

Hamas is Ideologically Correct and Politically Incorrect

1..... *Hamas leaders claim that their understanding of Islam makes Israel's survival a theological and moral impossibility. 2.....What's your response to that? 3.....How should Israel respond? 4.....How should other Muslims respond?*

1.....Why do the missiles continue to crash into Israel as Israeli tanks continue to crunch into Gaza? Because, at whatever cost to the Gazans, Hamas must continue to make the statement that land once Muslim (*dar es salam*) must always be Muslim; and if taken from Muslims, it is "war territory" (*dar es harb*) until recovered for Islam. This land-doctrine is not always so seriously lived by Muslims, at such cost to themselves, but it is an undebatable Islamic teaching.

The implicates are as plain as the ideology:

The State of Israel is "war territory" even during "peace" periods.

"Peace" periods are abnormal: in "war territory," violence is normal.

Occupiers of "war territory" are "infidels," to be removed by whatever means necessary, including genocide.

"Islam makes Israel's survival a theological and moral impossibility."

All Muslims who suffer from living out Islam's land-doctrine are martyrs.

The blood of these martyrs confirms the land-doctrine and honors Allah.

2.....My "response to that" is a manifold of feelings. (1) Sadness for all the sufferers from this land-doctrine through almost fourteen centuries. As a Christian, I'm pained to remember that, driven by this doctrine, Muslim crusades overran two-thirds of Christendom within a century of Muhammad's death. (2) Concern for the doctrine's growing strength in the Muslim world not only on the Islamist violent fringes but in some centers of power, especially the present government of Iran. (3) Sorrow that this theological-imperialist doctrine impedes cooperation among the religions toward truly human local and global ends.

3....."How should Israel respond?" *Decisively*. For sixty years Israel has fended off all violent efforts of the Muslim land-mind to destroy it, and every successful defense has been experienced by Palestinian Muslims as a humiliation and a blasphemous challenge to the correctness of Islam's land-doctrine. Every Israeli move toward reconciliation, every withdrawal from land (from Egypt, from Lebanon [twice], from Syria, from Gaza), has been viewed by Israel's enemies as weakness - forcing Israel to evidence decisively that it is not weak.

4....."How should other Muslims respond?" *Cautiously*. Islam has doctrines promising human good, but the land-doctrine is not one of them. Indeed, it is now the world's most dangerous religious dogma. The Land War now threatening the globe is more threatening than was the Cold War. Samuel Huntington's "The Clash of Civilizations" got a bad press 16 years ago, but less so now. And the existence of the State of Israel is the greatest barrier to a Muslim war against "the West."

5.....For 10 millenia, waves of human flesh have flowed over one another on the tri-continental land bridge the Romans called "Palestina." Various supports have been proffered for the waves of land-claims. When the Jews said, "The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it" (Psalm 24:1), they were making an indirect land-claim. But their direct assertion was that the Creator of all is the owner of all: the couplet ends "...the world and all its people." In the ground of our being, we are owned, not owners: we do not own any land. And under God, since the land is owned by *none* of us, it is - strangely, prophetically - owned by *all* of us.

BY WILLIS E. ELLIOTT | JANUARY 9, 2009; 12:10 PM ETSAVE & SHARE:        

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The Muslim land-doctrine begins in the Qur'an with Allah's land-gift to Muslims: "He bequeathed upon you" Muslims "their lands, their habitations, and their possessions, and a land you never have trod" (33.25-26; "their" means "the People of the Book," Jews and Christians). Within a century of Muhammad's death (AD 632 CE), Muslim armies had overrun most of Christendom, including Palestine.

POSTED BY: WILLIS E. ELLIOTT | JANUARY 12, 2009 11:15 PM
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Dear Author and Readers,

Please don't propagate false claims about so-called Islamic "land-doctrine".

It simply does not exist!

Your attempt to invent/quote a false doctrine and then using it to discredit the Palestinian struggle against their Zionist occupiers, is a shame.

That struggle is based on a universal sense of justice, and is being waged by native Christians as much as by native Muslims.

Those who make it an Islamic cause do so on the basis of Islamic injunctions to establish justice in the world.

No body (The UN and The Colonial British Empire included) has the right to dispossess anyone, and then present it as a gift to someone else.

Please, find out the truth and then make up your mind based on your own inherent sense of justice. I promise you don't have to be a Muslim to see what is just.

Thanks.

POSTED BY: BEJUST | JANUARY 11, 2009 11:09 PM
[REPORT OFFENSIVE COMMENT](#)

Another example of how faith poisons so many things.

Amazing and sad to see how many people think they know what God thinks/wants/plans, etc.

POSTED BY: BIOS | JANUARY 11, 2009 6:07 PM
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Doctor Elliott,

Very interesting; good points.

The "landmind" doctrine seems quite fallacious. For, if our true treasure is in Heaven with God (or Allah), then where is that land when we are in Heaven?

Isn't this an inordinate love of land which is counter to the love which is due to God alone?

How many innocent men, women and children must be sacrificed in service to this idol called "land"? How long will this idolatry and hatred against God and neighbor persist?

I do not think that the prophet intended this; I also believe that the prophet's followers have the God-given intellect to reason through this faithfully and appropriately, for the sake of loving God and humanity.

Woe to those who sacrifice the children of the One, True God to the land idol. Please desist and stand down. This is madness!

Seeking Justice for God.

POSTED BY: SEEKINGJUSTICE | JANUARY 11, 2009 4:40 PM
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This discussion is a great example of how there will not be peace in the world as long as there is faith. Us non-theists would be laughing at the idiocy of you people if you weren't so intent on destroying the world in the name of your imaginary friends.

POSTED BY: HHEATHEN | JANUARY 11, 2009 12:53 PM
[REPORT OFFENSIVE COMMENT](#)

islam is a false religion, fraud created by a meglomaniac in order to allow him to hate, murder, maim and child molest underage females with impunity. islam is the greatest threat to humanity that the earth has ever faced and must be destroyed in order for freedom loving human beings to exist in peace. islam is only famous for two things creating the murder suicide and the child molestation of underage females in order to make that false religion supreme throughout the globe. death to islam

POSTED BY: WILEYSNAKESKINS | JANUARY 10, 2009 11:41 PM
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You can't be serious, can you, Dr. Elliot - to take Hamas to task for their "land doctrine" without making similar critiques of Israel? Are you not aware that 80% of the people who live in Gaza are there because they or their forebears were driven from their homes by Israel which was created on the basis of a 2,000 year old "land doctrine?" There are, in fact, among the Israelis those who continue to believe that all the land under occupation belongs to them by divine fiat, including Gaza and the West Bank. This, in fact, is by far the most egregious land claim in the region.

At least try to put this issue in its proper perspective.

POSTED BY: JBRINKMEYER | JANUARY 10, 2009 10:04 PM
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silly me what if there are both right and are supposed to live in peace together if god had his say . and they are both wrong by using violence. and that people of all kinds of all nations have the right to free speech and even the right to be publicly wrong.. it is when violence is substituted for words debate and even arguments it is when ideas are exposed by all that you end up with the best solutions and the most understanding of the other person. i suspect very few people set out to be evil or mean or violent but some of the things done in the name of religion truly baffles me.

POSTED BY: ARTISTKVIP1 | JANUARY 10, 2009 8:39 PM
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If we are to adopt the Muslim's "land doctrine" i.e. land that once belonged to Muslims (dar es salam) must always be Muslim then the corollary of that principle should also be valid . This would translate to Muslims having to cough up the whole Middle east, North Africa, Pakistan, Afghanistan and others as they had been made to cough up Spain.

POSTED BY: ABHAB | JANUARY 10, 2009 6:08 PM
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As always, well put Willis.

Its helpful to remember that the same reasoning that Muslims apply to Israel necessitates there taking action against Spain, Sicily, parts of the Italian Peninsula, Greece, the Balkans, and probably several other areas I am less familiar with.

Depending upon how one interprets this doctrine it could even apply to Austria, since Muslim armies invaded this area, intent on taking Vienna. Europeans should think very carefully about any support they provide those intent on Israel's destruction.

POSTED BY: HOMESOWER | JANUARY 10, 2009 10:43 AM
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WILLIS E ELLIOTT

You wrote, "1.....Why do the missiles continue to crash into Israel as Israeli tanks continue to crunch into Gaza? Because, at whatever cost to the Gazans, Hamas must continue to make the statement that land once Muslim (dar es salam) must always be Muslim; and if taken from Muslims, it is "war territory" (dar es harb) until recovered for Islam. This land-doctrine is not always so seriously lived by Muslims, at such cost to themselves, but it is an undebatable Islamic teaching."

Considering that "dar es salam" and "dar es harb" are "undebatable Islamic teachings" this should speak for itself.

As I have said before, I do not hold it against Mohammad that he was deceived.

The True, Living, Triune God is a searcher of hearts and minds not of religious affiliations or lack thereof.

It is important what one does and why one does it and what one knows.

We are all children of God and since God became One of us, we are also God's brothers and sisters.

God has a Plan and has had His Plan since before creation and His Plan is for ALL OF HUMANITY to be with Him in His Kingdom which will arrive on the seventh day.

We have been in the sixth day since we have been, night is coming.

Take care, be ready.

Sincerely, Thomas Paul Moses Baum.

POSTED BY: THOMASBAUM | JANUARY 7, 2009 5:59 PM
[REPORT OFFENSIVE COMMENT](#)

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