

Subjective Tafsir

The Verses of Fighting

Babul ilm 22/01/2015

The Philosophy of Qital/fighting

- ▶ **To end the injustice and oppression**- 'Fight them until there is no [more] fitnah/suppression and injustice' (Quran: 2:192)
- ▶ **To repel the imposed aggression**- 'Permission [to fight] has been given to those who are being fought, because they were suppressed' (Quran: 22:39)

That is why when the hovering risk is removed, the noble Quran in many verses explicitly ordains Muslims to maintain justice, peace and friendship and refrain entirely from any type of revenge fighting, torture or any type of activities.

- ▶ **To prevent religion being wrecked by the warmongers**- 'And had there not been Allah's repelling some people by others, certainly there would have been pulled down cloisters and churches and synagogues and mosques in which Allah's name is much remembered' (Quran: 22:40)

As vividly expressed in the above mentioned verse, Jihad is not only to protect Islam but all religions and their sanctuaries.

- ▶ **To free people from the shackles of their oppressive leaders**- 'fight the leaders of disbelief' (Quran: 9:14)

This is a reason how Muslims opened/ conquered the mighty Persia so easily with their primitive weapons.

Kinds of Fighting

▶ **Defensive-** defending oneself, his/her belongings, family, Islamic territory etc. under siege is WAJIB upon all Muslims.

▶ **Initiative= Jihad Ibtidaai**

If inhumane beliefs, behaviours, practices etc. seriously put the stability and wellbeing of the society at risk, then to remove these barriers a war can be conducted if that is the only and last resort.

▶ **Conditions**

- ▶ The presence of the Prophet (saww) or his divinely appointed successor
- ▶ Physical, mental, economic capability of Jihad, being a man
- ▶ Bulugh/ maturity
- ▶ Freedom- slaves cannot fight
- ▶ The consent of parents until it is declared as mandatory for all

It is forbidden during the occultation period of the divinely appointed Imam/leader (as)

In Suuni Fiqh, Jihad is not bound with this condition

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▶ Is participating in this type of Jihad WAJIB upon all?

No, because it comes under the category of Wajib KIFAAI

▶ 2 types of Wajib

▶ **Aini-** wajib upon all such as 5 times daily prayers

▶ **Kifaai-** in the beginning targets all who are capable to perform it but if adequate people volunteer for it then it doesn't apply to others e.g. burial of a Muslim, Jihad/defence, Amr bil-Marroof etc.

Hence going to Iraq, Syria or elsewhere from the West or any other region to fight terrorist groups killing innocent people is not permitted until declared by MARJA obligatory upon all.

Unchangeable Principles

- ▶ **Refraining from transgression-** « لا تعتدوا ان الله لا يحب المعتدين »
 - ▶ O Musa, tell the oppressors not to worship me, since as long as they try to communicate me will receive nothing but my curse.
- ▶ **Truthfulness**
- ▶ **Honesty**

Other Etiquettes of Jihad

- ▶ Fighting is Haram in the 4 sacred month i.e. 1, 7, 11, 12 Islamic months
- ▶ It is wajib upon the commander to first invite to Islam
- ▶ Not to begin the war
- ▶ Night attack is Makrooh
- ▶ Cutting the trees, destroying the crops or other natural resources is forbidden
- ▶ Poisoning in any form such as food, water, land etc. is not allowed
- ▶ Killing the women, underage children, elderly people, disabled people is HARAM
- ▶ Wearing silky cloth in the battlefield is permissible
- ▶ The Muslim received martyrdom in the battlefield must be buried in his army outfit and his body must not be washed
- ▶ Mistreating prisoners of war by depriving sleep, food etc. is forbidden
- ▶ The individuals or groups of the enemies escaping must be allowed to do so
- ▶ The enemies seeking refuge must be provided with

Some Interesting Facts

- ❖ Prophet Muhammad (saww) left Madina to confront the enemies on 26 or 27 occasions.
- ❖ Due to his peace mission and reconciling nature fighting took place only on 9 occasions These expeditions are called 'GHAZWAH'. (Muhammad Ibrahim Aayati, The history of Prophet of Islam p 239-240.)
- ❖ The fighting mostly skirmishes in which the Prophet (saww) did not participate, instead appoint somebody to lead the small army of usually less than 300 people, is called 'SARIYYAH'. The number of Saniyah is controversial. However, deducing from an incident between Mutawakkil Abbasi and Imam Ali Naqi (as), the number of Sariyyah should be 56.
- ❖ People with ill intention always highlight this great number of expeditions, but never mention that in most of these expeditions no fighting took place, they also completely ignore the number of fighters from Islmaic side.
- ❖ Above all, all these exertions were conducted to respond to the imposed wars or repel the lurking perils from the murderous, barbaric and blood thirst enemies of the Prophet (saww), Islam and Muslims.
- ❖ Unimaginably, the casualties of all 83 expeditions as documented is under 1000. This matchless credit entirely goes to Prophet Muhammad (saww)'s peace mission, precautionary measures and his approach to the sanctity of life and his hatefulness of bloodshed.

Discussion

Topics

- ▶ At present, are Muslims doing Islamic Jihad?
- ▶ The 'conquests', honour or shame for Islam?