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1. Understanding the Muslim Mind

Hindu View of Christianity and Islam – Part 3

It is necessary to understand the Muslim psyche in order to understand the problems of co-existence that all non-Muslim societies encounter with them. The Quran and the Hadith are the sources.



2. Shri Ram Swarup did a deep study for years on these sources and came out with a book called 'Understanding Islam through Hadis'. Islam is basically a system of law, overarching law which covers all aspects of life. To understand Muslim psyche these laws have to be studied.



3. "Islam is not merely a theology, or a statement about Allah and his relationship with His creatures. Besides containing doctrinal and creedal material, it deals with social, penal, commercial, ritualistic, and ceremonial matters." It leaves nothing to individual discretion.
4. "It enters into everything, even into such private areas as one's dress, marrying, and mating. In the language of the Muslim theologians, Islam is a complete and completed religion." Every human action is pre-decided by Islam. Nothing is left to imagination.
5. "It is equally political and military. It has much to do with statecraft, and it has a very specific view of the world peopled by infidels. Since most of the world is still infidel, it is very important for those who are not Muslims to understand Islam."
6. For Islam, to be good is secondary. What is primary is being a Muslim. "The acts of virtue may be good in their own way but it is by coming within the fold of Islam that these become significant and meaningful in the eyes of the Lord." - Shahi Muslim
7. Not merely that. To belong to another religion, even by birth, is a great sin. "Which sin is the gravest in the eyes of Allah?" he replies: "That you associate a partner with Allah." – Shahi Muslim
8. Just like that monotheism is the best virtue. "If polytheism is the worst of crimes, monotheism, by the same token, is the best of virtues. Muhammad is asked about the best of deeds. He replies: Belief in Allah. What next? he is asked. Jihad, he replies (148)". (Shahi Muslim)
9. This is what non-Muslims/ Hindus need to understand. Not by our actions but by our birth and faith, we are sinners in the eyes of Muslims. We do not follow the only true religion of Islam. Grave crime. We follow multiple gods. Worst crime. In Muslim eyes, we are criminals.
10. They hate us because they think our very existence is wrong; because we follow the wrong religion; because we worship the wrong gods; because we are 'living in sin' because we are Hindus. Their hate is not individual. It is moral, religious and collective.

11. Any plan of 'co-existence' needs not just deal with the conflicts that the two communities of Hindus and Muslims find with each other. Any such attempt needs to deal with the very Islamic theology because that is where roots of intolerance are to be found.

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