

# The Islamic Truth

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## Are we close to the end?

*What are the signs of the final hour? We refer to what our beloved prophet Muhammad(saaw) had told us. Knowing our past is our future, knowing our future prepares us for life after death. What should believing Muslims do?*



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### Is it the end?

The 20th century has drawn to a close, but the reality of the year 2000 is not what it seems. This date for the rest of us not quite informed as a date based on the Gregorian calendar which is adopted by the western world from Christianity.

So 2000 A.D is in fact 2000 years after the 'birth of our Lord'. This date even according to Christian theologians is incorrect, it is similar to the 25th of December which is said to signify the birth of Jesus, both dates are kept for the sake of convenience. The change from 1999 to 2000 is important to the western world from many perspectives. Firstly it is the turn of a century and secondly it is the turn of a Millennium and since there has only been one previously it is a rare event. For the majority of society who are suffering from a state of sedation it is nothing more than a celebration that they are alive and a good excuse to consume vast amounts of alcohol. The process of 'dumbing' the nation has proven fruitful by the establishment. Never has the calibre of human thought and consciousness been at such an all time low. People have a crisis even appreciating their own existence let alone that of their Creator.

There has been much talk of the 'end of the world', the Islamic stance on the issue questions and asks: Why should Secular Humanism stand alone as the 'Super Power' that dominates the world? In the height of arrogance, a disciple of the New World Order of Capitalism, Francis Fukuyama, published a book entitled 'The end of History and the Last Man'. He states that human achievement has reached its pinnacle in terms of political, social, ethical and economic progression, he sincerely believes 'Liberal democracy and free markets will create justice, peace and happiness for the whole World'. Francis Fukuyama's beliefs represents the academics and intelligentsia of the Western world, in a time when they are reveling in the supreme achievement. This, in reality, is what the biggest celebration of the western world is about, a few Churches may be celebrating the supposed birth of Jesus, but by and large the masses will be making another big attempt to engulf themselves in an a form of temporary escapism from the misery of their every day existence. Pharaoh in the pinnacle of his arrogance stated to his people 'I am your Lord most High!' Similarly the Western New World Order states the same; that you cannot eat, sleep, worship or even exist without their consent; Secular Humanism has declared itself as God.

Let us remember that it was straight after making such a statement that Allah(swt) seized pharaoh and his dying words where, " Indeed I believe in the Lord of Musa..."

It is with this basic foresight that muslims can appreciate that the millenium has absolutely nothing to do with Islam or the Muslim Ummah. Muslims should not celebrate the festivals of christmas, easter, diwali and the millenium, it is not a muslim millenium. The mellenium marks the celebration of the triumph of secularism, the era of 21st century being the beginning of the complete domination of secularism over the world and the vanquishing of religion, it is clearly not a source of celebration.

### The Fanatics and the Bug

The nature of the date having religious origins has led to much speculation and fears of the 'End of the world'. A similar panic gripped the European world with the turn of the first Millennium, all the babbling proved to be baseless and should not be taken seriously now either. People who are from a Christian background talk of the second coming of Christ, many in the Jewish community talk of the coming of their 'Messiah' (who incidentally is not Jesus) and they also talk of the need to destroy Masjid AL Aqsa (the one with the Black not Golden Dome, see last issue of

Trends) so that they may build the Temple of Solomon which will speed the coming of the 'Messiah'.

From an entirely different perspective the 'Millennium Bug' seems to have caused some serious problems. Computer technology practically runs everything from planes to hospital machinery, yet many of the modern systems do not incorporate the year 2000, so where you have 1999 the computer only reads 99, now when the date changes on midnight on December the 31st the computers still with the old system will read 2000 as 00 and assume that the year is 1900. Some believe (including experts in their respective fields) that this problem is serious enough to cause the entire civilised World to collapse, others, that claim it will have little if any effect. What is the reality of this Chaos? Is the World about to end? Should Muslims Panic? Let us deal with the issue in two parts, firstly the ruling in Islam concerning the time for the Day of Judgement and secondly what we should expect before and during this Day itself.

### What is the reality of this Chaos? Is the World about to end? Should Muslims Panic?

Firstly we have stated categorically, this is not a Muslim Millennium, it has no real bearing from an accuracy point of view and the numbers 2000 have no frightening connotations about them. The Islamic Calendar begins from the Hijrah (migration) of the Prophet (saw) to Medinah and is based on a different system altogether which is far more superior and accurate than the Gregorian system, according to the Muslim calendar we are in the year 1420 AH (after the Hijrah of Our Beloved Prophet (saw)). The date has no bearing on the Time for the day of Judgement. Muslims do not base their fears on superstitions and paranoia, everything we need to know as human beings has been dealt with in the Quran and Sunnah. In fact from these sources we can map out the entire beginning of mankind right through to his resurrection. Since the issue of the end of the world is being of-repeated let us examine the texts of Islam to gain our correct belief..

### When is the Day of Judgement?

'They ask thee (Muhammed ) about the final hour - when will be its appointed time, Say 'The knowledge thereof is with my Lord (alone): none but He can reveal as to when it will occur. Heavy were its burden through the heavens and the earth. Only all of a sudden will it come to you.' They ask thee as if thou were eager in search thereof: say 'The knowledge thereof is with God (alone), but most men know not' (ALAraf 7: 187)

Further to this Quranic verse when the Messenger of Allah (saw) was asked regarding this day by the angel Jibraeel he (saw) replied 'The one questioned does not know better than the questioner'. (Muslim)

These two evidences are sufficient to confirm the belief of Islam that nobody knows the exact time of the Day of Judgement, nobody includes even the Prophet (saw) and the angel Jibraeel. A person claiming to know its time is a Liar, whether that person is a holyman, Saint or Scientist, if he makes such a claim than without doubt he should be ignored. To believe someone possess this knowledge is tantamount to Kufr (disbelief) since it is knowledge which only Allah, the Mighty and Majestic, possesses. According to the followers of Nostradamus the World should have ended in August 1999, to follow this man's prophesies (and others like him) is also a sin in Islam.

So what do we know from the Prophet (saw) if we do not know the exact date? In the same hadith after receiving the reply sated above Jibraeel then asked: 'Tell me about its Signs'. Meaning the events that will take place before the Day itself, the Prophet (saw) answered in this same Hadith and others giving the signs that will take place before the Hour.

## The Signs smaller signs:

### A Stranger called Islam

Abdullah ibn Masud(ra) said: 'The Prophet (saw) said: **Islam began as something strange, and it will revert to being strange as it was in the beginning, so good tidings for the strangers, Someone asked 'Who are the strangers?' He (saw) said 'The ones who break away from their people for the sake of Islam.'** (Ibn Majah)

This hadith reminds the reader that when the Prophet (saw) was first given the responsibility of Prophethood he took it to his people who referred to his message of worshipping Allah in Islam as 'something strange'. It can be seen at that stage that Islam was a stranger to the world. And now in the current age it has returned to being unrecognised by the people. So just as the disbeliever's found the beliefs and practices of the Muslims in the early Meccan period strange, so we again find today find the beliefs and practices strange to people. Even if there is recognition of some of the practices of Islam, for example praying, people still find it strange when somebody prays five times a day, or looks and behaves according to the Sunnah of the Prophet (saw). It is not just the

non-Muslims but also the Muslims who find practicing Muslims as strange. But those who practice this Deen should pray that they fall in the category of the blessed, as described and be proud to be the 'strangers' of today.

### State of the Ummah

Abu Hurayrah (ra) said: I heard the Prophet (saw) saying to Thawban; 'O Thawban what will you do when the nations call one another to invade you as people call one another to come and eat from one bowl?' Thawban said 'O Messenger of Allah! Is it because we will be small in number?' The Prophet said 'No, on that day you (Muslims) will be many, but Allah will put weakness (wahn) in your hearts'. The people asked 'what is that weakness, O Messenger of Allah?' He said 'It is the love for this world and dislike of death.' (Ahmad)

The Muslims of today number 1.25 Billion in the world, one in every five people in the world is a Muslim. This is precisely what Allah's Messenger (saw) stated. We can see that there are very few lands of the Muslims that have not been colonised or that are not being exploited today. France, Italy, Britain and Portugal all took turns in colonising various Muslim Lands, even today the Muslims have adopted the language and dress of these former occupiers. The reason for the demise of the Ummah is that we have lost the spirit of Jihad and fear death, and Love the wealth of the dunya.

### Killings becoming widespread

Usamah ibn Zayd (ra) said '**Once the Prophet (saw) stood over one of the battlements of Madinah and asked the people 'Do you see what I see?' They said 'No'. He said 'I see afflictions falling upon your houses as raindrops fall.'**' (Bukhari)

Abu Hurayrah (ra) said '**The Prophet (saw) said 'Time Will pass rapidly, knowledge will decrease, miserliness will become widespread in people's hearts, affliction will appear and there will be much Harj' The people asked 'O Messenger of Allah, what is Harj?' He said 'Killing, Killing!'**' (Bukhari)

It is a prevalent sign of our times that sporadic Killing is a common place event. The US has witnessed many such incidents recently. The feeling of insecurity has become so serious that places such as hospitals, places of worship and even schools have introduced high levels of security systems. Newspapers and television screens are regularly plastered with reports of daily killings, which the elder generations never experienced. The technique of warfare has become more complicated and killing has become a lot easier. This century without a doubt has had more killing than any other

### The false Prophets

Thawban (ra) said "The Prophet (saw) said 'There will be 30 liars among my Ummah. Each one will claim that he is a Prophet, but I am the Last of the Prophets (Seal of the Prophets), and there will be no Prophet after me'. "(Ahmad)

Abu Hurayrah (ra) said "The Prophet (saw) said, 'The hour Will not come until thirty dajjals (liars) appear, each of them claiming to be a Messenger from Allah'." (Bukhari & Muslim)

The first of the False Killings arose during the time of the Prophet (saw), known as MusayLimah, he was eventually killed. Another such liar and apostate who fulfilled this prophecy was Ghulam Ahmed Mirza of Qadian in India. This disbeliever has the following of tens of thousands of people, many who have converted for promises of material gains, his followers are called Qadianis, Mirzas or Ahmadi's they have left the fold of Islam because of their heretic belief and have fulfilled one of the signs before the hour. Another similar sect which originated from a man claiming Prophethood is the Bahai faith, it was founded by a heretic in Iran who claimed to be a Prophet after Muhammed (saw), again his followers are large in number.

### Sexual Promiscuity

Abdullah ibn Umar (ra) said "The Prophet (saw) came to us and said 'O Muhajirun (emigrants from Makkah to Medinah) you may be afflicted by five things; God forbid that you should live to see them. If fornication should become widespread, you should realise that this has never happened without new diseases befalling the people which their forebears never suffered. If people should begin to cheat in weighing out goods, you should realise that this has never happened without drought and famine befalling the people, and their rulers oppressing them. If people should withhold Zakah you should realise that this has never happened without the rain being stopped from falling; and were it not for the animals sake it would never rain again. If the people should break their covenant with Allah and His Messenger, you should realise this has never happen without Allah sending an enemy against them to take some of their possessions

by force. If the leaders do not govern according to the Book of Allah, you should realise that this has never happened without Allah making them into groups and making them fight one another.” (Ibn Majah)

This century with particular reference to the 'sexual Liberation' in the 60's and 70's, has been an explosion of immorality and sexual deviance. Fornication is a complete normality and any person adhering to chastity and marital relationships as ordained in Islam is mocked. Adultery is so common that the idea does not disgust people anymore, since untrustworthiness is rampant. It is so insignificant that Bill Clinton who is the President of the country that vanguards Secular Humanism, can have an adulterous affair, lie about it in a court of Law and still rule the US and 'spread peace and justice through the world'. The second part of the hadith is also a current reality as we can see with diseases such as AIDS, Gonorrhoea and Syphilis, which all fall into the category of STD (sexually transmitted diseases). No matter how hard the west tries to decrease the spread of such diseases they are ultimately failing miserably. The end of the hadith explains why the Muslim Ummah is in such a state, we have stopped implementing the akham of Allah (rules and laws). We see the occupation of Palestine, Kashmir, Kosova and Bosnia, the list goes on. Then we also see internal fighting between Muslims who will use force to settle their disputes with another. These wars occur because Muslim leaders do not govern according to Islam.

#### **Singing/dancing and Consumption of alcohol**

Abu Hurayrah (ra) reported that the Prophet (saw) said:

“By Him Who sent me with the truth, this earth will not pass away until people are affected with landslide, are pelted with stones, and are transformed into animals’. The people asked ‘When will that be, O Messenger of Allah?’ He said ‘When you see women riding in the saddle, when singers are common, when bearing false witness becomes widespread and when men lie with men and women with women.’ (al-Haythami, Kitab al Fitan)

In another hadith the Prophet (saw) when asked when such a time will come he replied “When singers and musical instruments will become widespread and much wine will be drunk.” (al Tirmidhi)

The accuracy of these hadith are so exact that it brings fear to the mind of the reader. The occurrence of earth quakes (or landslides) in recent years has become phenomenal, in this recent time alone we have seen earth quakes hit the US (repeatedly) which have been higher than ever recorded, other places include Turkey, Greece and Taiwan.

The reference of being transformed into animals could be literal (Allah knows best) but in terms of the behaviour of many people today, we can certainly say that they are no different to animals. Islam teaches restraint and discipline, eating is controlled and defined to the parameters of what is halal and then to a modest consumption, sexual relations are only sanctioned between husband and wife, fasting further teaches restraint and spiritual discipline. Clothing is prescribed to be such that it covers the persons modesty and the List goes on. In contrast in western society the person can eat what they like, which is washed down with vast quantities of alcohol (that really brings out the animal in them!) Committing fornication outside and before marriage is seen as something to be proud of, it is not uncommon to hear non-muslims both male and female gloating about their sexual conquests. The reality is that if one looks closely at the behaviour of such people it does not differ from the animals in the wild.

The hadith talks of the popularity of people listening to music. Music is absolutely everywhere, from radio alarms to car stereos, from walkmans to personal hi-fi systems and even while shopping music is being played. Indeed the whole world seems to be captured by its appeal.

False witnesses are common place with people everyday (especially with road traffic accidents and the like!). It is also common place to see people going to clubs were singing and dancing is the core activity of the evening, this is also accompanied by vast consumptions of alcohol, especially on Christmas. The turn of the Millennium will witness the most parties and the largest consumption of alcohol world wide that there has ever been.

The last part of the hadith talks of the acceptance of homosexuality by society. At one time it was a crime and a sin even in the western world to commit such an act. It is not only protected and recognised by the law but it is even being recognised and sanctioned by certain denominations within the church (desperate to gain followers in a dwindling congregation). The act is not just accepted but is even commendable!! It has become a trend for fashionable icons such as George Michael, Elton John, Julian Calry, Dale Winton, Michael Barrymore and even members of the Labour cabinet. Almost every sit-corn and soap features a homosexual character in the story line, is it any wonder people have become conditioned into accepting it. Jimmy Swarggart (the

now fallen ex-televangelist) once said ‘America, God will judge (punish) you! If he does not judge you then he will have to apologise to Sodom and Gomorra’. If you go to the location of where the people of Lut (the nation of Sodom and Gomorra) once lived, there is clear geographical evidence that shows where sulphurous balls of fire had fallen to the ground and also distinct areas where there was an earthquake, both indicating how Allah destroyed this nation. Even though they were sent Prophet Lut (as) as guidance they continued in their perversions of homosexuality, there destruction remains as a sign for people today.

All ibn Abi Talib (ra) said “The Prophet (saw) said, ‘The hour will come when leaders are oppressors, when people believe in the stars and reject Al-Qadar (Divine Decree) when trust becomes a way of making a profit, when people give to charity Sadaqah (reluctantly), when adultery becomes widespread - when this happens, then your people will perish.’” (at-Haythami, Kitab al Fitan)

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#### **Oppressive Leaders**

Amongst all the nations of the world it would be no exaggeration to say that Muslim countries possess by far the most oppressive rulers. Those from amongst the people who call to Islam are locked up, detained, tortured and even killed. The leaders live in wealth while the Ummah starves.

#### **Fortune tellers ‘Mystic Meg’**

This further bears witness to the truth of the words of the Messenger of Allah (saw). They are everywhere, in newspapers, magazines and on the TV. Take for example the National Lottery Programme, here every week Mystic Meg tells the nation its future using the stars?! Firstly in Islam listening to, reading, watching or asking fortune tellers is haram (forbidden) because such knowledge is only with Allah. So again we have another sign before the day of judgement being fulfilled. It is often hard to comprehend people who deny the sign with great interest. Each fortune teller will give a different account of the same star sign depending on where you read it! What absurdity, praise be to Allah who saved us from ignorant superstition!

“The era that we are living in today is paving the way for the coming of the Dajjal.”

#### **Mobile communications**

Abu Said (ra) reported “The Prophet (saw) said ‘By Him in Whose hand is my soul, the hour will not come until wild animals talk to men, and man speaks to his whip or his shoe, and his thigh will tell him about what has happened to his family after he left.’” (Ahmad)

In a recent commercial a man leaves his house on his way to work, as he is walking he begins to have a conversation, his conversation is with his wife who is shown to be busy at home. At first it is difficult to ascertain how they are talking when they are in two different places. Then as the advertisement concludes one can see it is a mobile phone. The hadith refers to inanimate objects informing a man of his families state, it seems that this could be reference to mobile phones and pagers and the such which are attached to the thigh. The accuracy of this hadith is remarkable, bearing in mind that the Prophecy was made 1400 years ago. The wording of the hadith would have to be as it is because those at the time would not have understood any reference to mobile communications, and Allah knows best.

### **The Greater signs of the Hour**

The first major Sign of the Hour will be the coming of Imam Mahdi who will be a descendant of the Prophet (saw). The whole world will be in turmoil and chaos. The Muslims will be disunited and subjugated by the disbelievers (as mentioned earlier). It will be under the leadership and guidance of the Imam Mahdi that the Muslims will eventually gain unity (Abu Dawood Kitab AL Mahdi). The second of the great signs is the coming of the anti-Christ called the Dajjal. The era that we are living in today is paving the way for the coming of the Dajjal, for every King has a Kingdom and the Kingdom of the Dajjal appears to be well suited to the description of the Secular New world order that has removed religion and God from the minds and lives of people. The Dajjal is one eyed and is of Jewish decent.

Anas ibn Malik (ra) said “The Prophet (saw) said ‘There has never been a Prophet who did not warn His people against the one eyed liar. Verily he is one eyed and your Lord is not one eyed. On His forehead will be written the letters Kaf, Fa Ra (kafir).’” (Muslim)

#### **The False Messiah**

The Dajjal will have two rivers one of fire and one of water, who ever takes the fire will actually enter paradise who ever takes the water will enter into hell. The two rivers may be literal in mean-

ing but they may also refer to the Dajjal asking people to accept his way (the water) and refusal (obedience to Allah) will appear as Fire when in fact the opposite will be true of both (Allah knows best). It is also said by the Prophet (saw) that only Muslims with knowledge and strong Iman will be able to recognise the Dajjal for who he really is. It is scary to think that so many Muslims have opted for the Dunya (that is materialism and money) instead of practicing Islam even before the Dajjal has arrived, only his system is in place (that is the New World Order, Consumerism, Materialism, Fashion, Music, Dance and Promiscuity) what chance do such people have if arrives with his full strength. May Allah grant us Refuge!

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We know from various hadith that the Dajjal will appear when people take religion lightly. He will perform tricks, such as controlling the weather, providing masses of food and giving life to the dead. He will go around the world very quickly and will say to the people ‘I am Your Lord’. The Muslims will then flee to a place in Syria where they will be besieged by the Dajjal and his army of Jews and hypocrites. It is at this point that Jesus son of Mary (Isa Ibn Maryam) will descend, after praying the morning prayer, and he will lead the Muslims in a battle with the Dajjal. When the Dajjal sees Isa Ibn Maryam he will begin to dissolve like salt in water. Isa ibn Maryam will kill him and anyone who followed him. (Ahmad)

Protection against Dajjal can be sought from the recitation of authentic du'a and also by reciting and memorsing the first ten ayat of Surah Al Kahf from the Quran. The last method would be to live in either Makkah or Medinah as the Dajjal can not enter these two cities.

After the Death of the Dajjal at the hands of Isa ibn Maryam, the World will enter a state of peace and security. Until, that is, the appearance of the Yuj Majuj (Gog and Magog). They will cause chaos in the world until Isa ibn Maryam prayers to Allah, his prayer will be answered and they will die from a worm disease in their necks. The other Major signs include the destruction of the Kabah, the emergence of the beast, the Sun Rising from the West, the appearance of the smoke, a wind taking the souls of the believers, the Qur'an being taken to Heaven, a Fire gathering the people and finally the three blasts of the Trumpet. The first blast causing everything to be struck with fear, the second blast will signal the destruction of everything and the final blast will cause the resurrection of humanity to stand before its creator and the Lord of the worlds for the final judgement.

#### **Conclusion**

The Millennium itself merely marks a period of time where the earth has experienced major corruption and disorder. If we looked at only some of the minor signs that the Prophet of Allah (saw) foretold 1400 years ago, the accuracy is so precise that it shows the true status of his Prophethood and the religion he brought. We can see the minor signs are upon us and only a fool or a blindman would deny their reality.

So what now?

Firstly understand that the Millennium is not a relevant issue in your life as a Muslim. Secondly appreciate the accuracy of the Prophecies of Muhammed (saw) and be grateful that your are blessed to be a Muslim who can take heed from the Messenger sent to you. Remember and know that Muhammad (saw) is true, the Qur'an is true and the promise of AUjah concerning the Judgement Day are all true. Try to learn the Du'a for protection against the Dajjal and the first ten verses of Sura At Khaf.

And the final piece of advice comes from the Prophet (saw) himself

A Bedouin Man asked the Prophet (saw) about the (time of the) hour, he said :‘It will surely come to pass. (But) What have you prepared for it?’ (Bukhari)

As individuals we should not concern ourselves with the curiosity of the timing but rather with preparation for it, For it is also a saying of the Prophet (saw) that death is the coming of the hour for the individual, because when he dies he enters the hereafter. May Allah, the Mighty and Majestic, protect us from the delusion of this world and may he make us amongst the successful on the day of the reckoning. Ameen.



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