

## United Submitters International

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## Not a single leaf falls... (6:59)

Believers know that God alone is in absolute and complete control of everything in the heavens and earth. They demonstrate their acceptance of this Quranic fact by trusting in God, following His commandments in the Quran. There are many examples in the Quran of God's control. Believers should reflect on these examples and be appreciative.

God's awareness and power encompass everything. He alone holds the heavens and the earth in His hand. Verse 39:67 states, "... In fact, the universes are folded within His right hand." He controls the alternation of night and day (2:164, 31:29), the expansion of the universe (51:47), and keeps the planets from colliding. He is cognizant of all of the inhabitants on earth and provides for each of them in exact measure. Verse 6:59 states, "With Him are the keys to all secrets; none knows them except He. He knows everything on land and in the sea. Not a leaf falls without His knowledge. Nor is there a grain in the depths of the soil. Nor is there anything wet or dry, that is not recorded in a profound record." God knows everything!

Who you marry is destined by God. As He wills, He pairs the righteous man and woman together and assigns the unrighteous to each other. He places love in their hearts, (30:21), then He may grant them sons or daughters, or he may render the couple sterile (42:49-50). The exact time that the couple meet each other is pinpointed by God.

The time of death is determined by God. Verse 40:68 states, "He is the only One

who controls life and death. To have anything done, He simply says to it, 'Be' and it is." No one's life is snapped short (35:11). What occurs at the time of death was designed by God to be different for believing souls who are peacefully invited by angels and go straight to heaven (89:27-30), and for disbelieving souls who are beaten by the angel in whose charge they are placed (8:50). Then God will hold everyone accountable on the Day of Judgment.

God protects believers during war and persecution. He parted the Red Sea in order to save Moses and his people from the persecution of Pharaoh (26:60-66). He prevented believers from inadvertently killing believers who were in an enemy camp (48:24-25), sent angels to support believers (3:124-125), and controlled circumstances during battle to fulfill a predetermined outcome (8:42). God is the only supporter as stated in 4:45. "God knows best who your enemies are. God is the only Lord and Master. God is the only Supporter."

After reflecting on their own life and examining the Quran, believers will accept the Quranic fact that God is in control. They will know it in their hearts. Consequently, they will want to strive in the cause of God because they love God and because God gives the believers a chance to earn a lot of credit (8:17). They will be certain of God's control and submit to Him. They will accept the divine authorship of the Quran as proved by its miraculous mathematical code.

Emily Sterrett

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# Submitters Perspective

Monthly Bulletin of United Submitters International  
October 1992/ Rabi II 1413/ No. 91  
Published by Masjid Tucson

## Lessons of Somalia

Not long ago, the Islamic countries were relatively equal economically, educationally and technologically. Many were under colonial rule while some were independent republics or monarchies. However, they were all struggling to make ends meet.

That was the past. What we have today is shocking disparity. In some 40 years, the Islamic world has been stratified into a wide spectrum, from the wealthiest in the world, to the poorest in the world, and everything in between. Some countries do not even exist as sovereign states anymore.

One of those Islamic countries that no longer exists as a sovereign state and whose people became divided into tyrannical factions is Somalia. My motherland, where Islam was introduced by emigrating believers in the early days of Prophet Mohammad over 1400 years ago, is today totally annihilated. Far worse annihilation than the people of Aad, Thamoud and Pharaoh combined in terms of loss of lives, Somalia is suffering from a combination of civil war, famine, drought, diseases and mass corruption. Every city in the country is totally devastated and every single home is destroyed. The survivors are using what used to be the nation's banks, schools, and universities as shelters. The surviving children are in their fourth year without school. Their future is, at best, uncertain. Forget about electricity, or running water, any kind of transportation, telephone, or even food; anything that a civilized society needs to function does not exist anymore. The people of that nation have fallen into sub-human level. Life and its Creator have no value or meaning for them.

We watched not long ago a baby clinging to his dead mother's chest sucking her

breast, unaware that she had passed away. We have watched children who were sharing boiled camel skin as their lunch, children who were eating grass shoots as their dinner. Those who are luckier still get the kind of food we would not give to our pets.

The survivors cannot locate their relatives. Mothers lose their children. Families are separated. Furthermore, many of them are unaware that some of their relatives have become dinner for the hungry dogs. Such curable diseases as tuberculosis are killing those who survive the hunger and the bullets.

The dead are not buried anymore, they just dry out like beef jerkins on the streets. These are only samples of what we have witnessed through the cameras. What is taking place beyond the reach of the news reporters is even more horrendous.

Some international aid organizations tried hard to get in, only to have their ships and airplanes attacked and the food that was intended for the suffering people looted. All major airports have been bombed and demolished. Some factions among the savages have used the harbors as impenetrable hideouts.

### Where are the "Muslim" brothers?

Most who were strong enough to get out of that misery, find themselves trapped in the shark infested waters of the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea. Those who made it to the neighboring "Islamic" countries were held in concentration camps and not allowed to get in.

Wealthy Saudi Arabia called the refugees "illegal aliens," and sent 3000 fleeing Muslim refugees in a cattle ship back to the killing fields of Somalia.

The United Arab Emirates did not return the refugees, but confined them in their

own ships, and later transferred them to the government jails as if they were criminals.

Yemen, a place that still looks the same as it did in Queen Sheba's times, refused to unload over 2500 refugees who were dying like flies inside their ships. Finally, the United Nations intervened and leased a small place on the Yemeni coast as a shelter for the survivors.

Kuwait, which recently donated \$2 million dollars to the London Zoo according to CNN news, seems to prefer helping the animals rather than helping their hungry Muslim brothers who are in desperate need.

Egypt is harboring the cronies of the Somalian ex-dictator, who looted all the nation's wealth. Everything they have stolen is kept in Egyptian banks.

Mohammad Siad Barre, the criminal ex-dictator who orchestrated this misery and clung onto power for about 21 years, is now an honored guest of the Muslim dominated Nigerian government. He is watching the misery he left behind while enjoying himself at a villa in Lagos, in complete safety.

### Who is helping?

Ironically, the refugees who fled to the neighboring non-Muslim countries faced better treatment. Somalia's Christian neighbors, Ethiopia and Kenya, are not rich. However, this did not stop them from helping the needy refugees.

Prophet Muhammad would have been saddened to see how the Arabs returned the favor of people who gave them refuge over 1400 years ago. But, he would not be surprised, for both of the following Quranic verses came out of his mouth:

continued on the next page

"... And you will find that the closest people in friendship to the believers are those who say, 'We are Christians.' This is because they have priests and monks among them, and they are not arrogant." (5:82)

"The Arabs are the worst in disbelief and hypocrisy, and the most likely to ignore the laws that God has revealed to His messenger..." (9:97)

In the September 21st issue of TIME magazine (page 16), an estimate of the costs of the Gulf war was given (see the insert). In the same issue of TIME, we also see graphic pictures of the destruction of Somalia. There is clearly an irony here. While it shows how the Arabs can waste hundreds of billions of dollars of God's provisions to fight among themselves without hesitation, it also demonstrates their lack of compassion toward the suffering of people who are their "brothers in religion," and who are truly in need. People who have become victims of a civil war rooted in human greed, lack of respect for God and for each other. If, instead of pouring such a huge sum of money down the drain, they followed God's commandment and gave a tiny fraction of that \$619 billion as *Zakat*, that would have solved Somalia's problem many times over.

The war in Somalia is not a border dispute, nor it is about religious differences or about race or color. In fact, Somalia is known as one of the most homogeneous nations on earth. Then what is their problem? The answer simply is ignorance rooted in idol worship. The population is 100% "Muslim," but they do not follow God's commandments in the Quran.

#### Why are "Muslims" in misery?

What is happening in Somalia is not unique. Look at what is happening in Bosnia. Muslims there are being herded like cattle and forced to live in concentration camps. We can also see the examples of Afghanistan, Kuwait, Iraq, Iran, and the Kurds. We see annual devastation in Bangladesh, Pakistan, India and Sudan.

Why are there so many unjust wars in almost all Islamic countries? Why do they suffer from incalculable miseries, drought, famine and diseases? Why are they the most tyrannized, the least educated and the most underdeveloped of nations? Why are they plagued with political corruption, the least trustworthy and the most dishonest people on earth? This is in spite of the fact that God guarantees happiness and victory for the

### GULF WAR COSTS TO THE ARABS

War damages in Iraq	\$190 billion
War damages in Kuwait	\$160 billion
Economic losses from the downswing in Kuwait, Iraq and other Arab countries	\$185 billion
Other costs including payments to coalition forces	\$84 billion
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$619 billion</b>



believers, both in this world and in the hereafter (10:62-64, 24:55, 41:30-31).

#### What is the Solution?

Muslims should take these Quranic reminders to heart.

"Most assuredly, we will give victory to our messengers and to those who believe, both in this world and on the day the witnesses are summoned." (40:51)

"... It is our duty that we grant victory to the believers." (30:47)

Unfortunately, the majority of Muslims are not reflecting on the Quran which they say they value so much. The Book which they do not touch without ablution, the Book which they believe will ward off all evil when placed in their homes, in their cars and in their offices! Why are they so heedless of the truth? Is not God's word the truth? What is wrong then with their logic?

In the Quran, God teaches us the following lesson in 6:65:

Say, "He is certainly able to pour upon you retribution from above you, or from beneath your feet. Or He can divide you into factions and have you taste each others' tyranny. Note how we explain the revelations, that they understand."

This verse demonstrates another miracle of the Quran because what we witness in the Islamic countries is always division and their tasting of each others' tyranny.

The Quran teaches us that previous generations did not receive one-tenth of (the miracle) what has been given to this generation (34:45). Yet when they disbelieved, they became like decayed palm trees or harvested hay (54:31). The Muslims should therefore ask themselves this question, "What will be the punishment for those who received the overwhelming mathematical miracle of the Quran, and insist on disregarding God's message?"

The tragedy in Somalia should be a lesson for those who kill in the name of nationalism, race, color and tribe. It should be a lesson for those wishing to have countries or states where no one but their own kind lives.

Somali style retribution is also a lesson to all Islamic countries. The only way they can be saved from annihilation is to come back to the Quran, the whole Quran, and nothing but the Quran alone.

Mahmoud Abib

## Notes from 7th Annual International Conference of Submitters

"Let there be a community of you who invite to what is good, advocate righteousness, and forbid evil. These are the winners." (3:104)

"You are the best community ever raised among the people; you advocate righteousness and forbid evil, and you believe in God..." (3:110)

On August 28-30, 1992, a very important annual gathering of people on earth took place. Submitters to God alone from all over the world met in Tucson, Arizona, to commemorate God, pray together, to share their experiences and knowledge, and to renew their sense of community. Over 220 people attended the conference, more than ever before. There were 25 nationalities represented in the conference, which are listed in the alphabetical order: Afghanistan, Belize, Canada, Egypt, England, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kurdistan, Libya, Mexico, Morocco, Pakistan, Singapore, Somalia, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, USA, and Vietnam.

Seven years since the first international conference of submitters and almost three years since the assassination-departure of Dr. Rashad Khalifa, the Messenger of the Covenant, our 1992 conference was a healing and inspiration.

This past year, the Tucson community and other submitter communities around the world were met with many challenges to our unity. By God's grace, we have emerged focused and stronger than the last year. The renewed vigor and sense of

purpose was evident at the conference. There was an atmosphere of calm and strength among the participants from the opening khutba (sermon) on Friday to the closing prayer on Sunday. Surely, this was a blessing from God. Attendees were especially eager to learn about the struggles and accomplishments of fellow communities, in light of the test we underwent last year.

Our conference is a family reunion where submitters renew their bonds, meet new members of a rapidly-growing family, and have a chance to get first-hand information about the spread of God's religion. With God's help, and the hard work and sacrifices of many, we have accomplished the task of publishing Rashad's final translation of the Quran in paperback, QT, the computerized data base of Rashad's translation of the Quran, developed by submitters from Hong Kong, was demonstrated at the conference. These are reassuring signs from God to us that His religion shall prevail.

This year, the conference format allowed for discussion and dialogue about our long and short term objectives and goals, and identification of issues of concern to submitters. Group participants agreed that the most important goal is making available good translations of the Quran and the accompanying mathematical miracle to everyone, in their language. Objectives to reach this goal include: 1) producing materials for children, and those who have visual and hearing handicaps, 2) expanding the format of the Perspective, 3) increasing on-going com-

munication between communities throughout the year, 4) planning for next year's conference, 5) publishing the proceedings of annual conferences, and 6) making preparations for Hajj by submitters throughout the world. The interaction in group discussions reminded participants that we are still learning how to present our ideas in a balanced, informed, and objective manner--based on the Quran. The best training ground for making mistakes and learning how to share ideas and invite people to God is among fellow submitters.

The conference also highlighted the fact that our work has just begun. If we are to succeed, we must look forward. Vision without action is mere daydreaming. Action without vision is akin to trying to walk in the dark. God has blessed the submitters with true vision--one God, one message, one world. Our actions should be shaped in the context of worshipping God alone. This year's conference enabled attendees to recognize whether our vision and actions, individually and collectively, are on the right course. God willing, our strivings this year will pale in the light of efforts over the next year to meet our goals. Praise be to God.

Dr. Douglas Brown

**Many thanks** to all the sisters and brothers who attended the conference, and contributed to its success. May God reward them for their time and financial sacrifices, and for their genuine effort to be with the submitters to God alone.

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