

# THE CURE TO ISLAMOPHOBIA

Written By

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## Table of Contents

1.	WHAT IS MEANT BY A PHOBIA?	. 1
2.	WHAT IS ISLAMOPHOBIA?	. 1
3.	THE ISLAMOPHOBIA INDUSTRY	. 3
4.	ISLAMOPHILIA	. 4
5.	IS THERE A CURE TO ISLAMOPHOBIA?	5
6.	THE DAWN OF SAHIH IMAN	6

#### بِسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

## الحمد لله رب العالمين، والصلاة والسلام على سيدنا محمد وعلى آله وصحبه أجمعين

#### 1. WHAT IS MEANT BY A PHOBIA?

A Phobia is an intense fear of something that poses little or no danger. In it, the person knows that his/her fear is irrational, but he/she cannot overcome it. When they are exposed to the thing they fear, they feel overwhelmed with terror. This experience is so nerve-wracking that a person would always like to avoid it.

Phobias can be developed for virtually anything. Common phobias include closed places, heights, highway driving, insects, snakes, etc. Phobias can interfere with work, social interactions and personal relationships between the people.

#### 2. WHAT IS ISLAMOPHOBIA?

A research study conducted at the University of California, Berkeley, concluded that the term 'Islamophobia' was first used as a concept in 'Runnymede Trust Report' in 1991 and was defined as 'unfounded hostility towards Muslims based on fear or dislike of all Muslims'. They equated 'Islamophobia' with xenophobia, which means, racism, racial intolerance, prejudice, nationalism, and chauvinism'.

Islamophobic beliefs are as follows.

(i) Islam is a monolithic religion and cannot adopt to new realities. Therefore, Muslims are a monolithic group with static views, beliefs, and practices.

Such a stance ignores the huge diversity among Muslims in terms of beliefs, practices, ideologies, ethnicities, cultures, languages, and values.

(ii) Islam does not share common values with other major religions.

This is not true. There are many commonalities between Islam and other religions, in moral values, equal rights of the people, believe in god, etc.

It is in Quran - الله الله وَلاَ الله وَلا ال

(iii) Islam is the religion of violence and supports terrorism, and it is a violent political strategy.

This issue has been discussed in detail in my book titled <u>'Islam Today : Is becoming a Muslim worth it'</u>. It is an important read for all those who are interested in this subject.

- (iv) Islam as a religion is inferior to the West, therefore, Muslims are not only different, but also inferior; uncivilized, irrational, violent and sexist (as they discriminate against women). As such, they have no place in the civilized world unless they denounce their illogical ways for progress to an enlightened global way of life. Followers of Hindutva ideology and certain atheists also believe in this line of thinking.
- (v) Islam is an archaic, barbaric, and irrational religion; therefore, the media commentators are justified in criticizing Muslim individuals and countries for their beliefs, practices, policies, and behaviors.

The above beliefs are an irrational way of branding roughly 2 billion people. With above illogical beliefs, racial discrimination is normalized within political and public debate as something deemed necessary due to the perceived Muslim threat. This kind of comments are a crime in the constitutions of most of the countries of the world. But when these comments are made against Muslims, no action is taken, and Muslims are forced to live tightlipped. If a Muslim, objects to the injustice, often times the law enforcing authorities swing into action against him.

The overt part of Islamophobia is a prejudice, aversion, hostility, or hatred towards Muslims. The covert part that effects all Muslims both individually and collectively, is the discrimination that limits freedom of Muslims in political, economic, social, cultural or any other field of public life.

Islamophobia is supported by the existing west-centric global power structure. It is directed through disparities in economic, political, social, and cultural relations, while rationalizing the necessity to deploy violence against Muslims individually and institutionally to achieve the so called 'civilizational rehab' of the Muslim community.

'Fear, Inc.,' the Center for American Progress, reported that a network of **misinformation experts** actively promotes Islamophobia in America. Promotion of Islamophobia creates both prejudice and discrimination among the population. Prejudice alone, as a negative judgment, opinion, or attitude, is detrimental to overall well-being of the people. Prejudice combined with overt actions of discrimination, creates a dangerous environment for its victims'.

In the U.S., over one-half of the nationally representative samples of Mormons, Protestants, Catholics, Muslims, and Jews agree that, in general, most Americans are prejudiced toward Muslim Americans. Even among Americans who report no personal prejudice toward Muslims, one-third say they have an unfavorable opinion about Islam. This is alarming because it indicates that those who harbor no reported prejudice for the people maintain negative views about the religion.

#### 3. THE ISLAMOPHOBIA INDUSTRY

The Islamophobia industry is composed of interconnected and well-funded think tanks, public figures, politicians, policy makers, media outlets, etc., who cooperate with each other in negative discourses about Muslims and Islam for economic and political gains. They are guided by right-wing and neo-conservative ideologues. The Islamophobia Industry employs the best rhetoric experts to disseminate misinformation and fear among masses against Muslims and Islam. With this, they influence voting patterns and legislations in their countries. This also helps them to keep the people in their countries busy while they get involved in large scale corruption.

The misinformation hysteria leads to potentially dangerous repercussions in terms of hate crime, discrimination, and marginalization of Muslims. Hate crimes against Muslims, in many

countries of the world is an overt, visible, and undeniable symptom of Islamophobia. Muslims have suffered from increasing levels of hate crimes in conjunction with seemingly obsessive demonization in the media and an increasing presence of online hate speech on social media platforms.

Islamophobia in the education system is a serious issue which impacts Muslim children and their academic development. From being bullied for their faith to being constantly questioned for adherence to certain moral values, like girls wearing Hijab, Muslim children are struggling to deal with this increasingly hostile environment.

Islamophobia has impacted Muslims on different fronts. Numerous studies in recent years have found out that the failure of Muslims to progress in the workplace has increased. These studies have pointed out a combination of racism and discrimination as reasons for Muslims to be less likely to be in jobs and more less likely to be in skilled and professional occupations.

Islamophobia portrays Muslims to be a security threat based on which many legislations are promulgated targeting Muslims. Institutional Islamophobia relating to discriminatory practices within the Criminal Justice System results in disruption to the lives of many Muslims. The community is constantly living in a state of fear for doing nothing wrong and picked upon for no crimes committed by them.

#### 4. ISLAMOPHILIA

Islamophilia is a strategy adopted by many politicians and lawmakers in the world in which they praise Islam as a religion of peace, but they claim that there are extremists among Muslims who are creating terror. They claim their war on terror is not against Islam. There are always good and bad people in a society. They identify certain bad people among Muslims and train them, fund them, and arm them to create terror and mayhem in the world. With the help of these terrorists, they create fear in their own countries and attempt to destroy and disintegrate other countries for selfish reasons. They are like hired mercenaries who act as per the command of their masters.

Taking advantage of this scenario, politicians and religious extremist groups in the world compete to get a piece of the pie. They blame the entire Muslim community for the destruction which is often orchestrated by their own people. By running hate campaigns, they create fear among populations and portray themselves as their saviors and get elected to big offices. Once

in office, they create further terror with the help of their hired mercenaries drawn from Muslim militant groups and blame the Muslim community for these acts. Sometimes they use their own agents to create terror and as an eye wash, arrest some innocent people (mostly Muslims) by blaming them for the terror. They concoct stories and often it is observed that their stories do not stand trial in the courts, and the innocent people are released by the courts after a prolonged battle. But by that time, people forget about those episodes as their attention is drawn towards new incidents. This heinous cycle of atrocities goes on and on. The politicians and extremist groups work overtime to increase the fear among people to keep their attention away from the corruption they are involved in. All through the above cycle, they praise Islam as a peaceful religion.

In the guise of a war on terror, millions of innocent people have been massacred in many countries of the world. Millions, others have been displaced. What has happened in Libya, Iraq, Syria, Yemen, Afghanistan, Myanmar, China, and many other countries is well known to people. The situation of Muslims in India is extremely vulnerable. They seem to be on the verge of a massive destruction of unthinkable proportions in the hands of Hindutva fanatics.

No respite seems to be in the offing for Muslims in the world.

#### 5. IS THERE A CURE TO ISLAMOPHOBIA?

It is important for Muslims to search their conscience as to why they have been subjected to this kind of hate, humiliation, and killing in the world? Why new sects are taking birth on weekly basis. Why there is infighting between Shias and Salafis resulting in destruction of countries?

There are about 57 countries of the world who are members of Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). These countries are led by oil rich Salafis. Despite this big numbers and wealth, why Muslims are subjected to Islamophobia of the worst kind the history has ever witnessed?

So much Da'wa has been done by Salafis in the past 100 years and because of their Da'wa most of the Muslims have converted to Salafism. The ones who did not convert, were influenced by their Da'wa and have invented sects like Deobandis, Ammanis, etc. Together, they have taken over 97% of the mosques of the Muslim world. Most of the Islamic publishing houses are in their control. Most of the Governments of Islamic countries are run by them. Everyone among these sects and their hundreds of subgroups claim they are on the right path of Islam. Then,

where are the results? Why are they subjected to humiliation and persecution in the world? Why there is infighting and bloodshed among them. Some of their subsects like Islamic State, Taliban and scores of others have destroyed the image of Islam and Muslims in the world. All these are indications that the **Islam presented by them is not correct Islam.** They have invited Allah's (عَزُّ وَجُلُّ) wrath and Allah (عَزُّ وَجُلُّ) has abandoned them to be humiliated in the hands of the people all over the world.

There is an apparent Unity among Salafi / Deobandi dominated Muslim countries under OIC as they pass resolutions unanimously. But why these resolutions are ineffective in the world? Why are they subjected to degradation in the world? In many countries of the world, politicians/lawmakers/media refer to them as inferior lot. People demonize them on public platforms, TV debates and talk of cleansing the society from Muslims with impunity.

When we consider the current scenario, we realize that the Salafi/Deobandi/Shia dominated Muslims of the world have lost the right path of Islam. Their humiliation in this world is the punishment from Allah (عَزُّ وَجُكُ). Unless they come back to Sahih Iman, nothing is going to change for them. Their problems will increase by the day. And because of them, real Muslims, the people of Sahih Iman are also suffering in the world.

#### 6. THE DAWN OF SAHIH IMAN

Since Allah's (عَزُ وَجَلُ) practice is consistent to grow vegetation after drought, bring spring after autumn, light after darkness and divine light after sinful ignorance; this is the time for the revival of Sahih Iman, Sahih Islam and Sahih Ihsan among these deviant sects and in the world as a whole.

It is important that everyone who calls himself Muslim, should search his conscience, subjects his beliefs to scrutiny in the light of Quran and Sunnah and come back to the right path of Islam. Other than this, there is no way out for us to come out of this cycle of humiliation and persecution in the world.

All goods things come at the expense of an effort. For surely Allah (عَزُّ وَجَلُّ does not help those who do not help themselves.

How can we come back to Sahih Iman? I have described it in the following.

- (i) We need to revive our Iman at heart. In order to do this, the first requirement is to let go off your predefined ideologies and prejudices.
- (ii) The second step is to get into a habit of listening more and talking less. It is important for Muslims to understand that Islam is not a tea-time discussion or a news debate. Stop asserting your false dominance upon others by shilling ill formed and half-baked opinions as 'rules' of religion. Islam is the search for the ultimate meaning in life, which can only be attained by the act of total submission to the Will of Allah (عَزُّ وَجَلُّ). This can only happen by listening more and talking less.
- (iii) The next step is to learn to differentiate between the voices of people who genuinely want good for you and the people who want to simply get your attention for their own political or monetary gain. It pains me to say that currently, most of the so-called scholars, lecturers, jurists and influencers are not investing in the pursuit of correcting people's Iman. Instead, they constantly creating controversies and rifts amongst the Ummah to build their own following to attain some monetary or political gain. This will not help them on the day of judgement and would certainly not help you. Once you get into the habit of listening, listen carefully, in order differentiate between such voices.
- (iv) As soon as you will start to listen sincerely, Satan will whisper a thousand ideas into your mind by the voices of the masses that follow him. When you reject their ideologies, such people can and will turn against you. Perhaps many members of your family and many of your friends are Salafi, Deobandi, Shia, etc. When you reject their pre-determined thinking, they will not like that. They will fight against you. They will try to force their beliefs upon you. They might even abandon you. It is at this stage that you will need the help of Allah (عَرُّ وَجَلُّ ) and the intercession of Prophet Mohammad (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم).
- (v) The next step is obviously be to spend more time in prayer and solitude, asking for Allah's help and seeking the intercession of Prophet Mohammad (صلى ).

I am compelled to warn you that this phase will probably be the toughest in your journey. Your resilience will be tested, and your conviction could very well be compromised several times. Do not let it go. Do not ever lose your faith in the

mercy of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ). Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) surely answers all those who seek His guidance.

It is in Quran - وَالَّذِينَ جَاهَدُوا فِينَا لَنَهْدِيَنَّهُمْ سُبُلْنَا ۚ وَإِنَّ اللَّهَ لَمَعَ الْمُحْسِنِين (As for those who strive in Our cause, We will surely guide them to Our ways; Indeed, Allah is with the righteous.] (Al-Ankaboot - 69)

- (vi) I have written several hundred books on various subjects, all of which focus on breaking a person's predetermined wrongful ideas about Islam. I have made it a point to make them available for free, for its not publicity, funds or your attention, that I seek. I seek only to help you in this crucial phase, by aiding you in correcting your Iman. Reading my books will make you challenge your prejudices and pre-formed opinions on the matter of religion. My books will bring you out of your comfort zone, make you question things, until finally, you come to realize what Islam truly is.
- (vii) Then comes the final step. The step of victory, in which Allah (عَزُ وَجَكً will reward you by making your Iman so solid, that a mountain will break against its force. Your thought process will become robust. Your life will be one of satisfaction and happiness. You will understand what true joy feels like, basking in the glory of your Lord and his Apostle (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم).

The forces of evil in the world will threaten you, but they would not be able to touch you. Your aura will be such that even Islamophobic people will convert to Islam by looking at your sincerity. You will become a role model for this religion and a successful person on the day of judgement. It is you, and only you who can end Islamophobia.

When Allah's (عَزُّ وَجَلُّ) assistance comes, with it comes the resources and light of Iman and things change automatically. You do not have to do anything. Everything will be taken care of by Allah (عَزُّ وَجَلُّ) Himself.

Our times can be compared with time of Muslims when they lived in Makka in the first 13 years. The people under Prophet Mohammad (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) followed the right path of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) and His Apostle (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) and stood the ground despite difficulties. And what was the result? Allah's (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) assistance came and within 10 years Sahih Iman and Sahih Islam swept Arabia. Come back to Sahih Iman and watch with your own eyes, how things change in the world and how truthful Muslims will be returned to their past glory.