

Why aren't British Muslims condemning the maniacs killing in the name of Islam? From a leading Muslim voice, a troubling question...

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The Muslims mistakenly parading themselves as jihadists 'defending' Islam are plumbing new depths of horror in their vicious campaign to impose a 7th-century Islamic tyranny across large swathes of Iraq and Syria.

Indiscriminate slaughter, public beheadings and systematic starvation are all features of their murderous campaign, propped up by pernicious propaganda that inspires awe in their followers and fear in their victims.

What is particularly disturbing is the support given to the militants by many deluded British Muslims. It has been estimated that more than 500 young British men have gone to fight in the Syrian civil war.

Many of them are now moving across to Iraq to become volunteers in the Islamic State movement, which aims to resurrect a medieval-style caliphate in the region.



Only this week Reyaad Khan, a 20-year-old from Cardiff who is now a member of the Islamic State, declared on Twitter that he is preparing for 'martyrdom'. Khan boasted, in the macabre language of the jihadi lunatics, that he had 'executed many prisoners' and had witnessed 'the longest decapitation ever. And we made sure the knife was sharp.'

Alongside several other Britons, Khan has also appeared in an extremist recruitment video, urging other British Muslims to join their fanatical cause — though for entirely dubious theological reasons.

As well as fighting 3,000 miles away, the jihadists have made their presence felt at home. Yesterday, several brainwashed acolytes of the infamous radical Anjem Choudary handed out incendiary leaflets to shoppers in London's Oxford Street in blind support of the Islamic State, while last weekend the black flag of jihadi fundamentalism was flown on the main gate at the entrance to a housing estate in Tower Hamlets.

What is terribly worrying is that, in the face of the IS atrocities, and extremist British Muslims' involvement in jihadism, mainstream Muslims here have remained largely silent at what is happening in Iraq today.

Where is the mass outcry against the systematic killing of the Iraqi Yazidis, the deadly harassment of Christians and the mindless destruction of their churches?

Where are the co-ordinated protests against the Islamic State? Where are the popular calls for an end to organised genocide by Sunni Muslim militants in Iraq?

This is pure hypocrisy and double standards from British Muslims. Only last week, more than 200,000 people — a large proportion of them British Muslims — took to the streets of London and Manchester to protest against Israel.

The Jewish state was denounced as a pariah, its military actions in Gaza condemned as disproportionate. Yet there has been nothing like this level of justified outrage over the senseless savagery of the Islamic State in Iraq.

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 **Abu Turaab al-Kanadi** @ATuraab · Aug 10
*@MujahidLyfe: Chillin with my other homie , or whats left of him. pic.twitter.com/YkV97cpsxL
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If Muslims around the world, including those in the UK, had united against jihadism in the same way that they have done against Israel, then the extremists would be far weaker.

Indeed, idiotic British Muslims lusting after adventure might be deterred from joining IS and collaborating with injustice and immorality in the Middle East.

This deadly 'jihadism' of ill-informed religious idiots has become a terrible threat to security — both at home and in Syria and Iraq.

But I am afraid we also have to face the fact that, in the Middle East, the growing strength of IS, which so attracts these recruits, is partly the direct consequence of the ill-fated and illegal war launched by George Bush and the millionaire former Prime Minister Tony Blair. There is little doubt that Saddam Hussein was a despot, but his overthrow has plunged Iraq into long-term political and social chaos. Tragically, this is the venomous world to which so many young British Muslims are now drawn, thanks to pro-jihadi messages from some mosques, mullahs and madrassas (religious schools) which fuel and exploit their disillusion with British society.

We should be condemning with utmost urgency the atrocities committed in the name of Islam

Alienated from the liberal West, partly because of their own hardline ideology, partly because of poverty and social isolation, they do not feel they have a practical stake in modern Britain. So they fall prey to the language and imagery of the radicals, which presents jihad as both the ultimate expression of true religious devotion, and a great Boy's Own adventure.

The conflict is portrayed to these deluded young men as an exciting, heroic adventure in the desert, where they can wield rifles, carry out executions and send 'selfies' back home while doing God's work.

[British fighter speaks out for the use of Sharia law](#)



For boys who do not wish to stack the shelves of supermarkets, or work in Primark, or study hard for higher education in accountancy or medicine, as their parents might wish, they are presented with an intoxicating romantic vision of life and death in the arid landscape of Mesopotamia.

A second, potent part of the jihadi appeal is the promise of sex. Here is one of the ugly hypocrisies of fundamentalism.

On the one hand is a deeply puritan, repressive 'theology' that subjugates women and seeks to stamp out normal physical contact between the genders. On the other is a misogynistic vision of paradise, reminiscent of a sleazy Las Vegas nightclub, full of nubile, insatiable women eager to please their men.

In one of the more grotesque versions of Islamic fundamentalism, the spiritual reward for each 'martyr' will be the company of 72 voluptuous virgins. This vision has an undoubted appeal to a sex-starved young Muslim from urban Britain.

But the reference to 72 virgins in paradise has absolutely no basis in the Koran, or in authentic Islamic theology. It comes instead from a dubious hadith — or prophetic tradition — that was produced three centuries after Mohammed's death.

In fact, militant jihadism has no religious legitimacy at all. The zealots might like to see themselves as devout believers, but in fact they are profoundly un-Islamic.

The Koran specifically declares that Muslims are allowed to take up arms for only two reasons: either because of religious persecution or because they are being driven from their homes.

But it is laughable to pretend that either of these conditions applies in contemporary Britain. The only Muslims in the UK I know who have been evicted from their homes are those who have failed to keep up with their rent or mortgage payments.

In the same vein, there is not the slightest justification in the Koran for the persecution of non-believers, most especially Christians.

Indeed, Chapter 109, verse 6 specifically confirms that everyone has a right to believe as they please and in Chapter 2, verse 256, Islam's holy text says that there is no compulsion in religion. Therefore no Muslim can demand that anyone should be forcibly converted to Islam — precisely what the barbaric Islamic State has been doing in northern Iraq at the point of a rifle.

Furthermore, Chapter 22, verse 40 states that all places of worship, including Christian churches and Jewish synagogues, should be respected as houses of God, the very opposite of the IS campaign of callous destruction and religious intimidation of all non-Muslim minorities.

The words of the Koran are being twisted and perverted to serve the jihadists' ends. In Britain, the silence of the moderate Muslim majority is only serving as an ally of bigotry and injustice.

We should be condemning with utmost urgency the atrocities committed in the name of Islam.

In the aftermath of the tragic July bombings in 2005, there was not a single march organised by the UK Islamic community against those fanatical killers.

No Muslim group took to the streets chanting 'not in my name' after the brutal murder of 52 innocent people by these Muslim assassins.

Yet just a year later, for three weekends in a row, London was brought to a complete standstill by Muslim protests about the publication of a cartoon of Mohammed in an obscure Danish magazine.

Not only did those demonstrations show contempt for freedom of expression, which is not only one of the bulwarks of Western democracy, but is also sanctioned in the Koran. It was a demonstration of a warped sense of religious injustice.

That is what we are unfortunately witnessing again today. Mainstream Muslims in Britain have yet to come out against the toxic forces of militant jihadism, which is inflicting so much carnage and suffering across the Middle East.

Unless we do so loudly and clearly, we are colluding with a theological tyranny that has no basis whatsoever in Islam's sacred scripture.