far from you, which are not of the cities of these nations nearby. **16**“Only in the cities of these peoples that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance, you shall not leave alive anything that breathes. **17**“But you shall utterly destroy (« taharimem ») them, the Hittite and the Amorite, the Canaanite and the Perizzite, the Hivite and the Jebusite, as the LORD your God has commanded you, **18**so that they may not teach you to do according to all their detestable things which they have done for their gods, so that you would sin against the LORD your God.



The Bible, Deuteronomy 20: 10-14



It must never be forgotten that
these texts are read,

in the Jewish tradition,

in the light of the Talmud

and

in the Christian tradition

in the light of Christ's non-violence.

According to Michnah (Sotah 8,7), there are three types of war.

1. War "prescribed by God" (*milhèmet mitsvah*)

This war was limited to the destruction of Amalek and the Canaanite nations condemned to "herem" (destruction). It was implemented by Joshua for the conquest of the "promised land ». It was justified by the fact these countries committed abominations (such as child sacrifices).

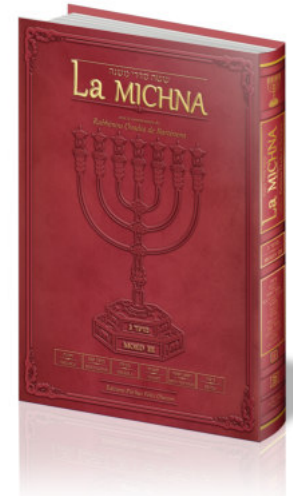
It is historically outdated.

2. The "compulsory" war (*milhèmet hova*)

These are wars of self-defense and national survival.

3. The war of option (*milhèmet ha-rechout*).

These are wars to expand national borders to consolidate security. It was implemented by King David.





Muhammad made a synthesis between the Jewish particularity of a local war of conquest and the Christian universality of a message for all.

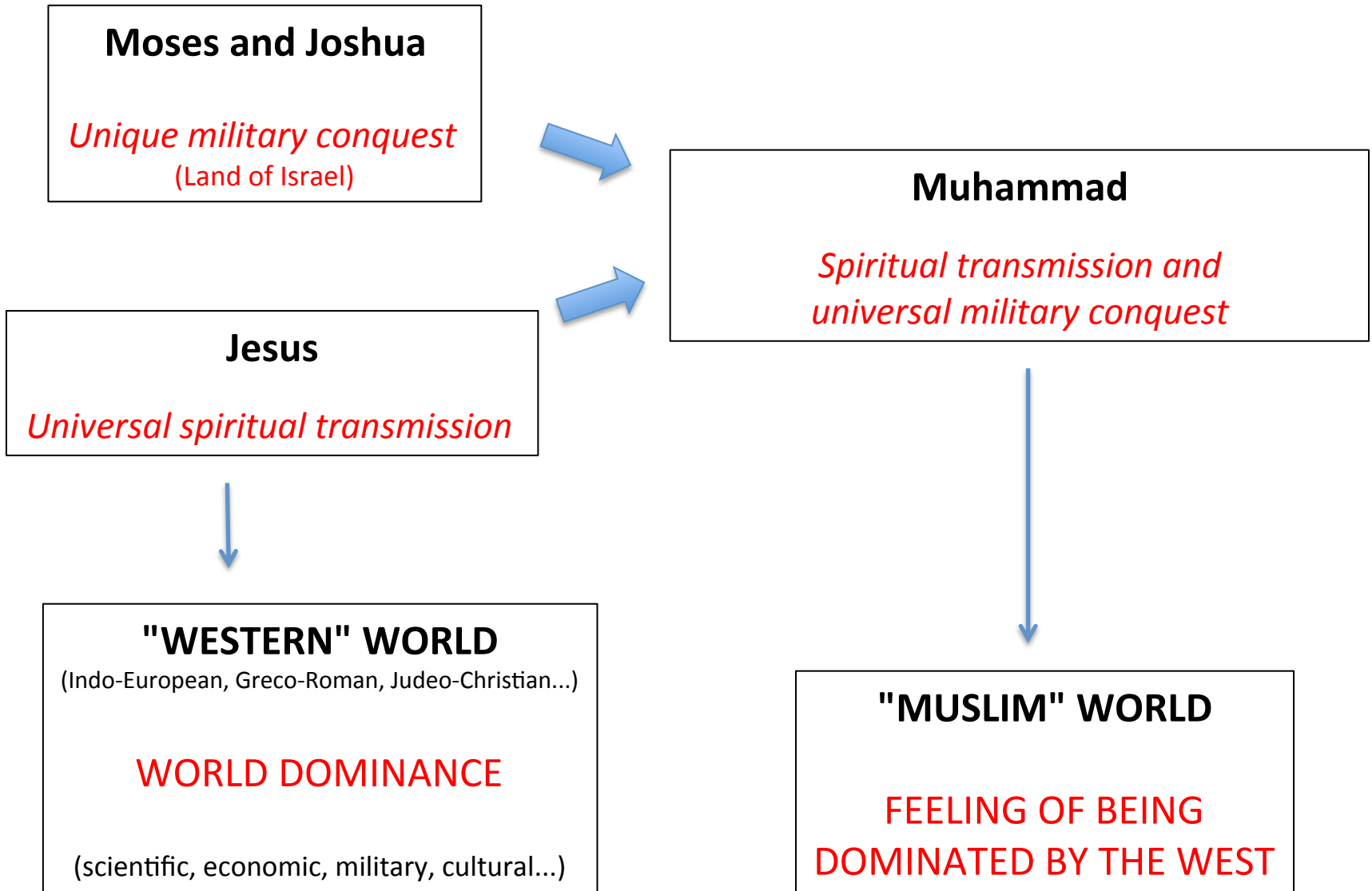
It has generated a universal message for which the war of conquest is also a means.



Jesus' non-violent message is promoted in and by a Western culture that today dominates much of the world.



Muhammad's violent message is promoted in and by Muslim cultures that today feel dominated in many parts of the world.



3. What to do?

Develop a caring and lucid attitude
for each person
whatever his beliefs may be
religious or not!



From Violence to Peace

Highlight and set aside what in one's own culture/religion justifies contempt for the other

Highlight and set aside any discourse or practice of violent or military conquest

Refuse any form of scapegoat mechanism



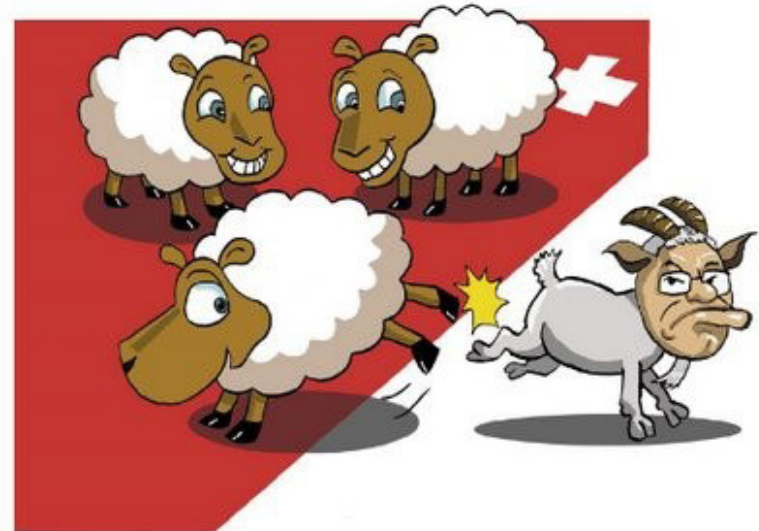
Understand and reject the exclusion mechanism



A classroom, a school, like any society (with diverse religions), is a place of conflict that creates "scapegoats" or "black sheep".

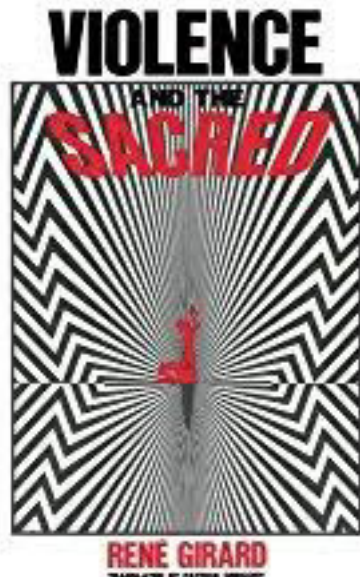
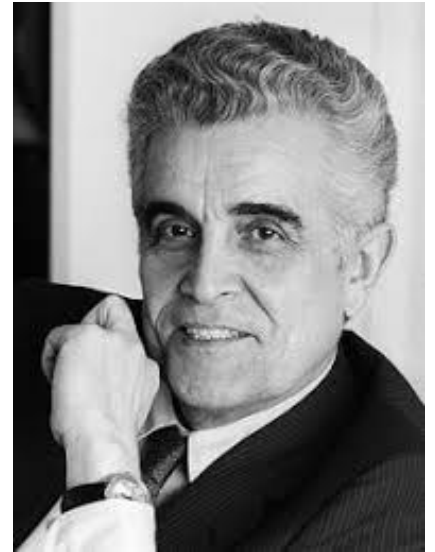
Living together implies understanding this mechanism of exclusion, putting an end to it or, failing that, limiting it.

What about violence in political life?



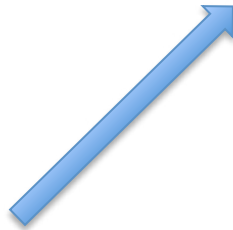
René Girard

(1923-2015)

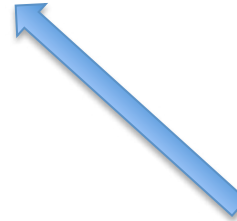


X = what is desired

(object, person, success...)



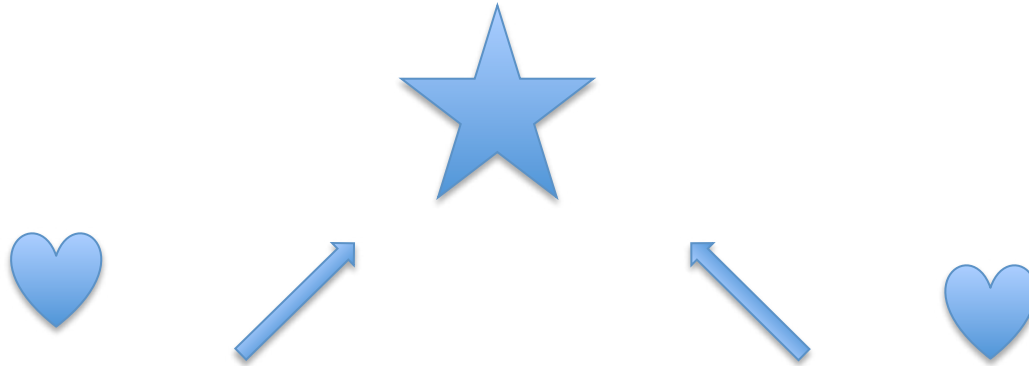
A desires X



B desires X

(mimesis of appropriation)

X = what is desired
(object, person, success...)



A desires X

B desires X

A antagonist to B

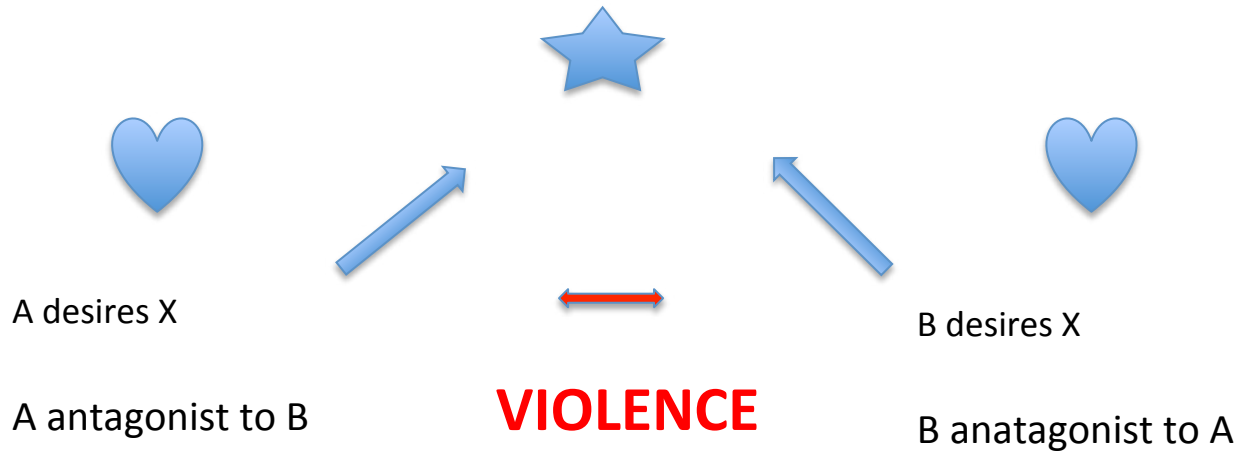
B antagonist to A



VIOLENCE

(mimesis of antagonism)

X = what is desired
(object, person, success...)



VIOLENCE
ALL AGAINST ALL

Z = victime

VIOLENCE
ALL AGAINST ONE

VIOLENCE
ALL AGAINST ALL



VIOLENCE
ALL AGAINST ONE

Z= victime

The sacrifice of Z creates Sacredness
(prohibitions, rituals, myths)

Sacrifice of Z : **Violence in the Society** (A, B, C...)



NON VIOLENCE IN THE SOCIETY

The scapegoat sent into the desert

Leviticus 16:5-9



Joseph

Job

Jesus

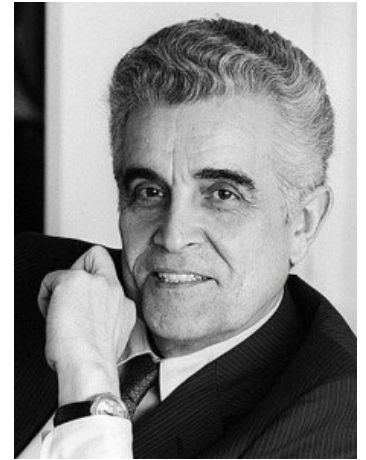
Figures of innocent victims

According to René Girard, the great novelty that Christianity brings is to reveal the mechanism of the scapegoat and to put an end to it.

In all societies, "victims"/"scapegoats" are perceived as guilty.

Jesus, the innocent victim, reveals the destructive violence of all the humans by taking it upon himself.

While all societies are formed by rejecting the "guilty," the new society founded by Jesus reveals that **we are all guilty** (and capable of the worst), and that no one should be rejected as a scapegoat anymore.





While Satan openly uses "the violence of all against all" to destroy, he hides himself by encouraging "the violence of all against some".

The Cross of Christ unmask's Satan's murderous strategy and puts an end to it.

It reveals God's love for everyone, without exclusion and without new scapegoats.

Violence in the religions



Hidden Satan



Churches at war with the Jews.

Churches at war with each other.

Against Jesus' teaching.

Muslims at war with
Jews, Christians and polytheists.

Muslims at war with each other.

**In accordance with part of
Muhammad's teaching.**



Jesus taught love of the neighbour, of oneself and of enemies.

According to the NT, Jesus was crucified for all.

Christianity (in its doctrine and not in its practice) puts an end to the scapegoat mechanism.

No human is innocent. Jesus, the innocent one, carried and took away our guilt.
Everyone needs God's grace.



Muhammad taught peace for his community, domination and war for others.

According to the Quran, Jesus was not crucified and he did not die for anyone.

Islam perpetuates the scapegoat mechanism.

Only Muslims can hope for heaven. Jews incur God's wrath and Christians are misguided. Polytheists have a choice between conversion and death.

Conclusion



From Violence to Peace

Move from humiliating relationships
to recognition relationships

Patiently build friendly relationships without naivety

**For Christians, to be witnesses of
the crucified and risen Christ,
the greatest Artisan of Peace...**





This saying addressed to the people of Israel is found in the Talmud*.

It is a comment from Genesis 4/10 where, after Abel's murder by Cain, it is written that God asks the question: "What have you done? The voice of your brother's bloods cries out to me from the earth.

Why this plural? Here is the rabbis' answer.

»The bloods of your brother cries out to me" (Genesis 4:10), that is, his blood and the potential blood of his descendants...

That is why the first man, Adam, was created alone to teach us that whoever destroys a single life, the Bible considers it as if he had destroyed all humanity. And that whoever saves a single life, it is as if he had saved all humanity".

Mishna, order *Nezikin* ("damage"), *Sanhedrin* 4/5.

*The Talmud consists of the Mishnah ("repetition"), a compilation of Jewish oral laws divided into six orders, and the rabbinic commentaries of the Mishnah, the Gemara ("completion").



Three different words are used in the Koran and the Sunna to describe fighting and war:

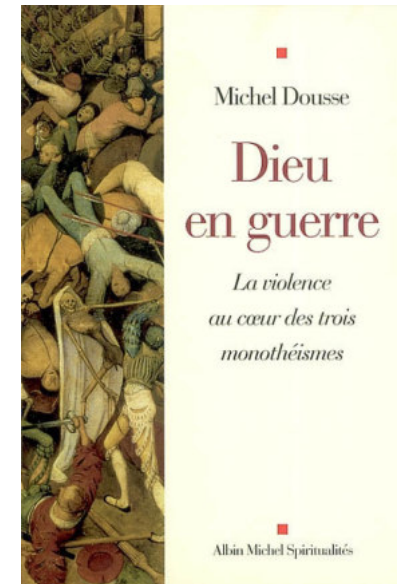
Jihad means effort, commitment in different aspects of life, including inner life and war fighting.

Harb means war.

Qitâl which means to struggle, fight, kill or massacre.

(The root j-h-d appears 41 times in the Koran and the root q-t-l 170 times)
<http://corpus.quran.com>

Academic Perspectives



Exchange between Allah and believers



Indeed, Allah has purchased from the believers their lives and their properties [in exchange] for that they will have Paradise.

They fight in the cause of Allah, so they kill and are killed.

[It is] a true promise [binding] upon Him in the Torah and the Gospel and the Qur'an. And who is truer to his covenant than Allah ? So rejoice in your transaction which you have contracted. And it is that which is the great attainment.

The Quran, sura 9 (113th): 111

Allah made a covenant with the Muslims. He receives their goods and their persons and promises them paradise. In return, Muslims commit themselves totally to Allah, being ready to kill and be killed.

Western nationalist parties are a mixture of:

love for the nation,

hatred of certain strangers,

scapegoat creation mechanism,

lucidity/myopia about certain dangers.

Western socialist parties are a mixture of:

love for humanity,

refusal to hate strangers,

scapegoat creation mechanism,

lucidity/myopia about certain dangers.



Relations between religious and political communities are characterized by a struggle to be recognized

The Islamic State

Gulf Wars

Creation of the State of Israel

Shoah and massacre of Jews in the West (and the Arab world)

Western Colonialisms

Ottoman domination

Jerusalem taken by the Muslims

Roman occupation of Palestine

Occupation of Palestine by the Hebrews

Slavery of the Hebrews in Egypt

Conflict between Isaac and Ishmael

Abraham, Sarah and Hagar

