

## Iaan Hirsi Ali – a woman astray

By

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Usually, I do not spend my time watching u tubes attacking Islam as a religion. I am not interested in explaining Islam to its adversaries as I used to do in the past because now I am confident that the enemies of Islam will never listen to the voice of truth. They will never stop fighting Islam until death overtakes them, so why bother explaining the religion to people of no sense, dumb, deaf, and blind. They will know the truth when they regretfully stand before Allah to receive the torment of the Blaze.

Their stubbornness in fighting Islam stems from the fact that they are hired to tarnish Islam and make it appear as a violent religion. But as Allah stated in the Koran, He is just giving them respite for a short time after which they will be thrown in Hell fire for eternity.

It was by a mere chance that while roaming the internet I saw in a u tube a woman from Somalia by the name of Iaan Hirsy Ali. She was sitting beside a British reporter debating with two Muslims about whether Islam is a violent religion or not. Hirsi and her British colleague were debating that Islam is a violent religion and the Muslim counterparts were trying to prove that Islam is peaceful and merciful.

At the end of the debate, the votes of the audience were taken and the conclusion was: Islam was a violent religion!

I was really amazed to see that Islam – this great religion - was judged by some incognizant naïve audience. When the organizer of the meeting announced the result of the voting, Iaan rejoiced hilariously and kissed her colleague. Oh, the Somalian woman coming from a tribal world has now become so liberal as to rejoice upon hearing the stupid view of the audience, and then kisses a stranger who was not her husband. Do as the Romans do, and say what the west wants to hear about Islam – a backward religion. The Somalian woman became completely a westerner.

When Iaan Hirsi started her talk about Islam she proudly addressed the audience saying, “Hello atheist fellows, Hello godlessness fellows. She

was smiling proudly as if pleased to defy the Creator and turns against Him.

I looked at the woman rejoicing before me and felt pity for her. By attacking Islam in this impudent way, she was but thinking only of the gains, she will get from her supporters – the enemies of Islam. She thought only of this world, which was not lasting. She ignored an eventful Day of great momentum and heavy consequence. A Day when the enemies of Allah will be taken from the highest stage of honour to the lower stage of disgrace.

Woe that Day to the rejecters of Truth. That will be a Day when the wrongdoers will not be able to speak, nor shall they be permitted to offer excuses. Allah had prepared for them iron chains, iron collars and a blazing Fire.

Has she forgotten that Allah is the All-Hearing, the All-Knowing - He knows every word spoken in the heavens and earth?

Has she forgotten what happened to the disobedient people of old? Those who rejected the Truth and exceeded all bounds so Allah destroyed them without mercy! Woe to this woman from what she utters.

Has she forgotten that the Hour is coming no doubt of it, and Allah will raise those who are in the graves?

As a former Muslim, she must have read the Koran. She must have come across the verse:

As for the unbelievers, for them garments of fire shall be cut, and there shall be poured over their heads boiling water whereby whatsoever in their bellies and their skins shall be melted; for them await hooked iron rods; as often as they desire in their anguish to come forth from it, they shall be restored into it; and: 'taste the chastisement of the burning!' (Al-Hajj 19-22).

As for the believers in Allah's oneness, and whose deeds reflect wisdom and piety, Allah will receive them with hearty welcome. He admits them to gardens beneath which rivers flow and in which shall they be adorned with gold and pearled bracelets and vested all in silken attire.

Iaan Hirsi, It was not in play that Allah created the heavens and the earth and all that lies between them. Allah created them for a purpose. The purpose of creation is not jumping here and there spreading falsehood

about Islam. It is not attending meetings and entering into void arguments in order to show that Islam is a violent religion. It is not writing shallow books justifying your infidelity then blaming Islam for your stupidity in turning against your Creator. It is not entering into empty arguments to prove that Islam is a backward religion that must be updated and amended. It is not begging for hypocritical applause from the enemies of Islam while persisting in attacking the only religion Allah will accept from his servants on the Day of Judgment. It is not earning unlawful money from meetings you attend and books you write to rebel against Allah and stultify the teachings of His Messenger, may peace be upon him.

The purpose of creation is to recognize the Creator, be grateful to Him, worship Him, surrender to Him and obey the laws He has ordained for His servants. In other words, worshipping Allah is the purpose of life and the wisdom of creation.

Allah says in the Koran:

And I did not create the Jinn and mankind except to worship Me (Adh-dhariyat, 56).

In case you have forgotten, the whole of Muslim's life is an act of worship, as long as the objective of that life is to please Allah by doing good and refraining from evil. The Muslim turns everyday activities into acts of worship by seeking Allah in all his deeds. Prophet Muhammad - peace be upon him- said:

“Greeting a person is charity. Acting justly is charity. Helping a man with his steed is charity. A good word is charity. Every step taken on the way to performing prayers is charity. Removing an obstacle from the road is charity.”

Allah is to be worshipped in times of hardship and times of prosperity and only through his remembrance can the human being find inner peace. The Koran says:

Those who believe, their hearts being at rest in Allah's remembrance – in Allah's remembrance are at rest the hearts of those who believe and do righteous deeds; theirs is blessedness and a fair resort (Al-Ra'd, 28).

Allah further states that He made this life in order to test man so that every person may be recompensed after death for what he has earned:

Blessed be He in whose hand is the Kingdom – He is powerful over everything – who created death and life, that He might try you which of you is fairest in works; and He is the All-Mighty, the All-Forgiving (Al-Mulk 1, 2).

Creation, then, is not for mere sport, or without a purpose. The purpose of creation is not to spend time in idle diversions only to lead up people astray from Allah's way, and to hold it up to ridicule. The present life is clearly given to enable us to strive by good deeds to reach a nobler state in the Hereafter.

Allah gave us life, then will cause us to die, and will again bring us to life; and to Him we will return.

We read in the Koran:

How disbelieve you in Allah when you were dead and He gave life to you! Then He will give you death, then life again, and then unto Him you will return (Al-Baqarah, 28).

Mankind's basic responsibility therefore is to believe in Allah and worship Him alone.

Allah has a right over us, as He created us. He is not asking much. He is only asking us for that which he asked every nation before us that we obey Him and follow His Messengers. He has asked us to worship Him and not to associate partners with Him. He says:

For surely I sent a Messenger to every nation, commanding them to worship Allah and shun false deities (Al-Nahl, 36).

It is a very simple request, taking into account all the blessings He has given us. Allah says in the Koran:

Say: "It is He who has created you and made for you the faculties of hearing, seeing, feeling and understanding. Little is the thanks you offer (Al-Mulk, 23).

Iaan Hirsi conducted herself in life according to false concepts and she thought she was doing what was right. She stretched her tongue to do us evil. She followed the footsteps of Satan and whosoever follows the steps of Satan, he enjoins only indecency and evil. The poor woman forgot that there is for her a humiliating punishment in store.

Iaan Hirsi denied the truth of her Creator's signs and counselled deaf to His commandments and to His promise of judgment and resurrection. In consequence shall her endeavour be doomed to disappointment and her deeds to worthlessness. She is the ill-fated who justly deserve the abode of Hell because of her infidelity and disbelief.

On the Day of Judgment Allah will attach to her no importance, nor shall her pleading be of weight.

The Koran says:

Say: " Shall We tell you who will be the greater losers in their works: Those whose striving goes astray in the present life, while they think that they are working good deeds. Those are they that disbelieve in the signs of their Lord and the encounter with Him; their works have failed, and on the Day of Resurrection We shall not assign to them any weight. That is their recompense - Hell - for that they were unbelievers and took My signs and My Messengers in mockery (Al-Kahf 103-106).

Iaan Hirsi, has this smug sense of self-righteousness that while she goes on doing wrong, she thinks that she is acquiring merit. Her motives are not pure and are positively evil. Her false motives, pretence, deception, and hypocrisy are heavy loads she would carry on her back on the Day of accountability.

Ignoring the right of Allah is not like ignoring the rights of others. In the present life, punishment for our faults whether imposed on us by parents or bosses or judges in court, and whatever strong it is, is light and bearable. But no one can punish eternally with a torment like what Allah has promised for those who reject His Message. Allah is going to establish a Day to judge each person. On that Day, Allah's punishment will be such as no one else can inflict, and His bonds will be such as no one else can bind.

Allah says in the Koran:

No indeed! When the earth is ground to powder, and thy Lord comes with the angels in rows, and Gehenna (Hell) is brought out, upon that day man will remember; and how shall be the Reminder be for him? He shall say, 'O would that I had forwarded for my life!' Upon that day none shall chastise as He chastises, none shall bind as He binds (Al-Fajr 21-26).

If we submit to Allah, worshipping Him and not associating partners with Him, then for us are the unending joys and delights that He has prepared for us in Paradise.

As we read in the Koran:

No soul knows what delights are kept hidden for them, as a reward for what they used to do (Al-Sajdah, 17).

For when Allah establishes the Day of Judgement, the righteous will hear the call:

O soul at peace, return unto thy Lord, well-pleased, well pleasing! Enter thou among My servants! Enter thou My Paradise (Al-Fajr 26-29).

If we hope to hear this call, then we must put forth the effort now, in this life, before it is too late.

Islam has given to mankind freedom of thought, freedom of speech, and freedom of action with a correct and reasonable framework that must not be crossed. This freedom must not harm others or oneself. Slander, assault, and the like are not permissible because of the harm they cause to others.

The attitude of Iaan Hirsi towards Islam reminded me of the despicable attitude of the other Islamophobe hate mongers in America. In America, there is a hired gang exemplified by Daniel Pipes, Sam Shamon, Bill Warner, Robert Spencer, Pamela Geller, and the lunatic Terry Johns who burned the Koran, as well as the Christian Right or what they call Christian leaders, attacking Islam without mercy. In Holland, we have the enemy of Allah, the empty-headed and big failure Geert Wilders, and in Britain, we have the companion of Satan Salman Rushdie.

This party of Satan is heavily funded from Judeo-Christian coalition, Christian right and Zionist organizations. The party of Satan launched websites, wrote books, used biased media to make Islam appears to the world as the only enemy.

The hatred of Islam reached the American military. The military instructor Army Lt. Col. Matthew A. Dooley taught young officers that America's real terrorist enemy wasn't al-Qaida — but the Islamic faith itself. He taught them that there is no such thing as moderate Islam and that it is time for the United States to make its true intentions clear. Islam as a barbaric ideology will no longer be tolerated. Islam must change or

we will facilitate its self-destruction. Mathew's plan is to reduce Islam to a cult status and Saudi Arabia to be threatened with starvation.

Matthew Dooley further instructed that the protection of civilians in war time is no longer relevant, and he opens the possibility of applying the historical precedents of Dresden, Tokyo, Hiroshima, Nagasaki (Atomic bombs) to Islam's holiest cities, and bringing about "Mecca and Medina's destruction. He further suggests annihilating the 1.5 billion Muslims inhabiting the four corners of the world by strategic atomic bombs!

Yes, Islam is under attack. In my writings, I exposed many of these hate mongers, and I warned them of a Mighty Day when they will be stationed before Allah to receive the grievous chastisement - eternal torment in Hell.

These morons as well as Iaan Hirsi, share the foolishness that Islam can be defeated. Their wickedness reached to the extent of taking Allah their Lord as a rival. Do they have a chance to win any battle with Allah their Creator? They are but bringing Allah's wrath upon their heads but they perceive it not.

They think that Allah is not their God; He is Muslims' God and not theirs! Some morons even described Him as moon god, a monkey god or a demon god! And because He is not their god, they gave themselves the liberty to attack Him and defame Him! but I will shut them up by mentioning what the Koran said about the God Muslims believe in:

He has laid down for you as religion that He charged Noah with, and that We have revealed to thee, and that We charged Abraham with, Moses and Jesus: 'Perform the religion, and scatter not regarding it. Very hateful is that for the idolaters that thou callest them to. Allah chooses unto Himself whomsoever He will, and He guides to Himself whosoever turns, penitent (Ash-Shura, 13).

We have revealed to thee as We revealed to Noah, and the Prophets after him, and We revealed to Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac, Jacob, and the Tribes, Jesus and Job, Jonah and Aaron and Solomon, and We gave to David Psalms (An-Nisa', 163).

And when We took compact from the Prophets, and from thee, and from Noah, and Abraham, Moses, and Jesus, Mary's son; We took from them a solemn compact...(Al-Ahzab, 7.

Those attacking Allah without knowledge or authority, those burning the Koran and slandering His Prophet, if they but know the time when they would not be able to ward off the fire from their faces nor from their backs. The fire shall come upon them suddenly, dumbfounding them, and they shall not be able to repel it, nor shall they be respited.

Islam is Allah's only religion, therefore, it will never be defeated because Allah defends His religion and His sincere servants, whereas He detests the dishonest, the unfaithful and the treacherous who are given to infidelity and ingratitude.

Assuredly Allah will defend those who believe; surely Allah loves not any ungrateful traitor (Al-Hajj, 38).

Yes, Allah helps those whose purpose in life is to serve Him and advance His cause. If they are given power in the land they enjoin prayers, alms giving, enjoin what is just and right, and forbid what is evil.

Who, if We establish them in the land, perform the prayer, and pay the alms, and bid to honour, and forbid dishonour; and unto Allah belongs the issue of all affairs (Al-hajj, 41).

Now, because Iaan Hirsi is living in America, she would surely join force with the gang. But one must say that she is not just another Islamophobe hate monger, her case is different. She was a Muslim, and to the west, a Muslim abandoning Islam then turning against it is a blessed gift. Now they have a sound proof that Islam is violent and persecuting women. Now they have a former Muslim woman who is spreading falsehood about Islam. A Muslim reverting to Christianity or to atheism is in their view the best proof that Islam is backward and undeveloped.

In Islam, there is no compulsion in religion. If Iaan Hirsi reverted to atheism it is her own business, we must not interfere in her decision because in the end Allah will settle her account and hell will be her reward. But the woman did not stop at being atheist; she rather leaped here and there spreading falsehood and lies about Islam! She dispute concerning Allah without knowledge to lead astray from Allah's way.

We Muslims live by Islam and for Islam. We fear our Lord in the Unseen, also we dread the Hour of Judgment. If our religion is attacked, we interfere and defend it. In other words, no one has the right to attack Islam if he were a non-Muslim or a converter to other false religions. Muslims are the only ones who carry the banner of Islam and know how



to defend it and how to warn about the disastrous consequences awaiting its attackers.

Muslims have been ordered to defend their religion when is being attacked by its enemies, Allah loves those who fight in His cause.

Allah says in the Koran:

Allah loves those who fight in His way in ranks, as though they were a building well-compacted (Al-SAff, 4).

Allah has firmly established the religion of Islam and descended a Book that would never change. The Koran includes the truth that people rejected and opposed throughout the centuries. The Koran is the only divine reference, which people could rely on.

The Koran which Iaan Hirsi described as 'just another book' is not a tale forged, but a confirmation of what is before it (pages of Abraham, Psalms of David, Torah of Moses and Gospel of Jesus), and a distinguishing of everything, and a guidance, and a mercy to a people who believe.

After the sending down of the Koran, no one would ever dare say to Allah on the Day of Judgment, "Of the Koran I was unaware."

After the insolence and ignorance I saw from Iaan Hirsi towards Islam, I find myself compelled to state my opinion about her and refute the false allegations she launched about the last revelation sent to the world entire.

Who is that woman who stood rebellious against her Lord? As I read in her biography, she started her life in the Netherlands by telling lies in her application for asylum. She failed to disclose to the Dutch authorities that she had left the land of her birth and lived abroad in Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia, and Kenya before returning to Somalia. Her allegation that she escaped from Somalia because her father arranged to marry her to a distant cousin was found doubtful. Members of her family had disputed the story of her forced marriage.

After she migrated to Holland, she regarded the Koran as relative, a historical record, and just another book. The final blow to her faith was her reading of the Atheist Manifesto of Leiden philosopher Herman Philips. In 2002 she renounced Islam and became an atheist. Her family of course disowned her.

Iaan Hirsy was elected a member in the Dutch Parliament. During her tenure in Parliament, she made a number of controversial statements about Islam. In an interview with the Dutch newspaper *Trouw* she said that by western standards, Muhammad would be considered a pedophile!

Iaan Hirsy wrote the script and provided the voice over for *Submission*, a film produced by Theo van Gogh, which criticized the treatment of women in Islamic society. Juxtaposed with passages from the Koran were scenes of actors portraying Muslim women suffering abuse. The film also features an actor dressed in a semi-transparent *burqua* who has texts from the Koran written on her skin. The texts are among those often interpreted as justifying the subjugation of women.

The film's release sparked much furore, and Muhammad Bouyeri, a member of the Hofstad Group, murdered Van Gogh in an Amsterdam street on the second of November, 2004. A letter pinned to Van Gogh body with a knife was primarily a death threat to Hirsy Ali.

After the death of Van Gogh, Hirsy Ali announced that although she deeply regrets the murder of Van Gogh, she is proud of the film and does not regret having made it. "To feel otherwise would be to deny everything I stand for."

After this murder, the Dutch secret service raised the level of security that they constantly provided to her.

In March 2006 she co-signed a letter entitled "*Manifesto: Together facing the new totalitarianism*". Among the eleven other signatories was Salman Rushdie who blasphemed against his lord years ago. Rushdie was the author of the *Satanic Verses* which was the centre of a major controversy, provoking protests from Muslims in several countries, some violent. Death threats were made against him, including a *fatwā* issued by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, the Supreme Leader of Iran, on 14 February 1989.

The Manifesto was published in response to protests in the Islamic world surrounding the *Jyllands-Posten* Muhammad cartoons controversy.

Iaan Hirsy went further to describe Islam as a backward religion, incompatible with democracy.

In an interview in the London *Evening Standard*, Hirsy Ali characterizes Islam as "the new fascism": "just like Nazism started with Hitler's vision,

the Islamic vision is a caliphate – a society ruled by Sharia Law – in which women who have sex before marriage are stoned to death, homosexuals are beaten, and apostates like me are killed. Sharia Law is as inimical to liberal democracy as Nazism.” In this interview, she also made it clear that in her opinion it is not “a fringe group of radical Muslims who’ve hijacked Islam and that the majority of Muslims are moderate...Violence is inherent in Islam – It’s a destructive, nihilistic cult of death. It legitimates murder.”

At the Sidney Writer’s Festival in June 2007, she balanced her arguments saying, “I am a Muslim because I understood why Muslims were silent when the Koran was “invoked to behead captured aid workers, journalists and other western wanderers, “as silence is better than an argument with the author of the Holy Book who has given the command to behead infidels.” Hirsi Ali stated that she was also “not a Muslim” as she has lost the fear of the Koran and of Hell and lost respect for “its author” and Messenger, and that she felt a “common humanity” with those she once “shunned”, such as Jews, Christians, atheists, gays, and sinners of all stripes and colours.”

In the magazine *Reason*, Ayaan Hirsi Ali stated that not just ‘radical Islam, but Islam must be defeated.” She stated, “Islam once it is defeated, it can mutate into something peaceful. It is very difficult to even talk about peace now. They’re not interested in peace.”

Hirsi Ali criticises the Prophet of Islam on the grounds of his morality and personality. In January 2003 she told the Dutch paper *Trouw*, “Muhammad is seen by our western standards, a “pervert”, as he married at the age of 53, Aisha, who was six years old and nine at the time the marriage was consummated.”

In 2003 she was elected a member of the House of Representatives (the lower house of the Dutch Parliament), representing the People’s Party for Freedom and Democracy. A political crisis surrounding the political stripping of her Dutch citizenship led to her resignation from the parliament, and led indirectly to the fall of the second Balkenende cabinet.

In 2013 Hirsi got married to British historian and public commentator Niall Ferguson. At last, she became a neutralized citizen of the United States on April 25, 2013 (Ayaan Hirsi Ali –Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia).

After reverting to atheism, laan hirsy began to spread falsehood about Islam everywhere. The west awarded her several hypocritical prizes because of the books she published tarnishing Islam. They used her effectively to smear the religion of Islam. They welcomed her as a fellow at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and as a member of the Future Diplomacy Project at the Belfer Centre. They made her think that she was a philosopher, a woman of high intellect. laan Hirsi coming from a tribal environment was tremendously overwhelmed.

laan Hirsi abandoned the religion of Islam not because it was a violent religion, but because her belief was originally weak and shaking. She could not adhere to the principles of Islam because she was unable to rise above her beastly desires. As she stated in her writings, she wanted to live freely without reservation. She wanted to drink wine and enjoy the pleasures of life. She wanted to express her views about her own feelings, she wanted to free her body from the fetters of Islam especially after reading pornographic novels. She wanted to feel herself; she longed to live the liberal open life of the west. If Islam will prohibit her from doing so, then to hell with Islam.

laan hirsy should have used her intellect to understand the Koran and adhere to its divine principles. But she saw worldly benefits in the rejection of Islam, while, on the contrary, acceptance of Islam would have made her a woman of value and honour. When she walked the path of worldly gains, there was nobody except Satan to give her company.

Though she has apparently all the faculties of reason and perception, she had so deadened them that these faculties do not work, and they go headlong into Hell. Instead of using her faculties to understand Allah's signs and surrender to His blessed will, she chose to direct them downward, indulge in atheism, and remain low. She stood therefore similitude exact of the dog which lolls his tongue whether you drive him away or you let him alone. This is exactly the similitude of those who deny Allah's revelations and signs, which betoken Omnipotence and Authority.

Evil indeed is the similitude of those who denied Allah's signs and were unjust to themselves. Indeed, he whom Allah guides to His path of rectitude is the one who is truly guided into all truth, and those whom Allah does not guide to His path of rectitude are born to be losers. No one can guide those whom Allah lets go astray. He leaves them in their

trespasses, wandering in distraction. Truth is available only to those who are awake.

Allah has created to the abode of Hell many of the jinn and mankind whom He had foreknown that they would be born to be losers. The melody of divine song will come to their ears, but they will be prevented from hearing it because they carry hearts which are stigmatized with dullness of comprehension, and eyes which lack perception, and they have no ears for admonition. These are they who stand similitude of cattle, in fact even worse for they are the heedless of all truth.

We read in the Koran:

And recite to them the tidings of him to whom We gave Our signs, but he cast them off, and Satan followed after him, and he became one of the perverts. And had We willed, We would have raised him up thereby; but he inclined towards the earth and followed his lust. So the likeness of him is as the likeness of a dog; if thou attackest it, it lolls its tongue out, or if thou leavest it it lolls its tongue out. Such is the parable of the people who reject Our signs. So relate the story haply they will reflect. An evil likeness is the likeness of the people who cried lies to Our signs, and themselves were wronging. Whomsoever Allah guides, he is rightly guided; and whom He leads astray – they are the losers.

We have created for Gehenna (Hell) many jinn and men; they have hearts, but understand not with them; they have eyes, but perceive not with them; they have ears but they hear not with them. They are like cattle; nay, rather they are further astray. Those - they are the heedless (Al-A'raf 175-179).

The true believer has risen above all kinds of worldly interests. Truth becomes his soul concern. He sacrifices his life and property for Allah.

Iaan Hirsi slandered the great man Muhammad - peace and the blessings of Allah be upon him. The Prophet of Islam showed her the road to Paradise. He imparted to her the Koran, and recited to her Allah's revelations. She should have opened her ears and listened graciously to Allah's commands, and remembered that he who entertains the profound reverence dutiful to Him and prints his deeds with wisdom and piety shall have escaped the torment of Hell; whereas those who chose to reject faith and deny Allah and refused to recognize His revelations and signs shall be the dwellers of the Fire.

The Koran says:

And those that cry lies to Our signs, and wax proud against them – those shall be the inhabitants of the Fire, therein dwelling forever (Al-A'raf, 36).

Iaan Hirsi enjoys now the applause she is receiving from the west. They applaud her not because she is an intellectual woman, but because they exploit her and manipulate her to be an inimical voice in the west attacking Islam. Now she collects her profits and live an easy life in what seems to be a civilized country. Now she managed to escape a tribal life and live a modern comfortable life she always longed for. She may think that she is now a distinguished person appreciated by important political circles. But she must not ever forget how Allah treats those who rebelled against him here on earth. The rebels against Allah are not at once cut off for their sins. They will get the portion allotted for them, including the good things of life and the chance of repentance and reformation, during their probationary period on this earth. During that period, they will have a full run. After that period expires, they will be called to account. They will themselves see that what they forged against Allah was false, and they will confess their sins, but it will be too late.

The Koran says:

And who does greater evil than he who forges against Allah a lie, or cries lies to His signs? Those – their portion of the book shall reach them; till, when Our Messengers (the angels of death) come to them, to take them away, they say, 'Where is that you were calling on, beside Allah?' They will say, 'They have gone astray from us,' and they will bear witness against themselves that they were unbelievers (Al-A'raf, 37).

Iaan Hirsi, don't you ever think that you have escaped Allah's wrath. Allah has his own ways in treating those denying his signs. He opens the doors of success and comfort for them and grants them prosperity in full measure; their wealth, honour and popularity increase. This in reality is not a blessing, but a punishment so that the evil hidden in them should come out clearly. The purpose of this is that you should feel satisfied with yourself and become more insensitive to the truth and much bolder in ignoring it. As a result, your meriting punishment is fully established. When this purpose is achieved, Allah's retribution suddenly overwhelms you. You shall face calamities in this worldly life, then faces tremendous torture in the grave, and then you will be presented before the Court of the Hereafter to be awarded the punishment of Hell.

As the Koran says:

Indeed, We sent to nations before thee, and We seized them with misery and hardship that haply they might be humble; if only, when Our might came upon them, they had been humble! But their hearts were hard, and Satan decked out fair to them what they were doing. So, when they forgot what they were reminded of, We opened unto them the gates of everything until, when they rejoiced in what they were given, we seized them suddenly, and behold, they were sore confounded (Al-An'am 42-44).

We also read in the Koran:

And those who cry lies to Our signs We will draw them on little by little whence they know not, and I respite them – assuredly My guile is sure (Al-A'raf, 181, 182).

A life lived on the assumption that the world belongs to Allah is a truly god-fearing life, whereas a life in which no such assumption is made is one of sinfulness, being entirely given over to worldly pleasures and trivialities. The pleasure-seeking life will last in terms of eternity for only a matter of days and with death will come to an end, whereas the god-fearing life, regulated by Allah's eternal principles will continue to stand man in good stead both in this world and the next. In the present world, man denies these realities but, as soon as the freedom given to him under test conditions ends, he will be compelled to accept them, though acceptance at that time will be of no avail.

The Koran says:

Lost indeed are they that cried lies to the encounter with Allah, so that when the Hour comes to them suddenly they shall say, 'Alas for us, that we neglected it!' On their backs they shall be bearing their loads; O how evil the loads they bear (Al-An'am, 31).

The Koran also says:

The present life is naught but a sport and a diversion, surely the last abode is better for those that are god-fearing. What, do you not understand? (Al-An'am, 32).

In order for the west to accept Iaan Hirsi, she had to parrot what they say about Islam: Islam is a violent religion, the events of September 11 were due to violent Islam, Islam persecutes women, Muslims want to apply Sharia Law in western societies, radical Islam is going to rule the

world, Islam is against freedom of speech, Muhammad is pervert, the Koran is just another book...etc.

Iaan Hirsi said that she lost her faith while sitting in an Italian restaurant drinking a glass of wine: "...I asked myself: Why should I burn in hell just because I'm drinking this? She described Islam as a "backward religion", incompatible with democracy. In one segment on the Dutch current affairs program Nova, she challenged pupils of an Islamic primary school to choose between the Koran and the Dutch constitution.

Iaan Hirsi thought that by doing so she will gain the respect of the west. But the racist west, which sincerely believe in white supremacy although not showing it, will never accept her as an intellectual person as she might have thought, but only as a second rate citizen because she is black and of African origin, and because she converted from a religion the west knows its greatness though hostile to it. The west realizes her failure and hypocrisy when she converted to atheism for no real reason except exercising her freedom in western open societies sunk in debauchery, adultery, homosexuality, lesbianism, and narcotic addiction. The west realizes that her books and thoughts are not straight, not on the level, and certainly blasphemous.

Iaan Hirsi is nothing but a hypocrite and an opportunist. When she saw some opportunity to advance herself in the hostile west, she fabricated different types of arguments against Islam to justify her apostasy and acquire materialistic gains. But when Allah lay bare the realities, she will see that her actions which she had considered strong enough to justify her shaky position were meaningless.

Iaan Hirsi has been awarded several hypocritical awards for her sincere efforts in smearing Islam. She thinks she is something, but the hostile west has appreciated her work because it stands against Islam.

The truth about Iaan Hirsi is that she was unable to adhere to the strict principles of Islam. She could not differentiate between what is right and what is wrong. She was unable to rise above her own whims and desires. Apostasy then was the solution. In order to justify her actions she declared falsehood to be truth. Her recklessness went to the extent of ignoring Allah's signs. She became careless to the fact that finally Allah is going to have her in His grasp and will charge her that she believed not in His signs and followed the steps of Satan – man's open foe.



The commandments, which Allah requires man to obey, are wise, rational and logic. They are the same commands Allah enjoined upon all prophets before Muhammad. They show the road to Paradise. But it was Allah's will and plan not to impose His will on man. Allah gave man the free will to tread the right or the wrong path. Those who follow the right path Paradise will be the reward, and those who tread the wrong path Hell will be their final abode.

I must say that Allah's commandments certainly bound the freedom of the believers. The believers should not live a loose life but a pious life framed with Allah's virtuous principles. These principles are in fact a commitment between the believers and their Lord. If they abide by them throughout their lives no matter how stringent they are, they will receive Allah's mercy and enter Paradise. This is the price they must pay in order to win Allah's pleasure and inherit the Garden of Bliss.

Although Allah's commands are wise and sensible, Iaan Hirsi's decomposed soul could not withstand them. They fettered her freedom, and curbed her caprices and whims.

But what are the commandments the Koran brought that made Iaan Hirsi convert to atheism? Let us see what these commandments are.

- 1- Muslims should recognize that Allah is the One and Only Lord and Cherisher. Allah is to be worshipped alone without associating with Him any partners (strict Islamic monotheism).
- 2- To be good to parents and commit them to our kind care.
- 3- We must not kill our children because of lack of wealth. Allah provides for us and for them.
- 4- We must not commit ourselves to an evil line of conduct be it committed openly or secretly.
- 5- We must not deprive anyone of life, which Allah has made sacred, unless it be justified for a proved crime.
- 6- We must not encroach upon the property of the orphan, unless it be with the motive of improving, advancing or raising it to a better quality or condition until he reaches maturity and be able to take charge of it.
- 7- We must not fraudulently scan the measure and the weight but dispense them equitably to the full.
- 8- When we express our thoughts in words or pronounce a judgment, we observe justice even if the person in question be related.
- 9- We must avoid breach of promise and breaking a vow.

Allah commands us in the Koran:

Say: "Come, I will recite what your Lord has forbidden you: that you associate not anything with Him, and to be good to your parents, and not to slay your children because of poverty; We will provide you and them, and that you approach not any indecency outward or inward, and that you slay not the soul Allah has forbidden, except by right. This he has commanded you that you may understand.

And that you approach not the property of the orphan, save in the fairer manner, until he is of age. And fill up the measure and the balance with justice. We charge not any soul save to its capacity. And when you speak, be just, even if it should be to a near kinsman. And fulfil Allah's covenant. This He commands you that you may remember. And that this is my path, straight; so do you follow it, and follow not diverse paths lest they scatter you from His path. This He has ordained for you; haply you will be god-fearing (Al-An'am 151-153).

In another chapter of the Koran we read that the believers will win Paradise through humbling themselves in their prayers; avoid vain talk; active in deeds of charity; abstain from sex outside marriage; observe their trust and their covenants; strictly guard their prayers – these will be the heirs of the earth because they spread truth and justice in it, and truth and justice must prevail.

In the life to come, the righteous will see the fruit of their good deeds in the present world, and then will inherit Paradise, in the sense that they will attain it after their death.

The Koran says:

Prosperous are the believers who in their prayers are humble, and from idle talk turn away, and at almsgiving are active, and guard their private parts save from their wives and what their right hands own then being not blameworthy. But whosoever seeks after more than that, those are the transgressors, and who preserve their trusts and their covenant, and also observe their prayers. Those are the inheritors who shall inherit Paradise therein dwelling forever (Al\_Mu'minun 1-11).

The Koran also emphasizes:

Do not commit adultery, for it is an indecent thing and an evil course (Al-Isra', 32).

Allah enjoins justice and deeds of wisdom and piety, and benevolence to near relatives who are in need, and he forbids all that is wrongful and obscene.

The Koran says:

Allah bids to justice and good-doing and giving to kinsmen; and He forbids indecency, dishonour and insolence, admonishing you, so that haply you will remember (Al-Nahl, 90).

In Islam, consumption of any intoxicants specifically, alcoholic beverages is totally forbidden. Likewise, gambling, sacrificing on stone alters to other than Allah, and divining arrows are strictly forbidden.

The Koran says:

O believers, wine and arrow shuffling, idols and divining arrows are an abomination, some of Satan's work; so avoid it; haply you will prosper (Al-maidah, 90).

Consumption of pork and products made from pork is strictly forbidden in Islam. The Koran clearly emphasizes:

O believers, eat of the good things wherewith We have provided you, and give thanks to Allah if it be Him that you serve. These things only has He forbidden you: carrion, blood, the flesh of swine, what has been hallowed to other than Allah. (Al-Baqara, 173).

After converting to atheism, laan Hirsi said that she has no fear of Allah, and His Hell Fire. Nothing now relate her to Islam, now she can drink wine copiously, and eat pork voraciously, and penetrate deeply in the mud of sin and transgression.

laan Hersi excelled in what is wrongful and obscene. She went astray to her own peril. She rejected the signs of Allah and counselled deaf to them? Those who counsel deaf to Allah's signs, which betoken Omnipotence and authority, shall be put to the torment in requital of closing the ears of their hearts and the eyes of their minds to intellectual and spiritual enlightenment.

The Koran says:

And who does greater evil than he who cries lies to Allah's signs, and turns away from them? We shall surely recompense those who turn away from Our signs with an evil chastisement for their turning away (Al-An'am, 157).

Our Lord has guided us to a straight path, and to an upright religion, the religion of Abraham the upright who was not of those who associated partners with Allah in worship. Our prayer and our sacrifice and our lives and our death are all for Allah, the Lord of the worlds. What a beautiful and sincere life to live. What a great reward awaiting us – Paradise.

Iaan Hirsi with her decomposed soul could not withstand the commands of Allah to the believers. It was easier for her to run away and seek the pleasures of the fleeting life instead of holding fast to Allah's guidance.

Muslims are not grieved in the least when she rushed headlong into unbelief. Not the least harm will she do to Allah; it is Allah's will to give her no portion in the Hereafter. Allah gives her respite to sink deeper into sin, and then the torment of Hell will be her last abode.

The Koran says:

[Prophet], do not be grieved by those who are quick to disbelieve. They will not harm Allah in the least; it is Allah's will that they will have no share in the Hereafter – a terrible torment awaits them. Those who sell their faith for disbelief will not harm Allah in any way; agonizing torment awaits them. The disbelievers should not think that it is better for them that we give them more time (on earth): when We give them more time they become more sinful – a shameful torment awaits them (Al-Imran 176-178).

Iaan Hiris, let not the unlawful money you earn from attacking Islam impress you, for Allah seeks to punish you through it in the life of this world so that your soul shall depart while you are unbeliever.

The Koran says:

Do not let their wealth and children impress you, for Allah seeks to punish them through these things in the life of this world, so that their souls shall depart while they are still denying the truth (At-Tawba, 55).

Iaan Hirsy, You are a consummate hypocrite seeking materialistic gains on the expense of faith. You are forgetful of Allah and the Hereafter. Allah and the Hereafter have no value for you. You will be deprived from Allah's Grace in this world and the world to come.

The Koran says:

The hypocrites, the men and the women, are as one another, they bid to dishonour and forbid honour; they keep their hands shut; they have forgotten Allah, and He has forgotten them. The hypocrites – they are the ungodly. Allah has promised the hypocrites, men and women, and the unbelievers, the fire of Gehenna, therein to dwell forever. That is enough for them; Allah has cursed them; and there awaits them a lasting chastisement (At-Tawba 67, 68).

Iaan Hirsy forgot in her blind enmity that opposition to the truth amounts to opposition of Allah. This conduct can never succeed in Allah's world. The only fate ordained for her is her meeting with death in despair and being deprived of Allah's Grace forever.

We read in the Koran:

Do they not know that whoever opposes Allah and His Messenger shall abide forever in the Fire of Hell? That is the supreme humiliation (At-Tawba, 63).

Iaan Hirsy wrote in her book entitled 'Infidel', "I was on a psychological mission to accept living without a God, which means accepting that I give my life its own meaning."

The seeing and the blind are not alike; nor are those blessed with faith and those without. The former seek Allah, and attain peace and blessedness in their hearts and a final home of rest. The latter are in state of curse, and their end is terrible. If Allah in His wisdom postpones retribution, it is for a time. His promise never fails; it will

happen in His own good time. In all things, it is for Him to command.

Iaan Hirsi was a Muslim then converted to the worst form of unbelief – atheism. She broke her covenant with Allah after having confirmed it. She cut asunder what Allah has commanded to be joined and spread mischief in the land by attacking Islam without knowledge or authority. The poor woman shall be cursed and shall have an evil abode.

The Koran says in her case:

And those who break the covenant of Allah after His compact, and who snap what Allah has commanded to be joined, and who work corruption in the earth – theirs shall be the curse, and theirs the Evil Abode Al-Ra'd, 25).

Iaan Hirsi, now you laugh; now you oppose your Lord and ridicule His signs openly without reservation. But on the Day of Judgment you will appear before your Lord as a helpless criminal. You will find yourself bound in chains, your garment shall be of pitch and the fire shall envelop your face.

And thou shalt see the sinners that day coupled in fetters, of pitch their shirts, their faces enveloped by the Fire, that Allah may recompense every soul for its earnings; surely Allah is swift at the reckoning (Ibrahim 49-51).

Iaan Hirsi lives her life in 'today'. She does not pay attention to 'tomorrow'. Reality lies exposed before her but she remains engrossed in enmity against her Lord. Her wrongdoings will not come to her rescue when the period of testing is over and Allah's angels come to take her away from the world of trial to the world of retribution. At a time like this, she will remember with utter regret when she rejected the truth and followed the desires of the self.

She forgot that after death, after being reduced to bones and dust, she will be restored to life and be created anew. Allah shall throng atheists, idolaters and disbelievers drawn on their faces, blind, deaf and dumb to be delivered to their appropriate quarters in Hell, which is constantly fed with fuel as often as it abates so that the sinners suffer the merciless flames of the fire. This is in requital of

their denial of Allah's signs and insolently voicing their denial of resurrection.

The Koran states:

And we shall muster them on the Resurrection Day upon their faces, blind, dumb, deaf; their refuge shall be Gehenna, and whensoever it abates, We shall increase for them the Blaze. That is their recompense because they disbelieved in Our signs and said, 'What, when we are bones and broken bits, shall we really be raised up again in a new creation (Al-Isra' 97, 98).

Iaan Hirsi claims that Islam must be defeated! But never shall Allah grant the disbelievers a way to triumph over the believers. Because Iaan Hirsi is ignorant of the Koran she did not realize that Allah has promised the believers a reward. He shall grant them in the land the inheritance of power, and delegate them to maintain justice and righteousness. He will confirm for them their religion as the appropriate system of faith and worship. He shall also exchange the fear and the dread, which fell upon them for peace of mind and soul, provided that they worship Him with appropriate acts and rites, and do not incorporate with Him in worship other deities. And he who denies after this the divine origin of faith (Islam) shall he and such-like persons be the faithless perverse who are morally depraved.

The Koran says:

Allah has promised those of you who believe and do righteous deeds that He would surely make you successors in the land, even as He made those who were before them successors, and that He will surely establish their religion for them that He has approved for them, and will give them in exchange, after their fear, security: 'They shall serve Me, not associating with Me anything.' Whoso disbelieves after that, those – they are the ungodly (An-Nur, 55).

Iaan Hirsi said that Islam is backward and the Koran is terrible. She thinks that Islam as a moral framework is not compatible with the modern westernised way of living. She considers that the western mode of life is ideal while the Islamic way of life is backward and undeveloped. Her meagre and scanty knowledge about Islam makes her repeat without understanding what the hostile west promulgates about Islam. No wonder, the woman

coming from a tribal tradition is dying to mingle with the west and win its consent. The best tactic to adopt is to show them that she was in line with their offensive criticism and war against Islam.

The modern westernized way of living, which Hirsi is proud of, does not provide any answer; Islamic values deserve serious consideration.

All the vices and sins prohibited in Islam and in all other religions are now committed in the west. Today, in the west, sex before marriage with parental consent is common. Homosexual acts between consenting adults, male or female, are legal in much of the West. Half the Western world, in fact, would say that laws against homosexual sex are a violation of gay and lesbian human rights.

British women, however, were granted the right to own property independent of their husbands only in 1870, while Muslim women have always had that right since Muhammad was sent with the religion of Islam more than 1400 years ago, while in many western cultures daughters could not inherit anything if there were sons in the family, Islamic law has always allocated shares from every inheritance to both daughters and sons.

In almost all Western countries except for New Zealand, women did not gain the right to vote until the twentieth century. Great Britain extended the vote to women in two stages, in 1918 and 1928, and the United States enfranchised them by constitutional amendment in 1920. France followed as recently as 1944. Switzerland did not permit women to vote in national elections until 1971 -- decades after Muslim women in Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, and Pakistan had been casting ballots.

The United States, the largest and most influential western nation, has never had a female president. In contrast, two of the most populous Muslim countries, Pakistan and Bangladesh, have had women prime ministers: Benazir Bhutto headed two governments in Pakistan, and Khaleda Zia and Hasina Wajed served consecutively in Bangladesh. Turkey has had Prime Minister Tansu Ciller.

If we talk about tolerance in Islam, Islam protected minority religions through ecumenicalism throughout its history. Jews and



Christians had special status as People of the Book -- a fraternity of monotheists. Other religious minorities were later also accorded the status of protected minorities (dhimis). The approach has had its successes. Jewish scholars rose to high positions in Muslim Spain. During the Ottoman Empire, Christians sometimes attained high political office: Suleiman I (1520-1566) had Christian ministers in his government, as did Selim III (1789-1807). The Moghul Empire integrated Hindus and Muslims into a consolidated Indian state; Emperor Akbar (1556-1605) carried furthest the Moghul policy of bringing Hindus into the government. In the 1990s Iraq has had a Chaldean Christian deputy prime minister, Tariq Aziz. And Boutros Boutros-Ghali, a Coptic Christian, would never have been appointed secretary-general of the United Nations if not for his long and distinguished service in the foreign ministry of an otherwise Muslim government in Egypt.

The Republic of Senegal in West Africa which is nearly 95 percent Muslim, had as a president Leopold Sedar Senghor - a Roman Catholic president for two decades (1960-80). In his years presiding over that relatively open society, Senghor never once had to deal with anti-Christian disturbances in the streets of Dakar. His political opponents called him a wide range of derogatory names -- hypocrite, stooge of the French, dictator, political prostitute -- but virtually never taunted him for being a kafir (infidel). The Westerners are far less secular in their political behaviour than they think they are. Historically, Muslim societies however, have been more ecumenical, and therefore more humane, than their Western critics have recognized. Islamic ecumenicalism has sometimes protected religious minorities more effectively than Western secularism. Cultures should be judged not merely by the heights of achievement to which they have ascended but by the depths of brutality to which they have descended. The measure of cultures is not only their virtues but also their vices.

Islamic culture has not been hospitable to Nazism, fascism, or communism, unlike Christian culture (as in Germany, Italy, Russia, Czechoslovakia), Buddhist culture (Japan before and during World War II, Pol Pot's Cambodia, Vietnam, North Korea), or Confucian culture (Mao's China). The Muslim world has never given rise to systematic fascism and its organized brutalities. Communism has never independently taken hold in a Muslim culture.

There are no Muslim equivalents of Nazi extermination camps, nor Muslim conquests by genocide on the scale perpetrated by Europeans in the Americas and Australia, nor Muslim equivalents of Stalinist terror, Pol Pot's killing fields, or the starvation and uprooting of tens of millions in the name of Five Year Plans. Nor are there Muslim versions of apartheid like that once approved by the South African Dutch Reformed Church, or of the ferocious racism of Japan before 1945, or of the racist culture of the Old South in the United States with its brutalization of black people.

Islam has been always resistant to racism. The Koran confronts the issue of national and ethnic differences. The standard of excellence it sets has nothing to do with race, but is instead moral and religious worth.

The Koran says:

O people! We have created you from a male and a female, and have made you nations and tribes so that you may know one another. The noblest among you is the most pious. Allah is All-knowing (Al-Hujurat, 13).

In his farewell address, delivered on his last pilgrimage to Mecca in A.D. 632, Muhammad peace be upon him declared: "There is no superiority of an Arab over a non-Arab, and indeed, no superiority of a red man over a black man except through piety and fear of Allah . . . Let those who are present convey this message to those who are absent."

Unlike Christian churches, the mosque has never been segregated by race. One of Muhammad's most beloved companions was an Ethiopian, Bilal Rabah, a freed slave who rose to great prominence in early Islam. Under Arab lineage systems and kinship traditions, racial intermarriage was not discouraged and the children were considered Arab regardless of who the mother was. These Arab ways influenced Muslim societies elsewhere. Of the four presidents of Egypt since the revolution of 1952, two had black African ancestors -- Muhammad Nagib and Anwar al-Sadat.

Partly because of Islam's relatively non-racial nature, Islamic history has been free of systematic efforts to obliterate a people. Islam conquered by co-optation, intermarriage, and conversion rather than by genocide.

Nor did Islam ever spawn an Inquisition to kill heretics, or herding of a whole people of another faith into gas chambers. Islam has been a shield against such excesses of evil.

Western liberal democracy has enabled societies to enjoy openness, government accountability, popular participation, and high economic productivity, but Western pluralism has also been a breeding ground for racism, fascism, exploitation, and genocide. If history is to end in arrival at the ultimate political order, it will require more than the West's message on how to maximize the best in human nature. Humankind must consult Islam about how to check the worst in human nature -- from alcoholism to racism, materialism to Nazism, drug addiction to Marxism as the opiate of the intellectuals.

The west is living democratic principles and the Muslim world is living humane principles. These include stabilizing the family, security from social violence, and the relatively non-racial nature of religious institutions. In that sense, the Muslim world may be ahead of the West (1).

Iaan Hirsi is very critical of the position of women in Islamic societies and the punishments demanded by Islamic scholars for homosexuality and adultery. She thinks that Islam persecutes women. She wants Muslim women to live an open life and not to be blamed if they commit adultery or even homosexuality.

Iaan Hirsi rebelled against the duty of Muslim women who submit to Allah, and to their fathers, brothers and husbands. Hirsi Ali feels that she was set free, sexually, socially, intellectually, by the West, especially after she read Daniel Steel's porn books.

Iaan Hirsi judges Muslim women according to what she experienced in her tribal society. She said that she had seen in Somalia a girl that set herself on fire because her parents did not approve her being pregnant after having a secret relationship with a stranger. Hirsi put the blame on Islam! Islam has nothing to do with that incidence. Islam forbids committing suicide. Islam forbids sex outside marriage. The victim committed the sin of adultery and brought the wrath of her parents upon her head. The parents treated their daughter harshly, and the daughter could not bear the shameful consequences so she killed herself! What Islam has to

do with all this? Islam as a religion is not to blame here at any rate. The matter is cultural, and has nothing to do with Islam.

Hirsi Ali stated that in 1992 her father arranged to marry her to a distant cousin. She said that she dreaded being forced to submit to a stranger; someone with "the Holy Book on his side" who could force himself on her sexually. Members of her family have disputed the story of her forced marriage.

In order to beg for the sympathy of the west and show that she had the right to escape the tyranny of Muslim men, Hirsi fabricated the story of forced marriage. Why do I say so, because there is no forced marriage in Islam!

Based on Iaan Hirsi's glaring lie that the Koran encourages men to marry women against their will, I hereby raise the question: Can a woman be forced into marriage in Islam?

Absolutely not! The Koran has clearly instructed that women must be treated kindly. Among many nations, including Arabs in the days of ignorance, a stepson or brother took possession of a dead man's widow or widows along with his goods and chattels. The Koran forbade this shameful custom. Another trick, to detract from the freedom of married women was to treat them badly and force them to ask for divorce, or its equivalent in pre-Islamic custom, when the dower could be claimed back. This was also forbidden. Or the harshness may be exercised in another way; a divorced woman may be prevented by those who have control of her, from re-marrying unless she remits her dower. The Koran forbade all kinds of harshness.

Allah says in the Koran:

"O you who believe! You are forbidden to inherit women against their will. Nor should you treat them with harshness, that you may take away part of the dower you have given them, except where they have been guilty of open lewdness; on the contrary live with them on a footing of kindness and equity. If you take a dislike to them it may be that you dislike a thing, and Allah brings about through it a great deal of good." (An-Nisa', 19).

Abu Huraira reported that Allah's Messenger said: "A woman without a husband (or divorced or a widow) must not be married

until she is consulted, and a virgin must not be married until her permission is sought.” They asked the Prophet of Allah: How her virgin's consent can be solicited? He said: ‘That she keeps silence.’ ( Sahih Muslim, The Book of Marriage (Kitab Al-Nikah), Book 008, Number 3303).

Abu Hurayrah narrated that the prophet said: ‘An orphan virgin girl should be consulted about herself; if she says nothing that indicates her permission, but if she refuses, the authority of the guardian cannot be exercised against her will. ( Sunan Abu-Dawud, Marriage (Kitab Al-Nikah), Book 11, Number 2088).

Abdullah ibn Umar narrated that the Prophet said: ‘ Consult women about the marriage of their daughters. (Sunan Abu-Dawud, Marriage (Kitab Al-Nikah), Book 11, Number 2090).

Abdullah ibn Abbas narrated that the Prophet said: ‘A virgin came to the Prophet and mentioned that her father had married her against her will, so the Prophet allowed her to exercise her choice. (Sunan Abu-Dawud, Marriage (Kitab Al-Nikah), Book 11, Number 2091).

Abdullah ibn Abbas narrated that the prophet said: ‘A guardian has no concern with a woman previously married and has no husband, and an orphan girl (i.e. virgin) must be consulted, her silence being her acceptance. ( Sunan Abu-Dawud, Marriage (Kitab Al-Nikah), Book 11, Number 2095).

The above Koranic verse and the Sayings of the Prophet clearly explain that according to Islam, whether the woman is virgin or not, her permission is a must. Her father or older brother cannot force her into marriage as the Pagan Arabs and the Jews and Christians before Islam in the Middle East used to do. See Deuteronomy 25:5 in the Bible to see how women were forced into marriage.

Iaan Hirsi condemns Islam for its treatment of women and antipathy toward individual rights. She founded the AHA Foundation, a non-profit humanitarian organization created to protect women and girls in the U.S. against political Islam and harmful tribal customs that violate U.S. law and international conventions.

laan Hirsi wants to rescue Muslim women from violent Islam, which degrade women and makes them inferior to men. She claims that she is a freedom fighter for feminism and that she had devoted her life to defend women against radical Islam.

Are women in Islam persecuted and inferior to men? Are non-Muslim women in the west living better than Muslim women? Does Hirsi recommend the western model for Muslim women to follow? Let us examine the western model.

It is apparent that the behaviour of women in America and in the West in general during the past 35 years needs to be carefully monitored. They engage in sex with multiple partners, acquire diseases that result often in infertility or worse, regard abortion as an inherent right and as an everyday event of no consequence, have babies out of wedlock, bring unfair lawsuits against men, shove their way into the workplace often without proper qualifications, dump their kids at day-care, join left-leaning groups, vote for socialistic legislation, mock men, treat men like objects and propel the sex industry in ways that men alone could never do. These and other untenable actions cause them to lose the love and respect of men, and invalidate the fine accomplishments of women through the ages. In short, by using freedom as a license, they have become more enslaved than they ever were before. Women, having once been the moral backbone of society, have become insignificant, and worthless.

As we see, if a man disputes with his family trying to correct a rebellious wife or kids, his wife or even his kid may call the police and the husband finds himself thrown in jail under the serious charge of woman or child abuse!

Due to man-made laws, man in the west is deprived of his authority as the man of the house. If he divorces his wife, she takes most of his salary and property, so why marrying in the first place? In his society, sex outside marriage is allowed, so to hell with marriage that brings financial ruin, and unbearable shackles. This parental dissolution due to the diminishing of the father's authority has led to the deterioration of marital life and consequently, the dissolution of the western society.

In Islam, the wife has to obey her husband and be lawful to him. A group of people paid a visit to Allah's Messenger and said, "O

Prophet of Allah, we have seen such people who prostrate before each other.” The Holy Prophet answered, “If at all I could permit prostration before anyone except Allah, the Creator, I would have ordered the wives to prostrate before their husbands.”

The Prophet is also reported to have said, “A wife who gives her husband water to drink attains a reward of one year of worship, a year whose nights were passed in prayers and days in fasting. In exchange of one drop of water which she provides for her husband one city is built in paradise for her and sins of sixty years are forgiven.”

Hirsi claims that as a western woman she has never been abused by men. But millions of American women claim otherwise.

Based on adequate statistics, 95% of the domestic violence in America is women. Every 9 seconds a woman is assaulted and beaten. 4,000,000 women a year are assaulted by their partners. In the United States, a woman is more likely to be assaulted, injured, raped, or killed by a male partner than by any other type of assailant. Every day, 4 women are killed by boyfriends or husbands. 93% of women who killed their mates had been battered by them. 67% killed them to protect themselves and their children at the moment of murder. 25% of all crime is wife assault. 60% of all battered women are beaten while they are pregnant. Up to 37% of all women experience battering in Minnesota alone. Battering often occurs during pregnancy. Every 2 minutes, someone in the U.S. is sexually assaulted. There is an average of 207,754 victims (age 12 or older) of sexual assault each year. Somewhere in America a woman is battered, usually by her intimate partner, every 16 seconds (UN Study on the Status of women, year 2000). A study reported in the New York Times suggests that one in five adolescent girls become the victims of physical or sexual violence, or both, in a dating relationship (New York Times, 8/01/01)."

In fact, women in the United States have never been more miserable. Single women are grieving from a man shortage. They are hysteric, depressed and confused.

High-powered career women are stricken with unprecedented outbreaks of stress-induced disorders, hair loss, bad nerves, alcoholism and heart attacks. How can American women be in so

much trouble at the same time that they are supposed to be so liberal, free and independent? If the status of women has never been higher, why is their emotional state so low? If women got their freedom and equality with men, what could possibly be the matter now? Is it equality that is causing all that pain? Women seem to be enslaved by their own liberation!

Women in America have grabbed at the gold ring of independence, only to miss the one ring that really matters. They have gained control of their fertility, only to destroy it. They have pursued their own professional dreams, and lost out the great female adventure. The women's movement has proved women's own worst enemy.

Women liberation has effectively robbed them of one thing upon which the happiness of women rests – men. Women pay for their liberty with an empty bed, a barren womb. Women's distress was an unfortunate consequence of feminism, because it created a myth among women that the apex of self-realization could be achieved only through autonomy, independence and career.

If American women are so equal, why they represent two-thirds of all poor adults? Why are they far more likely than men to live in poor housing, and receive no health insurance, and twice as likely to draw no pension? Why do American women face on the worst gender-based pay bag in the developed world?

If women have “made it,” then why are nearly 80% of working women still stuck in traditional “female” jobs-as secretaries, administrative “support” workers and salesclerks? (2).

The Muslim woman in the western media is pictured as an oppressed woman covered from head to toe, has no free will, no rights whatsoever and is blindly blackmailed into following this backward desert religion, dominated by men and seen almost as a slave trapped in the four walls of her home.

On the other hand, the western media pictures the western woman as liberated, free to be a master of her own life! Perhaps a high-flying career woman, or a RnB Honey who can dress anyway she wants and tempt men to do her bidding, and won't let society, or a bunch of men tell her what to do in her life.



However, once we scratch beneath the surface of both these media images, we find the truth to be blatantly different. Firstly, let's take women in the West. It seems they love their freedom from men. When the church ruled, women were seen as evil tempting Adam to eat the apple, being a temptation in general and a way to spread the devil's corruption amongst other things! If they ever tried to have their own say or opinion, chances were that they'd be called a Witch and burnt at the stake! Over time they managed to convince society that they could think and that they had brains.

Women in the west had to fight tooth and nail to get a chance vote. They formed groups like the famous Suffragettes (comes from the word suffrage, which means the right to vote). Suffragettes carried out direct action such as chaining themselves to railings, setting fire to the contents of mailboxes, smashing windows, going on hunger strikes and on occasions setting off bombs! One Suffragette, Emily Davison, died after she stepped out in front of the King's horse at the Epsom Derby of 1913! Eventually the right to vote of American women was given in the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution in 1920. Finally, women in the United Kingdom achieved the right to vote on the same terms as men in 1928! Therefore, they have only been able to vote less than 70 years!

Also with the World War II, while the men were away being killed, for the first time in British culture, women were entering the work place and being paid. Until then that was only something that men could do. And that, along with the Suffragettes fighting the cause, meant women for the first time were getting the chance to do something that till then they've only dreamed off – break free of the shadow of men and look upon themselves as equals.

Okay, now women are liberated. They can now work, get paid, vote and buy and sell whatever they want. They're no longer simply sexual objects to be used by men and told what to do by men and society. They are judged for their own ideas and views and not just on the size and shape of their bodies. After all these years of fighting the battle to get free of men, to become an equal – has the western women actually managed to liberate herself?

All the fighting to not just be seen as a sex object seems to be in

vain. The pornography industry generates \$7 billion every year, a figure greater than the whole of the so-called 'legitimate' film and music industries" combined. In the US, porn films gross \$1 million every day, and in Britain 20 million copies of porno magazines are sold every year, producing £500 million.

In a survey conducted in the UK among the British Civil Service, 70% of the respondents claimed to have been sexually harassed at work. A survey in nine US states over 5 years stated that 60% of the female lawyers interviewed had been sexually harassed, a third by colleagues, 40% by clients, and 6% by judges! If these are the professionals who claim to uphold the law, then what can we expect from the rest of society?

Women are being battered at home. The BBC reported that nearly 25% (that's 1 in 4!) of women in the UK face domestic violence at some stage in their life. Police are called to an incident of domestic violence every 60 seconds and receive 1,300 calls each day related to this. Domestic violence kills two women each week in the UK.

After all the accusations of Muslims not respecting women, has the liberated western society learnt to respect and honour its women? No. In the US, a rape occurs every minute, and in the UK, one-third of women (that's 1 in 3) have been sexually abused by the age of 18. Worse than that, is that the majority of rapes happen by people they knew! In addition, the sentence for rape can be as low as 180 hours community service!

This is not to mention the huge problems of women with their looks, shape and weight. There are record numbers of young women suffering from various eating disorders, being judged on the way they look, the shape of their body and bra size. Stripped naked to sell everything from cars to mineral water. Only being valued by how much pleasure she can give a man, making her a worthless piece of meat with no self-respect and esteem.

In their quest for liberation, the western women have abandoned the ideals of morality and stability and found themselves in marriages and families that bear little resemblance to real life. What is liberating if the western woman works all day then comes home at night to the housework? What is liberating if babies who, at six weeks old are deposited in childcare centres to learn their

behaviour and morality from strangers? Girls as young as 6 years old have been diagnosed with eating disorders, teenage pregnancy is rampant, and women who choose to stay at home to raise their families are viewed as old fashioned or unemployable.

Women in the West are liberated to the point that they are no longer free to choose the natural life designated to them. They are free only to purchase the goods and commodities introduced to them in the malls and super markets. The so called liberated women in the west have become slaves to the economic system, to the fashion and beauty industries, to a society that views them as brainless machines, taught to look desirable, earn money, and go shopping. Even women that managed to push their ways to decent and remarkable jobs are slaves to the consumer society, which requires them to reside in a spacious house, wear only the latest designer clothes, drive a luxurious car, and educate their children at the most expensive schools.

The natural inclination of women is to please, comfort, and support their husbands, fathers, brothers, or sons. The natural inclination of men is to protect, support and provide for their women. Islam requires that we follow such natural inclinations. It allows us to abandon ideas that are foreign to human nature and supports us in developing and sustaining healthy families forming the Muslim community.

Allah tells us in the Koran that the root of all these problems is that the disobedient societies have not followed the guidance from their Creator. Both men and women need to realize that the one who can decide men and women's roles and how they should live their lives is the One who created them.

The Koran says:

"Whoever follows My Guidance shall neither go astray, nor fall into distress and misery. But whoever turns away from My Reminder i.e. neither believes in the Koran nor acts on its orders, verily, for him is a life of hardship, and We shall raise him up blind on the Day of Resurrection" ( Taha 123-124).

We Muslims are not fooled by the dangerous western model and we do not intend to copy it; instead, we get our view of women and their rights from Islam. It is Islam - the believing in Allah the One

and Only God - and the Sunnah of the Prophet, which show how women could truly be liberated (3).

Now let us see the instructions of Allah, the Lord of creation, to believing Muslim men and women. Instructions that would make them live decently in His earthly kingdom.

Allah instructed believing men to keep their eyes down when they happen to confront unknown women. If a man accidentally cast a glance at an unknown woman, he should immediately direct his gaze elsewhere and should not deliberately look at her again. A brazen stare by a man at a woman is a breach of refined manners. Where sex is concerned, modesty is not only 'good form'; it is not only to guard the weaker sex, but also to guard the spiritual good of the stronger sex.

Allah also instructed believing men to protect their private parts from illegal sexual acts. This imparts to them sanctity of manner and of chastity.

The Koran states:

Say to believing men that they cast down their eyes and guard their private parts. That is purer for them. Allah is aware of the things they work (An-Nisa', 30).

These instructions to men are also applicable to women as is made clear in the next verse:

And say to the believing women, that they cast down their eyes and guard their private parts...(An-Nisa', 31).

The need for modesty is the same in both men and women. But on account of the differences between the two sexes, temperaments, and social life, a greater amount of privacy is required for women than for men, especially in the matter of dress and the uncovering of the bosom.

The woman is therefore asked not to make display of her figure or appear in undress except to her husband; her near relatives who would be living in the same house; and with whom a certain amount of negligé is permissible; her maid servants, who would be constantly in attendance on her; slaves, male and female, as they

would be in constant attendance; but this item would now be blank, with the abolition of slavery; old or infirm men servants; and infants or small children before they get a sense of sex.

Believing women were also instructed not to trample their feet to attract attention to what is hidden of their ornaments.

The Koran states:

And say to the believing women, that they cast down their eyes and guard their private parts, and reveal not their adornment save such as is outward; and let them cast their veils over their bosoms, and not reveal their adornment save to their husbands, or their fathers, or their husbands' fathers, or their sons, or their husbands' sons, or their brothers, or their brothers' sons, or their sisters' sons, or their women, or what their right hands own, or such men as attend them, not having sexual desire, or children who have not yet attained knowledge of women's private parts; nor let them stamp their feet, so that their hidden ornament may be known. And turn all together to Allah, O you believers; haply so you will prosper (An-Nur, 31).

Islam is a religion that treats women fairly. The Muslim women were given their rights 1400 years ago, a matter that most women in the west do not enjoy even today. These rights are from Allah and are designed to maintain balance in society.

Islam, the religion for all people in all places and times, takes the equality of men and women very seriously. It sees the liberation of women as essential and considers modesty, good character, and manners as the way to such liberation.

The western media portrays the Muslim woman as beaten, repressed and oppressed. Terms as shrouded and shackled are used to portray Muslim women as having no minds and are the slaves or possessions of their husbands and fathers. The truth about women in Islam is far from this melodramatic portrayal.

A Muslim woman knows her place in society and knows her place in the family infrastructure. Her religion is her first priority. She is a slave to no man or to any economic system; rather, she is the slave of Allah.

Women in Islam have no need to protest and demonstrate for equal rights. They have no need to live their lives aimlessly acquiring possessions and money. With the perfection of Islam as the natural and only true religion, came the undeniable fact that women and men are equal partners and protectors of one another.

We read in the Koran:

And their Lord answers them: 'I waste not the labour of any that labours among you, be you male or female – the one of you is as the other (Al-Imran, 195).

And whoever does righteous good deeds, male or female, and is a true believer in the Oneness of Allah, such will enter paradise; and not the least injustice, even to the size of a speck on the back of a date stone, will be done to them. (An-Nisa'. 124).

The Koran stated that the souls of men and women were equal - with the same obligations as well as the same rewards. For the first time in history, women were granted economic independence. The money they inherited from their parents is theirs as well as the money they earn. In Islam, women are allowed to choose their own husbands and in extreme cases, ask for divorce. A woman has the right to be educated, this is the responsibility of her father or the one who is raising her.

Women in Islam have the right to own property, to control their own money, to buy and sell, and to give gifts and charity. They have the right to inheritance; they have the right to education. Seeking and acquiring knowledge is an obligation on all Muslims, male or female. Married Muslim women although might be richer than their husbands, it is not their obligation to financially support the family because this important role has been given to the husband. However, she might participate in supporting the family if she wished to.

Women in Islam are not forced into marriage. They have the right to accept or refuse a marriage proposal as they see fit.

Women in Islam have the right to seek divorce if it becomes necessary, as they also have the right to save their marriages. Islam teaches that the family is the core of society. In western cultures, the fabric of society is torn apart by the breakdown of the

family unit. Women liberty in such crumbling communities does not guarantee security and safety. Security and safety are available only when human beings turn to Allah and worship Him alone, and accepts the role for which he or she was created.

Liberation means freedom, but not the freedom to do as one pleases. Freedom must never be at the expense of oneself or of the wider community. When a woman fulfils the role, for which she was created, not only is she liberated but she is empowered.

Liberation takes root in a society that is just, cohesive, and based on natural order and divine guidelines. Islam is such a society, and this is what makes a Muslim woman liberated. In such society she lives on divine guidance; her life is filled with peace, happiness, and strength. She is not afraid of the world, but rather embraces its tests and trials with patience and fortitude.

The Muslim woman is covered and veiled as Allah ordered her to be. This modest dress is not oppression as the west claims, but rather liberation from the shackles that have tied the feet of her Western counterparts. She is liberated from the economic slavery of the West, and she is liberated from the necessity of managing a house and family without the support of her husband or the help of a wider community.

People in the west see covered Muslim women as a sort of oppression. This is wrong. A Muslim woman is not oppressed, in fact, she is liberated. This is because she is no longer valued for something material, such as her good looks or the shape of her body. She compels others to judge her for her intelligence, kindness, honesty and personality. Therefore, people judge her for who she actually is.

When Muslim women cover their hair and wear loose clothes, they are obeying the orders of their Lord to be modest, not cultural or social mores. In fact, Christian nuns cover their hair out of modesty, yet no one considers them “oppressed.

People in the west often fail to distinguish between culture and religion -- two things that are completely different. In fact, Islam condemns oppression of any kind whether it is towards women or humankind in general.

Islam is a religion that holds women in high regard. Before Islam, when baby boys were born, they brought great joy to the family. The birth of a girl however, was hated so much that she was buried alive. Islam has always been against this discrimination against girls and strictly prohibited female infanticide.

The Prophet Muhammad, said: "Seeking knowledge is mandatory for every Muslim (male and female)." Men and women both have the capacity for learning and understanding. Since it is also their obligation to promote good behaviour and condemn bad behaviour in all spheres of life, Muslim women must acquire the appropriate education to perform this duty in accordance with their own natural talents and interests.

Raising and teaching children is the main role of Muslim women. But if the financial resources of her husband is limited, she may work outside the house to help her husband. However, this is allowed only if she complies with the Islamic code of dress and conduct, with no intermingling with men in the workplace.

Islam recognizes the natural differences between men and women despite their equality. Some types of work are more suitable for men than for women. This difference in no way would make man superior to woman. Allah will reward both genders equally for the value of their work, though it may not necessarily be within the same scope of activity.

In other words, the two great roles of women in life are that of a wife and a mother. The Prophet once said to a group of companions, "The best among you are those who are the best to their wives." This shows that Islam highly encourages the decent treatment of wives. Wives should be shown love, respect and care.

Slandering chaste women is a great sin in Islam. The Prophet said:

Avoid the seven noxious things. It was said, "What are they, Messenger of Allah?" The Prophet replied: 'Associating anything with Allah in worship, exercising magic, killing a soul without a just cause, consuming the property of an orphan, consuming of usury, turning back when the army advances, and slandering chaste women who are believers.



Here we see that one of the seven deadly sins is slandering chaste women. How come slandering men is not there? Slandering men indeed is a great sin however, the sin for slandering chaste women is worse.

The Koran gave Muslim wives various rights. The first is to receive dowry, a gift from the husband, which is part of the marriage contract and required for the legality of the marriage.

The second is maintenance. Despite any wealth she may have, her husband is obligated to provide her with food, shelter and clothing. He is not forced, however, to spend beyond his capability and his wife is not entitled to make unreasonable demands.

Concerning motherhood, the Prophet Muhammad, said: "Heaven lies under the feet of mothers." This implies that the success of a society can be traced to the mothers who raised it. The first and greatest influence on a person comes from the sense of security, affection and training received from the mother. Therefore, a woman having children must be educated in order to be skilled enough to carry out the obligation of her family.

A man came to the Prophet and asked: "Tell me one thing to do with which I enter Paradise". The Prophet answered, "Be kind to your mother." The man said, "Then what?" The Prophet said again, "Be kind to your mother." The man repeated his question, "Then what?" The Prophet repeated, "Be kind to your mother." The man said, "Then what?" The Prophet said, " Be kind to your father." This shows the influence the mother has in her children's life (3).

Iaan Hirsi claims that Muslim men are domineering and women are subservient to them. In Islam, men are not superior to women and women are not superior to men. Allah makes it perfectly clear that those superior are those who have more god-fearing.

In Islam, men and women have equal rights, but their rights are different because of their nature. Equality however does not mean that both sexes are exactly the same, but in the end the rights of both are equally balanced.

In Islam, the man is the leader of the family. He is ultimately responsible for important decisions that may need to be made in the family, such as where the family will live, where the children

will attend school and so on. This does not of course mean that he cannot consult with and seek the advice of his wife and children, but that if there is any disagreement as to the best course of action, he will have the final say. It is normal that the man will delegate some of the decision - making that involves the day-to-day running of the household to other members of his family. Therefore, the husband will often leave much of the decision making with regard to choosing the food, household items and clothing, up to the wife. The man's family accepts the decision because according to Islamic Law he has that authority over his household.

Having this responsibility also means that the man should not abuse his position and realizes that he will be answerable to Allah on the Day of Judgement as to the decisions he has made.

In addition to the man's role as leader of the household, Allah has decreed that he is to protect and provide for the women. Thus, men are responsible for the household income and for ensuring that no harm comes to his family.

The man should provide his wife and children with opportunities to educate themselves about their religion and worldly matters. If his family goes against what Allah has prescribed it is his duty to rebuke them and kindly advise them.

In the same way that Muslim women have been granted certain privileges, so too has the Muslim man. Specifically, a man has the privilege to: Be respected and obeyed as the leader of his household and have the final say on matters such as choosing his children's names, spending of income; Have his property taken care of by his wife during his absence; no foreign person enters his house in his absence.

The Koran says that men are the protectors and maintainers of women (An-Nisa', 34). This leads to a common misconception that Islam gives a higher status to men than women. This verse does not mean that men have a distinctive status over women – being maintainers of women has never been intended as a form of discriminatory treatment, it rather concerns the practical management of the home, for which the man is held responsible. However, this does not mean that woman will never be allowed to shoulder these responsibilities. If she finds that she can bear this

burden, no objection will be raised from any quarter.

Contrary to the common misconception that Islam holds men superior to women, Islam actually gives equal status to women as that of men. The Koran says:

“You are members, one of another.” (Al-Imran, 195).

This means that there is no difference between the two regarding status, rights and blessings in both this world and the Hereafter.

The following Hadith of the Prophet gives an apt description of the role of women:

Men and women are two equal halves of a single unit. (Al Tirmizi)

The Koran makes it clear that neither sex is inferior or superior to the other. But it is a reality that the two sexes are different in biology, psychology and nature, each being designed for a different purpose. Each is equal in respect, but different in role. The men undertake whatever is harder, while the women deal with whatever is lighter.

It is therefore evident that woman and man, on the basis of the very fact that one is woman and the other is a man, are not identical with each other in many respects. The world is not exactly alike for both of them, and their natures and dispositions were not intended to be the same. Eventually this requires that in very many rights and duties they should not have an identical placing.

The key to success in Islamic marriage is seen as the moral quality of the partner. The ideal Muslim bridegroom therefore goes into marriage with the responsible attitude of a person establishing a family on the best possible foundation of love and mutual compassion, and not of infatuation over beauty, ambition for wealth or social position.

The Koran has described the marriage relationship in these terms:

Among His signs is the fact that he has created spouses from among yourselves, so that you may find tranquillity with them; and he has put love and mercy between you. In that are signs for people who reflect (Ar-Rum, 21).

And again:

"They (wives) are garments for you, while you are garments for them (Al-Baqara, 187).

Having sought his bride in an honourable way, and married her, his first duty is maintenance and protection, and overall responsibility for the welfare of his wife, which is prescribed in the Koran:

Men shall take full care of women with the bounties which Allah has bestowed more abundantly on the former than on the latter, and with what they may spend out of their possessions...(An-Nisa', 34).

This includes feeding, clothing and shelter for the wife and for any children of the marriage. This is a legally enforceable duty, which remains even after divorce until the expiry of the Iddah or even longer in the view of some of the scholars. Financial responsibility for the family therefore rests squarely on the husband, and the wife has no duty to contribute to family expenses unless she has the means and she wishes to do so.

The legal obligations of a husband do not stop with provision of the basic requirements relating to maintenance and protection. He is also expected to give her company and marital relations, and to avoid doing anything that would harm her.

These obligations are enforced by the Shari'ah. If a man fails to maintain his wife or fails to visit her for more than a certain period of time, the wife has grounds to be granted a divorce by a Shari'ah Court. Similarly, if she can prove to the court that the husband is doing harm (Idrar), be it by drinking alcohol, or beating her without lawful cause, or abusing her or her parents and so on, she is entitled to be granted a divorce. In none of these cases can the husband claim back any part of the dowry or presents he has given to the wife. Every situation has to be evaluated on its merits and circumstances by a Shar'iah Court. These points mentioned above are general precepts in the Shar'iah.

The Husband is urged in the Koran to avoid divorce and try to preserve marriage even if it is not ideal. This is to be done in the first instance by exercising patience with his wife's faults.

The Koran says:

"Live with them on a footing of kindness and equity. If you take a dislike to them, it may be that you dislike a thing while Allah brings about through it a great deal of good (An-Nisa', 19).

The Prophet emphasized the undesirability of divorce in a Hadith found in Abu Dau'd's collection:

"The most hateful of all lawful things, in the sight of Allah, is divorce. The ideal husband should therefore, if need arises, make full use of Koranic provisions for reconciliation and arbitration before proceeding with divorce (An-Nisa', 34).

If a man had to divorce his wife, he should follow the steps approved in the Koran and the Sunna regarding a revocable divorce. This allows for cooling off and reconciliation before it becomes final on the final pronouncement. The divorce is not to be pronounced while the wife is in menstruation, but when she has finished menstruation and not yet resumed marital relations with the husband (Al-Talaq, 1). In other words divorce is not to be pronounced in anger or at random, but at a specific time when the husband is in control of his reason, and the wife herself is not in the state of emotional upset that sometimes occurs whilst she is pregnant or may accompany menstruation.

The husband is to continue good treatment of his wife even if divorce is decided upon. He is to keep and feed her as before in his own house until the expiry of her iddah (waiting period) without harassment, (A-Talaq, 1; Al-Taghaun, 6), and to make provision for her according to his means.

He is not to take back any of the gifts he may have given her before or during the marriage:

The divorce is twice, after that, either you retain her on reasonable terms or release her with kindness. And it is not lawful for you (men) to take back (from your wives any of your Mahr (traditional

money given by the husband to his wife at the time of marriage) which you have given them... (Al-Baqara, 229).

On the contrary, the husband is to give her a gift or some form of maintenance to sustain her after divorce (Al-Baqara, 242). Moreover, he is not to interfere if after divorce she wishes to marry someone else:

.....and when you divorce women and they have reached the end of their waiting term, hinder them not from marrying other men if they have agreed with each other in a fair manner (Al-Baqara, 232).

The husband should also know that according to the Shari'ah he is not always the one to have custody of his children after divorce, contrary to the common practice in some countries. It is the wife who is given priority in custody of children in many cases, in accordance with a Hadith related by Amru b. Shu'aib in Ibn Majah, which tells how a woman came to the Prophet and said:

"Truly my belly served as a container for my son here, and my breast served as a skin bag for him (to drink out of), and my bosom served as a refuge for him; and now his father has divorced me, and he (also) desires to take him away from me." The Prophet said: "You have a better right to have him as long as you do not marry again." (Ibn Majah).

The decision as to the custody of the children has to be evaluated by a Shar'iah Court, which will consider the particular circumstances surrounding the family and the children's best welfare (4).

In Islamic history, there are many examples of women giving invaluable help to their husbands in critical situations. One of the most notable was Khadijah, the wife of the Prophet of Islam who successfully brought the Prophet back from a state of fear and trembling to a state of normalcy after his receiving the first divine revelation in the solitude of the Cave of Hira from the Archangel Gabriel. She was able to reassure him that his life was not, as he feared, in danger, as she herself was emotionally detached from the incident. She observed: "Allah will surely never forsake you. You are kind to your kin; you always help the weak; you take care of whoever crosses your threshold; you solace the weary; you

“speak the truth.” The reassurance that Khadijah gave to the Prophet of Islam on this occasion was one of the most significant contributions to the furtherance of Islam.

Then it occurred to Khadijah that she had best make enquiries of some learned Christians, who, well versed as they were in the scriptures, were bound to have knowledge of revelation and prophet-hood. She went first to a rahib (hermit) who lived near Mecca. On seeing her, the priest asked, “O noble lady of the Quraysh, what has brought you here?” Khadijah replied, “I have come here to ask you about Gabriel.” To this the rahib said, “Glory be to Allah, he is Allah’s pure angel. He visits prophets: he came to Jesus and Moses.” Then Khadijah went to another Christian called Addas. She put the same question to him, and he too told her that Gabriel was an angel of Allah, the very same who had been with Moses when Allah drowned the Pharaoh. He had also come to Jesus, and through him, Allah had helped Jesus.

Then Khadijah hastened to Waraqah ibn Nawfal, a Christian convert who had translated part of the Bible into Arabic. When she had finished telling him of what Muhammad had seen and heard, Waraqah exclaimed, “Holy, holy! By the Master of my soul, if your report be true, O Khadijah, this must be the great spirit who spoke to Moses. This means that Muhammad must be the Prophet of this nation.” On a subsequent visit, Khadijah brought Muhammad to meet Waraqah ibn Nawfal. Muhammad related the events exactly as they had taken place and, when he had finished, Waraqah said, “By the Master of my soul, I swear that you are the same Prophet whose coming was foretold by Jesus, son of Mary.” But then Waraqah sounded a note of warning: “You will be denied and you will be hurt. You will be abused and you will be pursued.” He nevertheless immediately pledged himself to the Prophet: “If I should ever live to see that day, I should surely help you.”

Thus we can say that Islam does not hold women inferior to men. Islam considers men and women as equal in respect, but different in role.

So, as you see laan Hirsi, Muslims women do not need your poisonous assistance that would drive them away from the divine Law, which Allah has ordained for them. Woman in Islam is a precious pearl moving in the sphere of man. She is his mother, his wife, his daughter. The Islamic Law has shown man and woman

the way of dealing decently with each other. The divine Law guided them to a pious life based on mutual respect and understanding. A life of happiness and peace on earth, and at the same time guaranteeing the ultimate success in the Hereafter – paradise.

We, Muslims, love to see our women veiled and covered. We do not want to see them revealing their bodies to strangers while walking on the red carpet, or dancing with the stars. We detest the open pornography diffused by the movies, and the loss of ethical values in the new generations.

We Muslims do not approve the common elevate billionaires and Hollywood entertainers to positions of public acclaim they have not earned.

So whence do values stem? From faith – From religion, and not from atheism or disbelief. From a belief in lofty ideals that are not man-made. It is religion rather than politics that teaches that all humans are equal and of infinite value and therefore matter, more than ephemeral material objects. It is religion that teaches that family is sacred, marriage is a sacrament and relationships are a more reliable road to happiness than careers. And it is religion that teaches that one good deed – even if it isn't captured on camera or broadcast on TV – has the power to change the world.

If Iaan Hirsi wants to reform oppressed women, she must forget about Muslim women, and turns to western women. Instead of hypocritically picturing herself as the saviour of Muslim women against oppression in western societies, Hirsi would better look at women in the society she is now proud to be part of.

If she looks critically at the American society, she will realize that the American people are losing their values. Drunk with decades of material indulgence, they are fast becoming corrupt. They look to objects for happiness and fulfilment. They go shopping when they feel empty and depressed. America is not experiencing a crisis of leadership so much as a crisis of values. Politicians cannot provide them; they are mere caretakers of public business, and are as much in need of values guidance as the rest of the people.

The texture of the American fabric is coming apart. Corruption and decay seem to be everywhere. The blame of this corruption and



decay could be put on politicians, bureaucrats and business leaders, but the reality is that they are only part of the story. The truth is that those who are leading America are a reflection of what America has become as a nation. Millions of ordinary Americans have become deeply corrupt as well. Society is falling apart and the American people have not even seen the complete collapse of the U.S. economy yet.

In America today, over half of all marriages end in divorce. One of every four American children will spend some part of his growing-up years in a one-parent home. And this is not to imply that the other three will all be in good homes.

How the situation has changed! First the unchurched world practiced and accepted home breakups. Then church groups began wresting the Scriptures to make divorce and remarriage "acceptable." Even among "Fundamentalists," leaders are divorcing, remarrying, and going right on preaching, teaching, and leading as if nothing has happened!

In addition to the home breakups, the latest available figures show that 98 percent of the American homes have at least one TV set. Over half of these homes have more than one set. Children age's two to five are spending over twenty-eight hours a week watching these sets, while children six to eleven are similarly engaged over twenty-six hours per week.

What are they seeing? The world of mayhem, murder, violence, and sex. Parents are letting this happen, though Allah directed them to train up their children in the way it should be.

If Muslim women are oppressed as laan Hirsi claims, then why British women convert to Islam in thousands every year! What did they see in Islam?

Between 2001 and 2010, the number of British converts rose from 60,000 to 100,000. This includes a large numbers of female converts, which has nearly doubled from what it was ten years ago. Another study estimated that the total number of UK Muslims is 2.9 million (4.6% of the population) compared with 1.6 million (2.8%) in 2001. If present trends continue, the Muslim population of the UK will swell to almost double within 20 years, reaching a staggering 5.5million.

The testimony given by many converts to Islam is that they are converting as a reaction to the decadence and moral bankruptcy of modern society. Many girls see Islam as an escape from the culture of partying and drunkenness that characterizes modern British society.

Studies revealed that numerous young women (on average 27 years old) are going into Islam as a reaction to the moral licentiousness, drunkenness and unrestrained consumerism of modern society. Quite simply, British young people are craving the stability that Islam brings.

Young men are converting for the same reason. The testimony given by many converts to Islam is that they are converting as a reaction to the decadence and moral bankruptcy of modern society. Many girls see Islam as an escape from the culture of partying and drunkenness that characterizes modern British society (5).

Iaan Hirs, if the condition of women has deteriorated in recent times in certain Muslim countries, it is only because of the influence of customs and traditions that have nothing to do with Islam. Contrary to the allegations of defamers, the religion is not responsible for any part of that.

Iaan Hirs, you will reap the result of the discord you have sown. You will find your name deleted from the list of believers in the Hereafter. Not acknowledging the Message of Truth, which has been testified by your heart, is the worst crime in the sight of Allah. Allah does not love those who reject faith. You will be condemned in the Hereafter and all creatures will join in this condemnation.

Is atheism what you enjoin now? Do you adopt now a system of faith other than submission to Allah's will? Don't you know that if anyone desires a religion other than Islam (total submission to Allah), never will it be accepted of him and in the Hereafter, he will be one of the losers?

By converting to atheism, you have rebelled against your Creator and your recompense in the Hereafter would be disastrous. Hell will be your dwelling place for eternity, in it you shall abide forever, your punishment shall not be lightened nor shall you be granted respite.

You turned about on your heel, but this will not harm Allah or the believers in any way.

Now we see atheist churches spring up across the United States, England and Australia. The so-called atheist 'mega churches' attract hundreds of people bound by their non-belief in Allah. In these churches, you find several hundred people, packed in for hours of rousing music, an inspirational talk and some quiet reflection. The only thing missing was Allah! Why don't you join these satanic churches to enjoin atheism and disbelief? Satan is waiting for you there to give you company.

What are you doing with your soul, throwing it into perdition? How is it with you that you are rebelling against your Creator? Do not be deceived by the hypocrite applause you receive from the disbelievers and those misguided. This is only a brief enjoyment after which Hell will be your abode.

Iaan Hirsi, you are a stigma – a mark of infamy. Your own family denounced you, and so does the whole Islamic world. Do not try to justify yourself, you have committed a hideous sin. You have strayed far indeed. Satan arises in your false desires; he promises you nothing but deception. You purchased godlessness at the price of piety and true faith. Surely, you have erred deep in the maze of error.

In your new western society, you attempt to satisfy the people by siding with the enemies of Islam. You took the infidels as intimate friends. Do you seek honour and power at their hands and pride yourself in so doing? Nay, to Allah alone belong all honour, power and glory. Your conduct is highly hypocritical and blasphemous. Allah will

collect the hypocrites in Hell, they will be in the lowest depth of the Fire.

Listen to the Koran:

Surely the hypocrites will be in the lowest reach of the Fire; thou wilt not find for them any helper (An-Nisa', 145).

Give thou good tidings to the hypocrites that for them awaits a painful chastisement (An-Nisa', 138).

Allah is independent of all His creation. Whoso disbelieves, his unbelief shall be charged against him; and whosoever does righteousness, for themselves they are making provision. Allah loves not the unbelievers.

Iaan Hirsi, do you realize that those who conformed to Islam then turned renegades, and sunk deeply in disbelief, never shall Allah forgive them or guide them to the path of rectitude?

Iaan Hirsi, now know your status with Allah.

There is no capital punishment (death penalty) in the Koran for apostates. However, those who denied Allah, renounced faith, and entered the gates of death captivated in disbelief have come within the measure of Allah's wrath. Such like persons have earned the curse of Allah and of the angels and of all mankind. Such curse shall follow them like their shadow and beset them at all sides until the Day they are dragged in chains into Hell, confined with shackles and put to the torment which shall not abate nor shall their punishment be put in respite.

As we read in the Koran:

But those who disbelieve, and die disbelieving – upon them shall rest the curse of Allah and the angels and of men altogether, therein dwelling forever; the chastisement shall not be lightened for them, no respite

shall be given them (Al-Baqarah 161, 162).

How shall Allah guide a people who intentionally deny Him after they have recognized Him and bore witness to the truth of His Apostle's mission, and after they have received the signs and accepted them, they later on rejected the clear revelations! Allah guides not the disbelievers. Such like persons have incurred the curse of Allah and the angels and all mankind. They will abide in Hell. Neither will their torment be lightened, nor will it be delayed or postponed for a while.

Allah says in the Koran:

How Allah shall guide a people who have disbelieved after they believed, and bore witness that the Messenger is true, and the clear signs came to them?

Those their recompense is that they shall rest on them the curse of Allah and of the angels and of men, altogether, therein dwelling forever; the chastisement shall not be lightened, for them, no respite shall be given them (Al-Imran, 86-88).

Those who deny Allah after they have recognized Him and be so bold as to display their infidelity, never shall their penitence be accepted, and they are those who are astray. Those who deny Allah and death claims them vested with the ugly vesture of disbelief, shall have committed an unforgivable sin. The offer of as much gold as the earth can treasure shall not be accepted from any of them in expiation for his guilt. Such persons must expect endless suffering and shall find no one to afford them help.

The Koran says:

Surely those who disbelieve after they have believed and then increase in unbelief – their repentance shall not be accepted; those are the ones who stray.

Surely those who disbelieve, and die disbelieving, there shall not be accepted from any one of them the whole

earth full of gold, if he would ransom himself thereby; for them awaits a painful chastisement, and they shall have no helpers (Al-Imran, 90, 91).

Based on the above, Muslim jurists issued the verdict that apostates are walking dead. The penalty is death. However, this jurist's verdict is human interpretation and not divine. In other words it could be considered or left behind. The real punishment for apostates in the present life is contempt, disdain, avoidance and to be treated as outcasts. And in the Hereafter, Hell-Fire awaits them and ascertains them as her own.

Frankly, I do not care if you believe in my words or not, because if not, it is to your own loss. Enjoy your unbelief a little; you shall be among the inhabitants of the Fire.

Iaan Hirsi, whatever thing you have been given is the enjoyment of the present world and its adornment; and what is with Allah is better and more lasting. Have you then no sense?

Iaan hirsi, Have you forgotten the Day of Reckoning? Those who wander astray from the path of Allah shall have a severe torment because they forgot the Day of accountability.

Do you think you can jump freely here and there spreading discord between Muslims and non-Muslims without punishment? Do whatever in you power, your work will come to nothing. Soon you shall come to know who will suffer a humiliating torment and on whom will descend an everlasting punishment.

Iaan Hirsi, you should have followed Allah's revelations before you are suddenly confronted with the retributive punishment which on the Day of Resurrection you will neither know how it happened nor whence it came. On that Day, the sinful soul as yours would express regrets in words, thus: 'Woe to me for what I neglected of the duties owed to Allah and woe to me for disregarding His noble

discourse which I had turned into ridicule." Or it would say: "Had Allah guided me to His path I would have been among those who revered Allah." Or it might say when faced with the torment that is laid upon the damned: "If only I could be given the chance to relive my life again down below and be among those who imprint their deeds with wisdom and piety!"

Such like person will be told: "But there came to you My revelations and My signs and you rejected them and regarded them as the synonym for falsehood and your pride got the better of you.

On that day, Iaan Hirsi and her like, their faces will be black expressing the terror that falls upon them. As for the believers who worshipped Allah in awe and veneration, Allah shall deliver them to safety and never shall they come to grief.

We read in the Koran:

Turn to your Lord. Submit to Him before the punishment overtakes you and you can no longer be helped. Follow the best teaching sent down to you from your Lord, before the punishment suddenly takes you unawares, and your soul says, "Woe to me for having neglected what is due to Allah, and having been one of those who scoffed!" Or it says, "If Allah had guided me, I would have joined the righteous!" Or, faced by punishment, it says, "If only I could have another chance, I would join those who do good!" No indeed! My Messages came to you and you rejected them: you were arrogant and rejected the truth. On the Day of Resurrection, you [Prophet] will see those who told lies against Allah, their faces darkened. Is there no home for the arrogant in Hell? But Allah will deliver those who took heed of Him to their place of safety: no harm will touch them, nor will they grieve (Az-Zumar 54-61).

Iaan Hirsi, you must understand that nothing is of value in this world except to seek the countenance of the Lord, the

Most high. He is Allah; there is no god but He. All praise is due to Him in this world and the Hereafter. All things perish, except His face. His is the Judgment and unto Him we shall be returned.

Iaan Hirsi, you dispute with false and opposing arguments to tarnish Islam the complete religion without knowledge or authority. You mix Islam as a religion with political Islam, with primitive cultural traditions, with the falsehood the enemies of Islam fabricate against it. You follow the steps of a rebel Satan accursed by Allah. Satan leads you astray into a far error. He fills you with fancies and commands you to disobey your Creator, but there is nothing Satan promises you except delusion. You have taken Satan for friend instead of Allah, and you became one of the perverts.

Again and again, we Muslims are not grieved by your infidelity, for unto Allah you shall return, and He shall tell you the truth about your deeds.

Iaan Hirsi Ali, your ignorance, foolishness and irreverence have reached up to heaven. Iaan Hersey, sorry, Hirsy Ali, have you learnt the lesson, or was I talking to a wall?

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