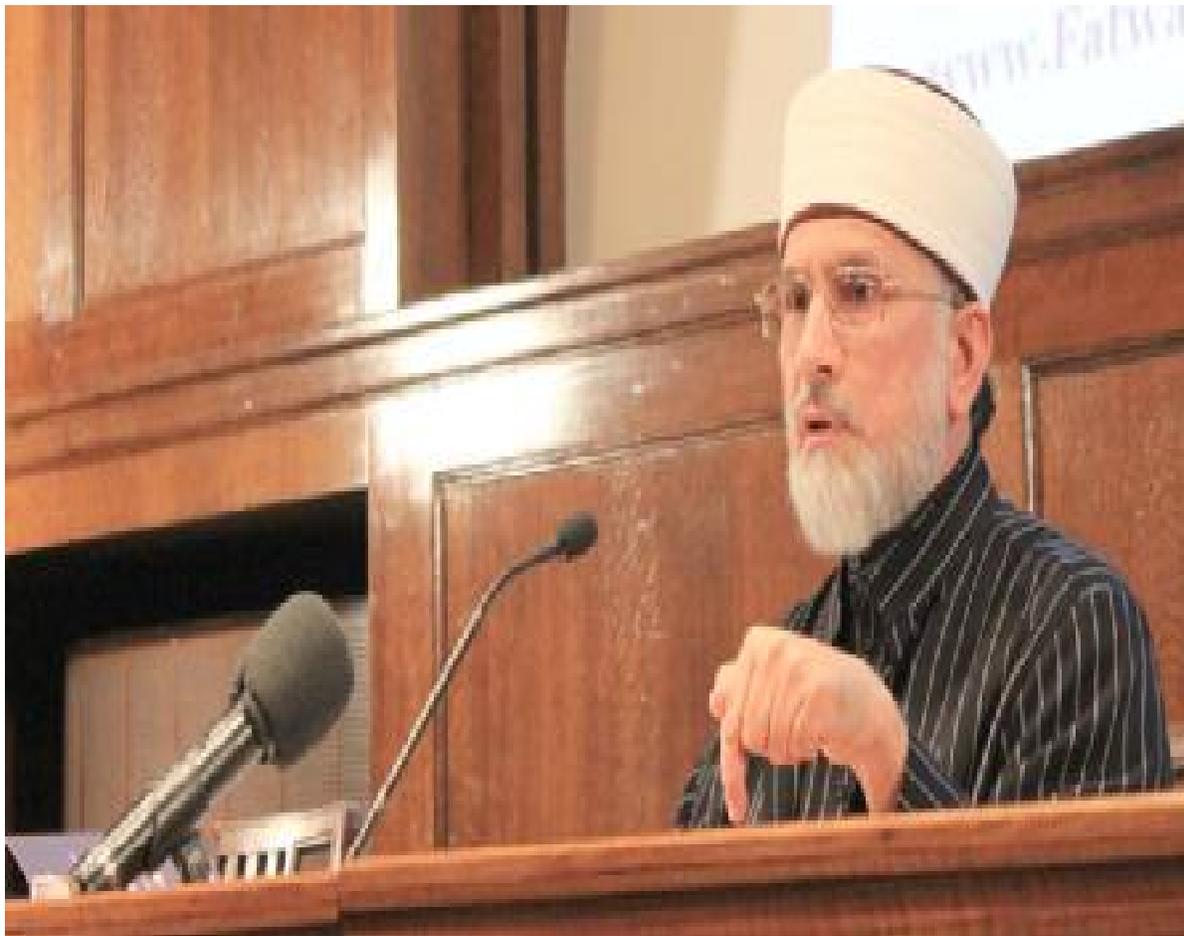


Fatwa Against Terrorism and Suicide Bombings

By Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri



Global Media Coverage

Historical Launching of Fatwa Against Terrorism

TV Coverage

<http://www.minhaj.org/english/tid/9959/Historical-Launching-of-Fatwa-Against-Terrorism-leading-Islamic-authority-launches-fatwa-against-terrorism-and-denounces-suicide-bombers-as-disbelievers-Anti-terror-Fatwa-launched.htm>

Media Report



Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, the founding leader and patron-in-chief of Minhaj-ul-Quran International, has issued his detailed edict (Fatwa) against terrorism which consists of more than 600 pages. The launching ceremony of the Fatwa was held on March 2, 2010 in London (UK). Minhaj-ul-Quran International UK arranged a press conference which was heavily attended by representatives of the international media besides Labour party minister Shahid Malik, members of EU and UK parliaments Sajjad Karim, Muhammad Sarwar, James Finter, ambassadors of Iraq, Germany and other countries, officials of the Home Office, Commonwealth Office and Metropolitan Police, Professors and Muslim and Christian community leaders.



Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri presented the anti-terror Fatwa in Urdu and English languages before the international media. It should be kept in mind that Shaykh-ul-Islam had declared to issue a detailed Fatwa against terrorism and suicide bombings in December 2009, which was originally thought to consist of 300 pages, whose volume later on increased to 600 pages due to scholarly dealing of the subject. This Fatwa is the only one of its kind in terms of its intellectual value, penetrating research and authentic allusions. Hence, it is a scholarly and historic document.

Talking to the international media on the occasion, Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri said that ever increasing wave of extremism and terrorism has destroyed the world peace. It is a matter of great misfortune that these terrorist activities of the misguided elements have been bracketed with Islam though the reality is otherwise. He said that majority of the religious scholars condemn terrorism but the condemnation is merely rhetorical. No one has come forward with an authentic and intellectual response to terrorism in the form of a patent decree. Minhaj-ul-Quran International has told the world in no uncertain terms through issuance of this Fatwa that terrorists have nothing to do with Islam. It is a peaceful religion, which not only condemns but also prohibits every kind of terrorism at every level under any pretext.

He said that the suicide bombers are out of the pale of Islam. He hoped that the youth would not become the fodder for the cannons of terrorist elements or extremist organizations after studying the Fatwa. The terrorist elements brainwash the youth by invoking wrong interpretations of the faith. The youth who advance the objectives of the terrorists should regard themselves out of the fold of Islam in accordance with the teachings of the Holy Prophet (saw). He said that terrorism is terrorism and it cannot be justified under any pretext through allusion to any real or alleged instances of injustice and there is no space for terrorism in Islam.



He regretted the fact that the Islamic teachings, which are based on love, peace and welfare, are being manipulated and quoted out of contexts to serve the designs of the vested interests. He said that Islam spelled out a clear code of conduct during the course of war and gave complete protection to the non-combatants including women, the old, and children etc., so much so that trading centres, schools, hospitals and worship places were also declared as safe.



Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri said that those who want to impose the Islamic order on others by means of force and naked power belong to the group of Kha warij who , during the Caliphate of Hazrat Ali (ra), took up arms and initiated rebellion against the Islamic state in the name of enforcing the Divine Order. The terrorists of today also belong to the same breed of Kha warij. They resemble one another in their appearances, body demeanors and even working. He said that Islam does not approve of the killing of innocent people under any excuse. There is a judicial system to indict the wrong-doers and bring them to book. It is the responsibility of the Islamic state to implement the system of justice and punishment through state-run mechanism and none can be allowed to take law in his hands.



He vehemently condemned those who perpetrate terrorism in the name of religion and branded them as the greatest enemies of Islam. He said that if at all these people have to wage Jihad, they could do so against ignorance, corruption, dearness, poverty and other social evils. He also blasted the opponents of democracy and said that the Holy Prophet (saw) is the champion of the democratic and consultative system. Shaykh-ul-Islam reminded the Islamic governments of the fact that it is their national and religious duty to eliminate terrorism and terrorist networks from their midst. They should continue the military action till the complete elimination of these groups.

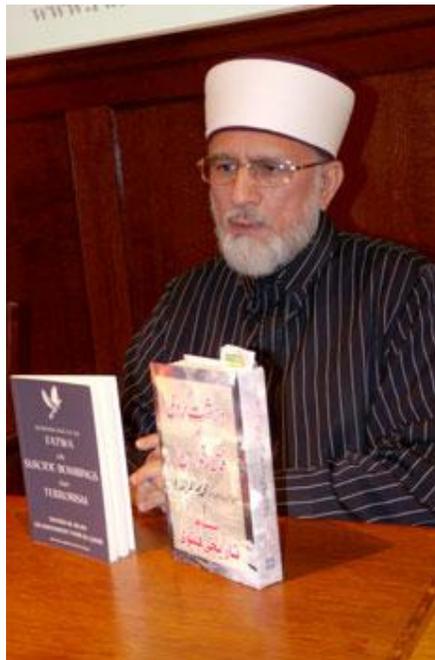
In reply to a question, he said that the Islamic governments should allow democracy to flourish and strengthen political system and processes. If the enemies of Islam and Khawarij are totally annihilated, the roots of terrorism would stand dismantled. He deplored that the Muslim youth happened to be the first casualty of terrorism, for they got trapped in the hands of the terrorist for the sake of religion. The major advantage of the Fatwa would be that the youth would be able to know the reality of their actions whether they are choosing the path to hell or heaven.

British cabinet minister, Shahid Malik, paid glowing tribute to Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri and said that he has always projected the real teachings of Islam. His Fatwa would have long-term positive and revolutionary impact on the Muslim community living in UK and elsewhere and would transform mindsets. He assured his full cooperation at the governmental level.

The media men asked Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri a number questions, which he answered satisfactorily. The press conference continued well over three hours. Shaykh-ul-Islam also gave short interviews to different media outlets on the occasion.



News In English



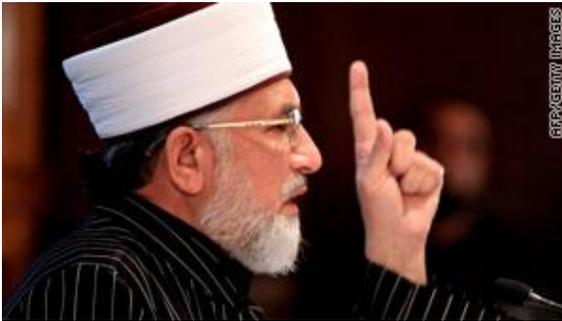


[/http://edition.cnn.com/2010/WORLD/europe/03/03/fatwa.against.terror](http://edition.cnn.com/2010/WORLD/europe/03/03/fatwa.against.terror)

Muslim scholar's fatwa condemns terrorism

March 3, 2010 -- Updated 2318 GMT (0718 HKT)

Violence is violence. It has no place in Islamic teachings
--Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri



Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri speaks at a news conference in London to announce his fatwa against terrorists.

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

- Suicide bombers are destined for hell, author declares in a 600-page fatwa
- Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri also criticizes those who justify violence
- Ul-Qadri founded the Minhaj-ul-Quran, which has hundreds of thousands of followers

London, England (CNN) -- A Muslim scholar has issued a fatwa, or religious ruling, that says suicide bombers are destined for hell.

Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri condemned terrorism and criticized Islamic extremists who cite their religion to justify violence.

Ul-Qadri's 600-page fatwa is "arguably the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism to date," according to the Quilliam Foundation, a London organization that describes itself as a counterterrorism think tank.

"Terrorism is terrorism," ul-Qadri said at a news conference hosted by the foundation. "Violence is violence. It has no place in Islamic teaching, and no justification can be provided to it ..."

Ul-Qadri is the founder of the Minhaj-ul-Quran, an organization with hundreds of thousands of followers in South Asia and the United Kingdom, according to the Quilliam Foundation.

The foundation refers to ul-Qadri as a mainstream Muslim scholar who is a "widely recognized and respected authority on Islamic jurisprudence."

He criticized Muslims who, in justifying terrorism, say it furthers the goal of correcting wrongs done to Muslims.

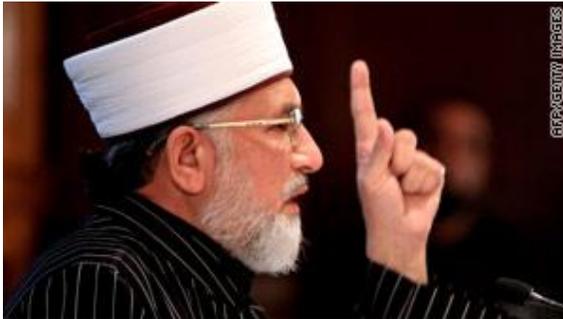
"No good intention -- even one thousand good intentions put together -- cannot justify a wrong and forbidden act," he said. "Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good." Some extremists have interpreted the Quran to suggest that those who kill in the name of Allah will be rewarded after death with 72 virgins and a place in paradise.



<http://www.cnn.com/2010/WORLD/europe/03/11/britain.fatwa.terrorism/index.html?ref=allsearch>

Islamic scholar who condemned terrorism: 'I am not afraid'

By **Tom Evans**, CNN
March 11, 2010 9:34 p.m. EST



Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri announcing his fatwa against terrorists

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

- Sheikh Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri issues fatwa against terrorism
- He says he is working to bridge Muslim, Western worlds
- Ul-Qadri says he hopes his message will reach youth

(CNN) -- The Islamic scholar who issued a powerful fatwa, or religious ruling, against terrorism and suicide bombers said Thursday that he was not afraid of reprisals from his enemies and did not fear for his life.

"I am not afraid of any human being on the surface of Earth," Sheikh Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri told CNN's Christiane Amanpour.

"I am working ... to bridge up the Muslim world and the Western world, to remove the hatreds, to remove all misunderstandings."

"So this is a good cause. I am not afraid of anybody. It depends upon whatever my Lord wants. If I have to live, I will live. Otherwise, I am not afraid."

Ul-Qadri was speaking to CNN just over a week after he issued a 600-page fatwa in London denouncing terrorists as "the biggest enemies of Islam."

In his fatwa, ul-Qadri also said suicide bombers are destined for hell and strongly criticized Islamic extremists who cite Islam to justify violence.

"Terrorism and violence cannot be considered to be permissible in [Islam](#) on the basis of any excuse," he said.

"Any good intention or any mistake of foreign policy of any country or any pretext cannot legalize the act of terrorism."

Ul-Qadri told Amanpour he does not believe his message will reach the small number of radicals who have already been brainwashed. But he said hundreds of thousands of youths who are on the path, or have the potential to be radicalized, will listen to his fatwa.

Amanpour on Thursday also spoke to a Palestinian lawyer and an Israeli author whose lives are linked by tragedy and who are also trying to spread a message of peace. It was their first joint international television interview.

The Palestinian, Elias Khoury, lost his 20-year-old son, George, six years ago when he was killed by an Arab gunman who mistook him for a Jew. Khoury's father was also killed in a Palestinian attack, in 1975.

To honor his son, Khoury commissioned an Arabic translation of one of Israel's most famous novels, "A Tale of Love and Darkness," written by prize-winning author Amos Oz.

"I was deeply moved by Mr. Khoury's generous proposal to translate (the book) into Arabic at his expense," Oz said. "And I thought it's a very powerful way to commemorate George Khoury, the slain son."

"'A Tale of Love and Darkness' can open many hearts in the Arab world and can remove many prevailing stereotypes," he added.

Oz explained the book is about the 1940s in Jewish Palestine and the 1950s in early Israel.

"It renders the story of the Jews in a non-heroic way and in a way that is always attentive to the Palestinian plight and to the Palestinian perspective."

He said he believes any Arab who reads his book will find it more difficult to hate the Jews than before.

Khoury told Amanpour it is vital to know the other side, in order to build bridges between the two nations.

He said he was impressed by the story of Israel. "Their feeling of belonging to the group, to the Jewish nation, and the way they were ready to sacrifice."

"I want my people to see how we can do that, how they were well-organized, and how the institutions did work at that time, and how it came to the final step, when the state of Israel was born."

Oz predicted that one day there will be a Palestinian embassy in Israel and an Israeli embassy in Palestine -- within walking distance of each other in a shared capital, Jerusalem.

It is a prediction that few believe will become a reality any time soon, despite U.S. efforts to kickstart indirect talks between Israelis and Palestinians.

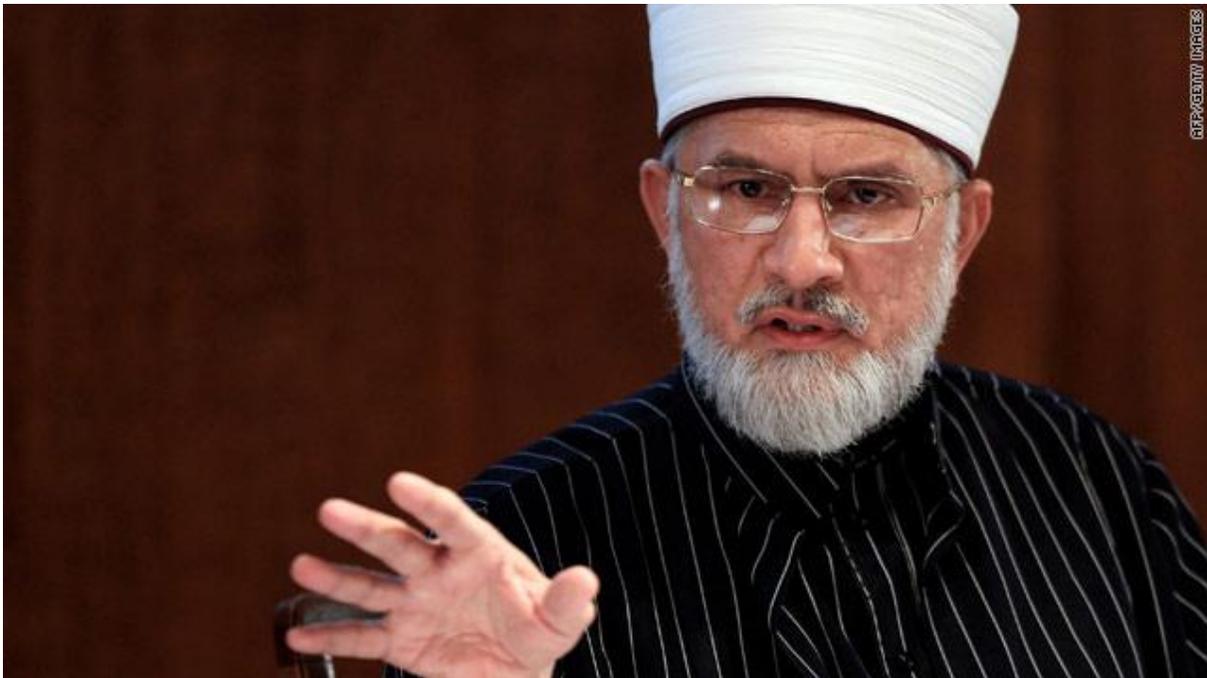
In a sign of how difficult the peace process is, the Israeli government this week approved the construction of another 1,600 homes on disputed land in Jerusalem.

The Israeli government apologized for the timing of the announcement, which came as U.S. Vice President Joe Biden was visiting Israel and the West Bank in a bid to broker new peace talks.

[/http://www.cnn.com/2010/WORLD/asiapcf/03/03/terror.fatwa.analysis](http://www.cnn.com/2010/WORLD/asiapcf/03/03/terror.fatwa.analysis)

Some experts see fatwa as significant blow to terrorist recruiting

By **Kiran Khalid**, CNN
March 3, 2010 5:39 p.m. EST



Tahir ul-Qadri, founder of the Minhaj-ul-Quran International, announces his fatwa in London on Tuesday.

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

- A fatwa, issued Tuesday, called terrorism "haram," or forbidden
- Tahir ul-Qadri: Previously, scholars had qualified their condemnations
- This fatwa is an "absolute" condemnation, ul-Qadri says
- Ruling may even sway individuals susceptible to radicalism, one scholar says

Islamabad, Pakistan (CNN) -- A fatwa, or religious ruling, issued this week is roiling theological waters after it took aim at those notorious for targeting others: terrorists.

The anti-terrorism fatwa by renowned Muslim scholar Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri pulled no punches, declaring that terrorism was "haram," or forbidden by the Quran, and that suicide bombers would be rewarded not by 72 virgins in heaven, as many terrorist recruiters promise, but with a suite in hell.

Qadri, the founder of the Minhaj-ul-Quran International, an Islamic movement with centers in 90 countries, told a news conference in London, England, on Tuesday that his decree categorically condemns terrorism and suicide bombings in the name of Islam.

"Until now, scholars who were condemning terrorism were conditional and qualified what they said," Qadri said in a phone interview, noting that his 600-page ruling left no room for interpretation. "I didn't leave a single, minor aspect that, in the mind of radicals or extremists, can take them to the direction of martyrdom."

The 59-year-old Pakistani scholar called his fatwa an "absolute" condemnation, going as far as to label the terrorists themselves "kafirs," a term in the Quran meaning "unbeliever."

"This fatwa has the potential to be a highly significant step towards eradicating Islamist terrorism," Quilliam, a counter-extremism think tank based in London, said in a statement.

Manan Ahmed, assistant professor of Islam in South and Southeast Asia at the Institute for Islamic Studies in Berlin, agreed, calling the fatwa "unprecedented."

"This is a landmark theological study -- a careful and systematic treatment of a thousand years of legal tradition dealing with armed resistance against the state, rules of engagement, aspects. The fatwa itself ... is categorically and comprehensively against terrorism in any form and for any cause," Ahmed said.

Many skeptics questioned whether an intellectual dismantling of al Qaeda's religious philosophy could have any impact on recruiting terrorists in places like Pakistan, where many potential foot soldiers don't have access to education, much less academic discourse.

Ahmed says it can.

"This is not an academic or an intellectual argument alone. This is a theological argument, based in the Qur'an and Sunnah [practice of the Prophet]," Ahmed said. "What it provides are easily available argumentation and proof for the millions of preachers across Pakistan, who can, in turn, incorporate this into their weekly sermons."

Ahmed says where it will undoubtedly leave an indelible mark is online. Just this week, U.S. Army Brig. Gen. John Custer, head of intelligence at the U.S. military's Central Command, told the CBS program "60 Minutes" that "without a doubt, the Internet is the single most important venue for the radicalization of Islamic youth."

I didn't leave a single, minor aspect that, in the mind of radicals or extremists, can take them to the direction of martyrdom.

--Tahir ul-Qadri

<http://www.cnn.com/2010/US/03/03/mip.wednesday/index.html?ref=allsearch>

Intriguing people for March 3, 2010

By **Jay Kernis**, CNN

March 3, 2010 8:18 a.m. EST



Sheikh Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri told fellow Muslims that violence "has no place in Islamic teaching."

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

- Renowned Muslim scholar condemns all terrorism

Editor's note: Every weekday, CNN focuses on a handful of people in the news. This is a chance to find out more about what they've done -- good or bad -- what they've said or what they believe, and why we think they're intriguing.

(CNN) -- Sheikh Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri: At a news conference in London, England, on Tuesday, the renowned Islamic scholar issued a fatwa -- a religious ruling -- condemning suicide bombers as destined for hell, removing extremists' certainty of earning paradise after death. The 600-page fatwa is arguably the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism to date. Qadri said his aim was to set an important precedent that might allow other scholars to similarly condemn the ideas behind terrorism.

London's The Independent newspaper reports that the imam told fellow Muslims: "Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses of ifs and buts. The world needs an absolute, unconditional, unqualified and total condemnation of terrorism."

According to his online biography, Qadri was born in Pakistan in 1951 and was raised believing that he would become a religious leader, "since his birth had been foretold through a spiritual dream to his father." The former law professor says he has written some 1,000 books, 360 of which are already in print.



<http://www.cnn.com/2010/US/studentnews/03/03/transcript.thu/#one>

March 4, 2010

Fatwa (noun) It's an Arabic word for a legal opinion or order made by an Islamic religious leader

source: www.m-w.com

Fatwa against Terror

AZUZ: A Muslim scholar in London is issuing a fatwa against terrorism. Some Islamic leaders have used the teachings of the Koran, Islam's holy book, to justify terrorism and suicide bombings. But this cleric we're telling you about today says that idea is totally false. Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri explained this fatwa earlier this week. He's studied the religious writings and says that violence is never justified by the Koran. He also criticized the idea that anyone who carries out a terrorist act would be promised an afterlife of paradise. Some officials have come out in support of ul-Qadri's fatwa. They say it might not stop suicide bombers, but it could encourage younger Muslims to reconsider joining extremist groups. Some of those groups use the Koran to try to recruit young members to commit violence. But ul-Qadri says the holy book is very clear on that point.

MUHAMMAD TAHIR UL-QADRI, MUSLIM SCHOLAR: Terrorism is terrorism. Violence is violence. It has no place in Islamic teachings, and no justification can be provided to it on the basis of any kinds of excuses.



U.S. DEPARTMENT of STATE

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/dpb/2010/03/137691.htm>

Philip J. Crowley

Assistant Secretary

Daily Press Briefing

Washington, DC

March 2, 2010

QUESTION: P.J., on a different subject, the leader of a global Muslim organization today issued a very rare fatwa condemning terrorism in all its forms. And the reason that's important is because it's in Britain, and obviously, there's been some radicalization of young British Muslims, and the would-be Detroit bomber was one of those people a few years ago. I'm wondering whether this has any significance to the U.S. Government, given that that specific scholar actually has had some – has worked with different parts of the U.S. Government on awareness of Muslim issues in this country as well as others.

MR. CROWLEY: Well, I think Britain has had a very significant, detailed, extensive counter-radicalization strategy over the last few years. It has done extensive outreach with Muslim communities within Britain. Other countries have emulated that, including the United States. These issues are – at the heart of this, it's about a very small group of people that have tried to hijack a religion. And we certainly value the debate that is currently underway within Muslim-majority communities around the world about the nature of their religion, the implication and definition of the word jihad, and to kind of take back the good name of Islam.

So I think we welcome these kinds of developments, whether in Britain or elsewhere around the world, as being very important steps in having the Muslims themselves make their own judgment about the vision that al-Qaida and bin Laden have propagated. And anyone who comes forward and rejects that vision, we welcome those steps.



<http://edition.cnn.com/2010/WORLD/europe/03/03/fatwa.against.terror/>

CNN (Video Comments): Muslim scholar's fatwa condemns terrorism

March 3, 2010 -- Updated 2318 GMT (0718 HKT)

London, England (CNN) -- A Muslim scholar has issued a fatwa, or religious ruling, that says suicide bombers are destined for hell.

Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri condemned terrorism and criticized Islamic extremists who cite their religion to justify violence.

Ul-Qadri's 600-page fatwa is "arguably the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism to date," according to the Quilliam Foundation, a London organization that describes itself as a counterterrorism think tank.

"Terrorism is terrorism," ul-Qadri said at a news conference hosted by the foundation.

"Violence is violence. It has no place in Islamic teaching, and no justification can be provided to it ..." Ul-Qadri is the founder of the Minhaj-ul-Quran, an organization with hundreds of thousands of followers in South Asia and the United Kingdom, according to the Quilliam Foundation.

The foundation refers to ul-Qadri as a mainstream Muslim scholar who is a "widely recognized and respected authority on Islamic jurisprudence."

He criticized Muslims who, in justifying terrorism, say it furthers the goal of correcting wrongs done to Muslims.

"No good intention -- even one thousand good intentions put together -- cannot justify a wrong and forbidden act," he said. "Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good." Some extremists have interpreted the Quran to suggest that those who kill in the name of Allah will be rewarded after death with 72 virgins and a place in paradise.



http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/8544531.stm

Islamic scholar Tahir ul-Qadri issues terrorism fatwa

Tuesday, 2 March 2010

By Dominic Casciani

BBC News

An influential Muslim scholar has issued a global ruling against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Dr Tahir ul-Qadri, from Pakistan, says his 600-page judgement, known as a fatwa, completely dismantles al-Qaeda's violent ideology.

The scholar describes al-Qaeda as an "old evil with a new name" that has not been sufficiently challenged.

The scholar's movement is growing in the UK and has attracted the interest of policymakers and security chiefs.

In his religious ruling, delivered in London, Dr Qadri says that Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

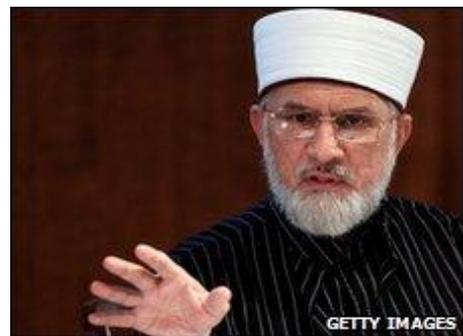
Although many scholars have made similar rulings in the past, Dr Qadri argued that his massive document goes much further by omitting "ifs and buts" added by other thinkers.

He said that it set out a point-by-point theological rebuttal of every argument used by al-Qaeda inspired recruiters.

The populist scholar developed his document last year as a response to the increase in bombings across Pakistan by militants.

'Heroes of hellfire'

The basic text has been extended to 600 pages to cover global issues, in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in Western nations. It will be promoted in the UK by Dr Qadri's organisation, Minhaj ul-Quran International.



Dr Tahir ul-Qadri: 600-page ruling

Dr Qadri spoke for more than an hour to an audience of Muslims, clergy, MPs, police officers and other security officials.

"They [terrorists] can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma [global brotherhood]. No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire," he said.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad."

Acts of vengeance

The document is not the first to condemn terrorism and suicide bombing to be launched in the UK.

Scholars from across the UK came together in the wake of the 7 July London attacks to denounce the bombers and urge communities to root out extremists.

But some scholarly rulings in the Middle East have argued that the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians is an exceptional situation where "martyrdom" attacks can be justified.

Dr Qadri said he rejected that view saying there were no situations under which acts of vengeance, such as attacks on market places or commuter trains, could ever be considered a justifiable act of war.

Although Dr Qadri has many followers in Pakistan, Minhaj ul-Quran International remained largely unknown in the UK until relatively recently.

It now has 10 mosques in cities with significant Muslim communities and says it is targeting younger generations it believes have been let down by traditional leaders. The organisation is attracting the attention of policymakers and security chiefs who are continuing to look for allies in the fight against extremists.

The Department for Communities, which runs most of the government's Preventing Violent Extremism strategy, has tried building bridges with a variety of liberal-minded groups, but often found that they have limited actual influence at the grassroots.



http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/magazine/8550927.stm

A fatwa they can work with?

By Dominic Casciani
BBC News
Wednesday, 10 March 2010

An Islamic scholar turned up in London last week to deliver a religious ruling denouncing terrorism in all its forms - but what was it about him that made everyone sit up and listen?

He's a man on a mission - a mission to state the obvious.

But for Dr Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri it is the obvious facts that need stating loudest. Last week the Pakistani-born cleric took to a stage in London to declare his Islamic religious ruling, or fatwa, against terrorism.

There was a man from the other side of the world telling an audience that included Parliamentarians and other government officials what they had been wanting to hear. A clear, concise and quotable denouncement of al-Qaeda's worldview.

Canada-based Dr Qadri spoke for more than an hour on his reasons why the Koran forbids the murder and mayhem of suicide bombings.

"This fatwa is an absolute condemnation of terrorism. Without any excuse, without any pretext, without any exceptions, without creating any ways of justification," he said.

"This condemnation is in its totality, in its comprehensiveness, its absoluteness, a total condemnation of every act of terrorism in every form which is being committed or has been committed wrongly in the name of Islam."

Classically trained

Dr Qadri is a classically-trained Islamic scholar and his organisation, Minhaj ul-Quran International, has spent 30 years building a strong following in Pakistan.

If [the child] he has reached the stage where he is a terrorist, the parents are duty bound according to Islamic law to inform the anti-terrorist squad

Dr Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri

He is also a former Parliamentarian who was very close to Benazir Bhutto, the former Pakistani prime minister assassinated by a suicide bomber in 2007.

Some two years on, Dr Q adri's vast review of what Islam says about terrorism comes down to the very simple idea that there is no theological or moral case for a wronged party being allowed to seek vengeance against the innocent.

His fatwa makes detailed observations of the principles of a just war and rules of engagement. And he goes further than some scholars in stating that bombers who use an ideology to justify their actions have turned away from their faith.

His arrival in the UK was a quite deliberate attempt to shake things up. The youth, he says, need more help to counter the brain washers. But in saying so, the fatwa became political.

Its launch was notable not just for who was there from the corridors of power, but who wasn't from the Muslim communities.

Supporters from communities close to his own background turned out. But the head of the Muslim Council of Britain, the umbrella body representing 500 groups, sent apologies. Some of the scholars who had signed a fatwa led by the MCB against terrorism after the 7 July attacks, were not there either.

Community fault lines

Dr Q adri's intervention in the UK has exposed complicated fault lines in the Muslim communities that often go unseen. Some people in the MCB are suspicious of his motives. One Muslim campaign group close to the MCB, iEngage, accused Dr Q adri of sectarianism. He denies trying to stir things up.

"I have never been sectarian in my life. Never, ever," he says.

"I have helped Christians to celebrate Christmas. But that liberal point of view is not acceptable to [some Muslim groups in the UK].

"They talk about openness and integration but what do they really believe in? The language of the heart and the language of the mouth are different."

Dr Q adri goes on to criticise scholars whom he believes are equivocal over violence in Israel or any other situation where they claim there are exceptions that make suicide bombing permissible.

He reserves special ire for scholars who argue that there the West is part of a "sphere of war," calling them "quacks" who have understood neither Islamic history, nor how to interpret the present.

But the real question is whether anyone is listening? Can a son on the edge of turning to al-Qaeda be brought back by his family?

"If he has reached the stage where he is a terrorist, the parents are duty bound according to Islamic law to inform the anti-terrorist squad," he says banging his point home on the table.

"If he is at the stage where he can be reformed, then they should take every possible act to reform him."

Countering extremism



Hearts and minds: Communities divided over how to tackle extremists

But almost five years on from London's 7/7 attacks, in which 52 people died, there is no settled view on how to do it.

Government has put a lot of effort into backing groups like the Quilliam Foundation, a counter-extremism think tank led by two former members of a legal Islamist movement.

There are separate programmes involving the police and Security Service which deal with people right on the cusp. It uses a variety of methods - but some experts believe the best results come from deploying hardline Saudi-influenced clerics who have the street credibility to mentor a youngster while demolishing al-Qaeda's arguments. There is tension between the two camps - because there are a great deal of people who see hardline clerics as part of the conveyor belt that ultimately leads to terrorism.

But both sides at least agree that they need a proper "toolkit" of theological arguments.

"If someone is going to be a suicide bomber, they have to be 100% convinced that they are going to heaven," says Maajid Nawaz, co-director of the Quilliam Foundation. "If you can put just 1% of doubt in their minds, then you could stop them. And you do that by presenting them with detailed evidences from Islam itself. This fatwa helps."

That's not an argument that washes with everyone.

Azzam Tamimi, a Palestinian academic based in London, infamously became a tabloid hate figure by supporting suicide bombing in Israel because it was the only means of self-defence available. He is less well known for the critical role he played in helping the police bring down the now-jailed preacher Abu Hamza.

"People who resort to these bombings do it because they believe it is justified, that it is commendable and rewardable," he says. "Otherwise they would not do it. For every fatwa there is a counter fatwa."

Amid all this fatwa flashing, many Muslims fear divide and rule - and suspect that someone, somewhere will use Dr Tahir ul-Qadri to further that agenda.

The scholar sees this as the signs of paranoia brought on by a weakness - and his answer is to expand his organisation's mission in the UK beyond its 10 mosques and 5,000 members.

So will Dr Qadri's fatwa do some good or end up on the great big pile of similar denouncements?

An hour after he delivered his address, the former leader of al-Muhajiroun, a group recently banned for extremism, turned up at the doorstep of a news channel and asked to go on air to counter Dr Qadri.

Would he have bothered if the scholar was such an irrelevance in the battle for hearts and minds?



http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/news/2010/03/100302_suicide_bombing_fatwa_nh_sl.shtml

BBC World (Audio) –Pakistani cleric issues fatwa banning suicide bombing

Last Updated: 2 March, 2010 - 17:45 GMT



An Islamic scholar from Pakistan has issued a religious ruling, or fatwa, in which he condemns suicide bombing as contrary to Muslim teaching.

Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri is the founder of an organisation called Minhaj-ul-Quran International, which works for peace between different faiths and communities. He issued his fatwa in the UK, rather than in Pakistan. News hour's Robin Lustig asked him why.

Listen to Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri

http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/news/2010/03/100302_suicide_bombing_fatwa_nh_sl.shtml

Islamic terrorism 'leads to hellfire'

Audio Interview at BBC News

http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/listen_again/newsid_8544000/8544843.stm

09:16 GMT, Tuesday, 2 March 2010

In what may be a significant act for many Muslims in this country, a leading Islamic scholar will issue a religious decree, or fatwa, in which he argues that suicide bombings and violent attacks in the name of Islam are, far from being justified, acts that put the perpetrators beyond the faith and are to be condemned. The fatwa, running to more than 600 pages comes from Dr Muhammad Tahir-al-Qadri, founder of a Sufi Muslim group based in Pakistan called Minhaj ul Quran which says that it is committed to education of young Muslims in the promotion of peace. Dr Qadri describes the document he is publishing today

http://news.sky.com/skynews/Home/UK-News/Anti-Terror-Fatwa-Islamic-Scholar-To-Denounce-Suicide-Bombers-As-Unbelievers/Article/201003115564324?lpos=UK_News_Top_Stories_Header_4&lid=ARTICLE_15564324_Anti-Terror_Fatwa%3A_Islamic_Scholar_To_Denounce_Suicide_Bombers_As_Unbelievers

Islamic Scholar Issues Anti-Terrorism Fatwa

8:31am UK, Tuesday March 02, 2010

Mark White, Home affairs correspondent

A prominent Islamic scholar will use a speech in London to issue a 600-page religious edict, denouncing terrorists and suicide bombers as "unbelievers".



Scholar condemns terror attacks like 2005 London bombings which killed 52 people
Muhammad Tahir ul Qadri is a leading figure who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years.

He said he felt compelled to issue the fatwa because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

Ul Qadri says his fatwa, which is aimed at persuading young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said ul Qadri, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship.

He is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam which is widely seen as focusing on peace, tolerance and moderation.

The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire.

Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri

Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdul Mutallab, accused of trying to bomb a US-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008. Government officials in Yemen, where Mutallab began his journey, have said he was radicalised while in Britain.

However, the British Government claims his introduction to hardcore extremists happened after he left the UK. Government officials will be among those joining ul Qadri for the launch of the fatwa in central London.

The Muslim Council of Britain, an umbrella organisation representing some 500 Islamic groups, has welcomed the fatwa.

Mutallab is accused of attempting to explode a bomb on board a transatlantic jet

Ul Qadri will tell his audience: "The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire."

The 59-year-old was born in Pakistan and is head of the global Minhaj ul Quran religious and educational organisation which spreads his Sufi ideas.

A former Pakistani minister and associate of assassinated prime minister Benazir Bhutto, he delivers lectures worldwide promoting his message of harmony and was one of the first Muslim leaders to condemn the 9/11 attacks in the US

While ul Qadri has followers around the globe, it is in Pakistan where he has millions of followers and in the diaspora that his impact is likely to be greatest.

Britain has about 1.7 million Muslims, mainly of Pakistani descent.

The UK's security services say nearly all major terrorism plots since 2001, including the 2005 London bombings which killed 52 people, have been linked to Pakistan.

Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all but 'swing voters' - poorly-educated and angry Muslims who respect mainstream scholars - will probably take note.

Tim Winter, Islamic studies lecturer at Cambridge University

Ul Qadri said he is confident his edict will have a significant impact because he has drawn on classical teachings and authorities acceptable to all sects of Islam.

"I will say more than 50% will change their way, they will be influenced," he said.

"Of the remaining 50% at least some of them, half of them, will become doubtful about their life, their terrorist activity," he said.

Tim Winter, a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, said while there had been similar fatwas in the past, ul Qadri did appear to have gone further than most.

"To declare the miscreants as unbelievers is unusual because it is not really clear that the rules allow one simply to say that they are not Muslims."

He added: "Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all but 'swing voters' - poorly-educated and angry Muslims who respect mainstream scholars - will probably take note.

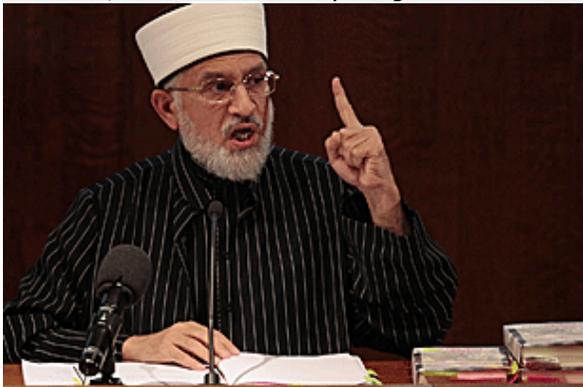
"Certainly it is a helpful initiative."

Ul Qadri's pronouncement will be welcomed by authorities in the UK and by other Western governments seeking to stamp out extremism - but the respected scholar said their backing is irrelevant to his views.

<http://english.aljazeera.net/news/europe/2010/03/2010321321826236.html>

Cleric issues anti-terror fatwa

A leading Islamic scholar has issued a fatwa in Britain condemning "terrorists" as the enemies of Islam, in a bid to deter young Muslims from extremism.



Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri said there was no place for violence or terrorism in Islam [AFP]

Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, head of the Minhaj ul-Quran religious and educational organisation, said suicide bombers were destined for hell as he released his 600-page edict in London on Tuesday.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma [the wider Muslim community], no, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire," he said.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered Jihad," he said.

'No place in Islam'

At a news conference, ul-Qadri said Islam was a religion of peace that promotes beauty, "betterment", goodness and "negates all form of mischief and strife".

"Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts," he said.

A number of edicts condemning extremism have been made by Islamic groups since the September 11 attacks on the United States, but ul-Qadri insists his is the most wide-reaching.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," he told the Reuters news agency.

"I have tried to leave not a single stone unturned on this particular subject and I have tried to address every single question relevant to this subject."

Pakistan-born ul-Qadri, 59, has written about 350 books on Islam, and is a scholar of Sufism, a Muslim branch that focuses on peace, tolerance, and moderation.

The Quilliam Foundation, a UK counter-extremism think-tank, said the fatwa was "arguably the most comprehensive" theological refutation of Islamic extremism.

Tim Winter, a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, said while ul-Qadri's step of declaring "miscreants as unbelievers" was unusual, it was unlikely extremists would take notice of his edict.

"Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all. But 'swing voters' - poorly educated and angry Muslims, who respect mainstream scholars, will probably take note," he told Reuters.

Ul-Qadri said he felt compelled to issue the edict because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

The Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, founded in Pakistan in 1980, works around the globe to promote peace and interfaith dialogue.



<http://www.worldjewishcongress.org/en/main/show News/id/9081>

Islamic scholar issues global fatwa against terrorism

02 March 2010

An influential Muslim scholar has issued a global ruling against terrorism and suicide bombing. Dr Tahir ul-Qadri, from Pakistan, says his 600-page judgement, known as a fatwa, completely dismantles al-Qaeda's violent ideology.

The scholar describes al-Qaeda as an "old evil with a new name" that has not been sufficiently challenged.

The scholar's movement is growing in the UK and has attracted the interest of policymakers and security chiefs.

In his religious ruling, delivered in London, Dr Qadri says that Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

Although many scholars have made similar rulings in the past, Dr Qadri argued that his massive document goes much further by omitting "ifs and buts" added by other thinkers.

He said that it set out a point-by-point theological rebuttal of every argument used by al-Qaeda inspired recruiters.

The populist scholar developed his document last year as a response to the increase in bombings across Pakistan by militants.

'Heroes of hellfire'

The basic text has been extended to 600 pages to cover global issues, in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in Western nations. It will be promoted in the UK by Dr Qadri's organisation, Minhaj ul-Quran International.

Dr Qadri spoke for more than an hour to an audience of Muslims, clergy, MPs, police officers and other security officials.

"They [terrorists] can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma [global brotherhood]. No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire," he said.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad."

Acts of vengeance

The document is not the first to condemn terrorism and suicide bombing to be launched in the UK.

Scholars from across the UK came together in the wake of the 7 July London attacks to denounce the bombers and urge communities to root out extremists.

But some scholarly rulings in the Middle East have argued that the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians is an exceptional situation where "martyrdom" attacks can be justified.

Dr Qadri said he rejected that view saying there were no situations under which acts of vengeance, such as attacks on market places or commuter trains, could ever be considered a justifiable act of war.

Although Dr Qadri has many followers in Pakistan, Minhaj ul-Quran International remained largely unknown in the UK until relatively recently.

It now has 10 mosques in cities with significant Muslim communities and says it is targeting younger generations it believes have been let down by traditional leaders.

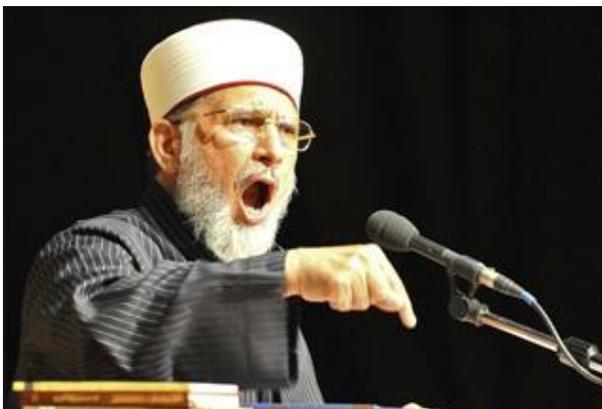
The organisation is attracting the attention of policymakers and security chiefs who are continuing to look for allies in the fight against extremists.

The Department for Communities, which runs most of the government's Preventing Violent Extremism strategy, has tried building bridges with a variety of liberal-minded groups, but often found that they have limited actual influence at the grassroots.

<http://www.presstv.ir/detail.aspx?id=119921>

London-based cleric issues anti-terror fatwa

Wed, 03 Mar 2010 06:39:40 GMT



An influential Muslim scholar in Britain has issued a fatwa banning terror attacks and bombings, insisting that there is no justification for terror acts in the name of Islam.

At a news conference attended by officers from London's Metropolitan Police, lawmakers, charitable organizations and think-tanks, Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri said that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Ummah. No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards the hellfire," he said.

In his 600-page decree, the founder of the internationally popular Minhaj-ul-Quran movement said there was no place for martyrdom through acts of terror and that such acts had nothing to do with jihad.

The scholar ruled out any excuses or pretexts for justifying acts of terror in supposed efforts to "convert an evil into good."

"Terrorism is terrorism," Qadri insisted. "Violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts."

He reiterated that Islam is a religion of peace that promotes beauty, "betterment," goodness and "negates all form of mischief and strife."

The fatwa is not the first by a senior Muslim scholar against extremism, but Qadri's is expected to carry more weight as it will be one of the few available in English and online.

The Washington Times

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2010/mar/03/muslim-leaders-edict-decries-terrorism/>

Muslim leader's edict decries terrorism

BY: Nicholas Kralev

March 3, 2010

The leader of a global Muslim movement Tuesday issued a rare religious edict condemning terrorism and denouncing suicide bombers as "heroes of hellfire" in an effort to help prevent the radicalization of young British Muslims.

The State Department welcomed the 600-page document known as a fatwa, which was released in London with the British government's support, as a "very important step" in "taking back Islam" from al Qaeda and other extremist groups.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker and a leading scholar of Islam, has issued similar, shorter decrees in the past. But the new fatwa makes the most detailed and comprehensive case against Islamic extremism by a Muslim, diplomats and analysts said.

"Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence, and it has no place in Islamic teaching, and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts," Mr. Tahir-ul-Qadri said at a news conference in London. "Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good; they cannot convert an evil into good."

It was not clear how much influence the fatwa will have in the broad Muslim world or even outside the South Asian community whose members are Mr. Tahir-ul-Qadri's most dedicated followers.

Timothy R. Furnish, a historian of Islam, said the fatwa may not carry significant weight for many Muslims because Mr. Tahir-ul-Qadri is a Sufi Muslim, and not a Koranic literalist, as are such Sunni groups as the Wahhabis and the Salafis, who form the core of groups such as al Qaeda.

"It would seem to be simply another example of this centuries-long Sufi/Wahhabi-Salafi spat over how to interpret the authoritative texts of Islam," said Mr. Furnish, who noted that he has not read Tuesday's fatwa. "For every such legal

pronunciam ento, there is an antithetical one from the literalist camp ..., which justifies such attacks with dear Koranic and Hadith [Traditions] citations."

In recent years, Britain has coped with growing radicalization among its Muslim youths — a development that also has attracted young Muslims from other countries to study at British schools. One of them is Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, the 23-year-old Nigerian who later received training from al Qaeda and is charged with trying to blow up a Detroit-bound airliner in December.

Mr. Tahir-ul-Qadri, founder of the Minhaj-ul-Quran worldwide movement promoting a tolerant Islam, and his followers hope that his fatwa will show those youths an alternative to extremism, said Ghaffar Hussein, a spokesman for the Quilliam Foundation, a British government-funded think tank.

The foundation's backing and promotion of Tuesday's event drew much more media and public attention than it would have received otherwise, according to British press reports.

The New York Times

http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2010/03/02/world/AP-EU-Britain-Anti-Terror-Fatwa.html?_r=2&scp=1&sq=fatwa&st=cse

Muslim Leader Issues Anti-Terror Fatwa

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Published: March 2, 2010

LONDON (AP) -- The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think tank and drew strong media attention.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

A version of this article appeared in print on March 2, 2010, on 4 of the New York edition.

The Washington Post

http://newswatch.washingtonpost.com/onfaith/panelists/john_esposito/2010/03/influential_pakistani_cleric_issues_fatwa_against_terrorism.html



FOUNDING DIRECTOR, PRINCE ALWALEED BIN TALAL CENTER FOR MUSLIM-CHRISTIAN UNDERSTANDING, GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

John Esposito

Professor of religion, international affairs and Islamic studies.

Influential Pakistani cleric issues fatwa against terrorism

An influential Pakistani cleric issued a **600-page fatwa** on March 2, described as an "absolute" condemnation of terrorism without "any excuses or pretexts." Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri declared that terrorists and suicide bombers were unbelievers and that "terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts."

While domestic politics in Muslim countries, the presence of foreign troops and the impact Western foreign policies remain primary drivers in radicalization, a major, comprehensive fatwa like this -- along with less-sweeping fatwas issued by other religious authorities -- does constitute a major challenge to the legitimacy of al-Qaeda and other terrorist groups. **Qadri's fatwa** is an exhaustive, systematic theological and legal study of the Islamic tradition's teachings on the use of force and armed resistance to support an absolute condemnation of any form of terrorism for any cause. Its significance will be felt in Pakistan, where Qadri over several decades has become a prominent scholar and religious leader as well as a religious media star. It will also have an impact in the West among young Muslims in Britain, Scandinavia and Canada, many of whom are of Pakistani backgrounds.

Qadri is a Barelvi Muslim scholar (Barelvi and Deobandis, who claim to follow a more pristine version of Islam, are the two major Sunni Muslim groups or schools of thought in the Indian subcontinent). The Barelvi are estimated to be the largest Muslim group in Pakistan, India and Great Britain. Qadri, noted for his liberal and tolerant views, promotes greater unity among Muslims and inter and intra faith dialogue, reaching out to other theological schools like the Deobandis and to Shia Muslims and Pakistani Christians. He emphasizes Islam's religious, social, cultural, teachings of Islam.

Trained both in traditional madrasas and at Punjab University where in 1972 he earned an MA and PhD in Islamic Studies, Qadri appeals to a broad audience of traditionalists and those that appreciate his integration of traditional Islamic sciences with modern disciplines. Qadri's career took off in the mid-1980s with a popular national television program *Fahm-e-Quran* (Understanding the Qur'an), speaking in down to earth popular idioms and using analogies from everyday life.

Qadri is among a handful of prominent popular preachers in Pakistan (as elsewhere in the Muslim world) whose primary medium for propagating their messages is the electronic technology (cassettes, videos, CDs, DVDs, and television channels). Qadri's media career has been unprecedented in the modern religious history of Pakistan. Founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran International, based in Lahore, an Islamic movement with centers in 90 countries, its publication house carries thousands of Qadri's CDs and DVDs Urdu, Punjabi, Arabic and English, delivered in Pakistan, India, the Middle East, Europe, the United States, and Canada.

Qadri already has an established track record in his denunciation of terrorism in the name of Islam. One of the few religious leaders in Pakistan who unequivocally condemned the September 11 terrorist attacks, Qadri has challenged the Islamic legitimacy of those who approved the use of violence for religious or political ends. Thus, though he studied in Saudi Arabia, he is a vocal critic of Wahhabi and Salafi Islam's extremist and violent tendencies. He has condemned al-Qaeda and the Taliban as an outgrowth of Wahhabi doctrines, denouncing al-Qaeda a "lethal threat to Islam and Muslims," whose actions are antithetical to Islam's message of peace. In a December 5, 2009 press conference, drawing extensively on Islamic texts Qadri declared: "Islam does not permit, under any circumstances, the massacre of innocent citizens, terrorist explosions and suicide bombings" which according to Islamic law are unacceptable violations of human rights and constitute kufr, (unbelief). At the same time, Qadri has also been a strong critic of the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan and Iraq.

By John Esposito | March 5, 2010; 9:18 AM ET

The Washington Post

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/03/02/AR2010030200804.html>

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

Tuesday, March 2, 2010; 9:36 AM

LONDON -- The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think tank and drew strong media attention.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

The Washington Post

http://newswatch.washingtonpost.com/onfaith/panelists/muqtedar_khan/2010/03/a_fatwa_that_might_work_a_loud_voice_from_the_silent_majority.html



DIRECTOR, ISLAMIC STUDIES, U. OF DELAWARE

Muqtedar Khan

Associate professor, political science and international relations; Fellow of the Institute of Social Policy and Understanding

A fatwa against terrorism that might work

Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri's **fatwa against terrorism** might actually have an impact. It is comprehensive, direct, and does not dodge any issue. It has come at a time when there is very strong abhorrence for terrorism, specially in Pakistan, and it will strip terrorists of what little legitimacy they might be still enjoying in the eyes of Muslims who fear that Islam is under attack by Western powers.

Dr. Qadri is a prominent mega-Imam who enjoys a large popular following. He also happens to be well ensconced in the traditional Islamic heritage. His is clearly a loud voice of the hitherto silent majority. Those who are engaged in extremist violence and those who sympathize with them belong to a more recent salafi trend. This trend is a recent transplant in South Asia and fortunately does not have deep roots in the region. Dr. Qadri and his large following constitute the mainstream of Muslims in Pakistan and in the Pakistani diaspora. In principle they should be able to prevail easily over the extremist voices now causing such turmoil in that land.

Dr. Qadri's 600-pages fatwa is essentially an encyclopedic compilation of the fiqh of the use of force. It basically accumulates all the various jurisprudential positions advanced by Muslim scholars and jurists of different schools and provides a comprehensive overview of the various normative and ethical limitations that derivatives from Islamic sources have placed on the legitimate use of force.

There is nothing new in Dr. Qadri's tome and that is a good thing. He is not advancing new interpretations of Islamic sources, nor is he trying to reinvent the wheel. His contribution is to show that not only does Islam prohibit terrorism, it condemns the terrorist to hell. He also shows how Muslims have long held suicide as a forbidden act. Islam has always done this from the beginning. The collection of the various opinions of classical scholars too demonstrates the extent and depth of Islam's prohibition of the use of force against civilians, against women, and against children.

The extremists and their sympathetic scholars, I am confident, will not be able to produce a document that could trump Dr. Qadri's Fatwa. The extremist scholars in the Muslim world have

relied basically on two elements to advance their radical agenda. One, they have exploited the widespread theological illiteracy of Muslims to advance out of context and unprecedented new interpretations and justifications for the principle of Jihad to legitimize their crusade against the West and its allies. Two, they have benefited from the anger that Muslims have been feeling against the various military attacks and occupations by Western armies of Muslim lands in the past two centuries. Add to this the endless suffering of the Palestinians, Iraqis, Afghans civilians at the hands of Western forces and you begin to comprehend why so many of the Muslim youth embraced the un-Islamic interpretations of Islamic sources by radical clerics.

Is Dr. Qadri's Fatwa a magic bullet that will erode all anger, frustration and resentment; certainly not. Will it engender a widespread loathing for the use of terrorism as a tactic, most certainly yes, if it is given sustained attention by the media. In Pakistan, Dr. Qadri's reputation, the growing anger against terrorists for their indiscriminate violence against mosques and against Muslims, will all combine to give the fatwa a chance to marginalize the extremists. Hopefully their supporters will either rethink their politics or at least abstain from openly and actively supporting the culture of violence.

The author and his institution also hope that the perception held by some in the West that Islam is the cause of terrorism will be corrected. I am however less sanguine about this. Those in the West who argue that moderate Muslims are not opposing terrorism or those who insist that terrorism is a consequence of Islamic values are motivated by political interests and are clearly Islamophobic. They will not change their mind. However those who are still unaware that most Muslims condemn terrorists and that there is nothing in Islam that supports terrorism may perhaps become enlightened as a result of this fatwa.

This fatwa is a good thing. It will advance the cause against terrorism.

BY MUQTEDAR KHAN | MARCH 5, 2010; 3:34 AM ET

http://www.google.com/hostednews/ukpress/article/ALeqM5h4KYI1sPxOIHnMXxYWwBNx_vvV_WA

Suicide bombers 'enemies of Islam'

UKPA

09:15 GMT 02 March, 2010

Suicide bombers have been described as the "heroes of hellfire" by a leading Muslim scholar in a fatwa condemning terrorists as the enemies of Islam.

Pakistan-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri said there were no "ifs or buts" about terrorism and such acts had no justification in the name of Islam.

In a news conference attended by MPs, representatives from the Metropolitan Police, charitable organisations, think-tanks and other groups, he called on Islamic leaders to convey the message that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma (the wider Muslim community), no, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire," he said.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered Jihad," he added.

Dr Qadri, who spoke at length in both English and Arabic before his audience, said his fatwa - a religious edict or ruling - was an "absolute" condemnation of terrorism without "any excuses or pretexts".

"Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good," he said. "Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts."

He insisted that Islam was a religion of peace that promotes beauty, "betterment", goodness and "negates all form of mischief and strife".

The 600-page fatwa by Dr Qadri, founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, which has thousands of supporters across the world as well as in the UK, will be translated into English in the coming weeks. His talk will also be made available online in an attempt to counter extremist versions of Islam available on the internet.

A fatwa, an edict issued by a learned Muslim scholar, may concern any aspect of Islamic life. The term became famous in the Western world in 1989 after the author Salman Rushdie was forced into hiding following a "death fatwa" issued by Ayatollah Khomeini, then Supreme Leader of Iran, on the grounds that his book, *The Satanic Verses*, had "insulted" Islam.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ukpress/article/ALeqM5jZ7oR3qUnT1sNZJmVvBV0K9KYI8Q>

Muslim leader to declare fatwa condemning terrorism

(UKPA) – 5 days ago

The leader of a worldwide Muslim movement with thousands of followers in the UK is to issue a fatwa - or Islamic religious ruling - in London condemning terrorism and warning suicide bombers that they are "destined for hell".

Pakistan-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, will make the formal UK proclamation of a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism and suicide bombing at a news conference.

The 600-page fatwa announces that "suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers".

Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran UK, said: "He has hit hard on the terrorists as it prevents Islamists from considering suicide bombers as 'martyrs'. This fatwa injects doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers.

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit youth by brain washing them that they will 'with certainty' be rewarded in the next life and Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds."

The fatwa has been billed as "arguably the most comprehensive" theological refutation of Islamic terrorism to date by counter extremism think tank the Quilliam foundation.

A Quilliam spokesman said: "Terrorist groups such as al-Qaeda continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture.

"Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dust bin of history."

A fatwa, an edict issued by a learned Muslim scholar, may concern any aspect of Islamic life.

The term became famous in the western world in 1989 after the author Salman Rushdie was forced into hiding following a "death fatwa" issued by Ayatollah Khomeini, then Supreme Leader of Iran, on the grounds that his book, the Satanic Verses had "insulted" Islam.

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<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/faith/article7046487.ece?token=null&offset=0&page=1>

From Times Online
March 2, 2010

Suicide bombers 'unIslamic' and going to Hell, says leading cleric



(Minhaj-ul-Quran International)

Dr Tahir ul-Qadri's 600 page report aims at preventing radicalisation in young Muslim men

Ruth Gledhill, Religion Correspondent

A prominent Muslim organisation in Britain has issued a fatwa on suicide bombings and terrorism — declaring them “un-Islamic”.

Minhaj-ul-Quran, a organisation based on Sufi principles which advises the Government on how to combat radicalisation in Muslim youth, launched its 600-page religious verdict in Central London this morning, condemning the perpetrators of terrorist explosions and suicide bombings.

The fatwa condemns suicide bombers saying that they are destined for Hell, countering extremist propaganda that Islamist terrorists will enter paradise after death.

The document is written by Muslim scholar Dr Muhammed Tahir ul-Qadri, a former government adviser in Pakistan and friend of the former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, and the founder of the increasingly influential Minhaj-ul-Quran movement.

In it, suicide bombings and terrorism are prohibited as "totally un-Islamic".

The fatwa, first launched in Pakistan in December, uses texts from the Koran and other Islamic writings to argue that attacks against innocent citizens are "absolutely against the teachings of Islam and that Islam does not permit such acts on any excuse, reason or pretext".

Although the fatwa might carry little weight among some in Britain's majority Sunni Muslim community, it will have an overall impact because of Minhaj-ul-Quran's growing influence as a community representative body with hundreds of thousands of followers in South Asia as well as the UK.

It is a strong counter to Islamic schools of thought that condemn unbelievers and call for their subjugation, and will contribute to a climate where all Muslims can speak out freely against atrocities committed in the name of their religion.

Dr Tahir ul-Qadri, who is based in Canada and has written more than 400 books on Islamic law, is recognised in Pakistan as an authority on Islamic jurisprudence.

A spokesman for the counter-extremist think tank Quilliam said: "This fatwa has the potential to be a highly significant step towards eradicating Islamist terrorism."

"Fatwas by Wahhabi-influenced clerics and Islamist ideologues initiated modern terrorism against civilians."

"Terrorist groups such as al-Qaeda continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture. Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dustbin of history."

Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran UK, said: "He has hit hard on the terrorists as it prevents Islamists from considering suicide bombers as 'martyrs'. This fatwa injects doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers."

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit youth by brainwashing them that they will — with certainty — be rewarded in the next life and Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds."

Minhaj-ul-Quran is an organisation based in 80 countries that follows Sufi teachings of peace and moderation, gaining ground among Muslim groups eager to combat the radicalisation of young people. The group receives no government funding.

The Minhaj-ul-Quran movement runs courses in combating religious extremism in educational centres throughout Britain including London, Birmingham, Manchester, Nelson, Walsall, Glasgow and Dundee.

A fatwa, an edict issued by a Muslim scholar, may concern any aspect of Islamic life. It became associated with extremism after 1989 when the author Salman Rushdie was forced into hiding following a fatwa calling for his death was issued by Ayatollah

Khomeini, then the Supreme Leader of Iran, on the grounds that his book, *The Satanic Verses* had "insulted" Islam.

The Communities Minister Shahid Malik, whose Dewsbury constituency was home to the 7/7 bomber Mohammad Siddique Khan, welcomed the new fatwa.

"It is incumbent on Muslims to stand up for their faith — when 7/7 occurred those four evil young men killed themselves and over 50 innocent people because they followed a twisted and perverted interpretation of Islam which told them by doing so they would go to heaven," he said.

"A clear and unequivocal message must go out that Islam teaches that these four are not martyrs going to heaven but sinners going somewhere very different indeed.

"Hence, I very much welcome the work of Dr Qadri in helping reinforce this most crucial of message to Muslims and non-Muslims alike."

An Islamic scholar Shaikh Mohammed Hisham Kabbani, of the Centre for Spirituality and Cultural Advancement, also welcomed the fatwa.

"This scholarship is a landmark in enabling Muslims living in the UK to be able to silence the small minority of people who think it is OK to commit violent acts in the name of Islam," he said.

"We are happy and honoured to be working with Dr Qadri and Minhaj-ul-Quran to support the UK Muslims in countering the radical Islamist rhetoric in the world."

<http://www.jpost.com/Israel/Article.aspx?ID=169984>

UK Muslim leader to put fatwa on Jihad

By Jonny Paul

02/03/2010 04:40

Ruling is most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism.

LONDON – A revered mainstream Muslim scholar is set to announce in London on Tuesday a fatwa (Muslim ruling) against terrorism and suicide bombing in the name of Islam.

Sheikh Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri, a widely recognized and respected authority on Islamic jurisprudence, will issue a comprehensive fatwa prohibiting terrorism and suicide bombing at a press conference in Westminster, central London.

The Pakistani-born Dr. Qadri has authored an unprecedented, 600-page fatwa on why suicide bombings and terrorism are un-Islamic and scripturally forbidden. The ruling is the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism to date.

The fatwa will also be posted on the Internet and in English, making it readily accessible. It will also set an important precedent and allow other scholars to similarly condemn the ideas behind terrorism.

Dr. Qadri has used texts in the Koran and other Islamic writings to argue that suicide and other terrorist attacks are "absolutely against the teachings of Islam" and that "Islam does not permit such acts on any excuse, reason or pretext."

The fatwa condemns suicide bombers as destined for hell, refuting the claim used by Islamists that such terrorists will earn paradise after death.

"Today's tragedy is that terrorists, murderers, mischief-mongers and rioters try to prove their criminal, rebellious, tyrannous, brutal and blasphemous activities as a right and a justified reaction to foreign aggression under the garb of defense of Islam and national interests," he says about suicide bombing.

"It can in no way be permissible to keep foreign delegates under unlawful custody and murder them and other peaceful non-Muslim citizens in retaliation for interference, unjust activities and aggressive advances of their countries," Qadri said, asserting, "The one who does has no relation to Islam."

Dr. Qadri is the founder of the international Minhaj-ul-Quran movement. Supporters say his fatwa is significant because he is issuing it himself and his movement, a major grass-roots global organization, has hundreds of thousands of followers in South Asia and the UK.

The move has been welcomed by the Quilliam Foundation, a London-based anti-extremism think-tank led by former Islamists.

"This fatwa has the potential to be a highly significant step towards eradicating Islamist terrorism," a Quilliam spokesperson said. "Fatwas by Wahhabi-influenced clerics and Islamist ideologues initiated modern terrorism against civilians. Terrorist groups such as al-Qaida continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture.

"Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dustbin of history."

London's Centre for Social Cohesion think-tank has also welcomed the initiative.

CSC director Douglas Murray believes that in recent years, and since the July 2005 terrorist attack in London, Muslim leaders have failed to unequivocally condemn violence committed in the name of Islam.

"A sentence that may to many people seem clear, such as 'There can be no justification for the killing of innocent people' is filled with caveats – what is an 'innocent' person? Who decides who is or is not 'innocent'?"

"Too many Muslim religious figures sound as if they are condemning violence when in fact they are merely condemning violence in certain situations, against certain people," he said.

Murray said the fatwa takes away the caveats and will have far-reaching consequences. However he said it won't stop Islamic terrorism instantaneously.

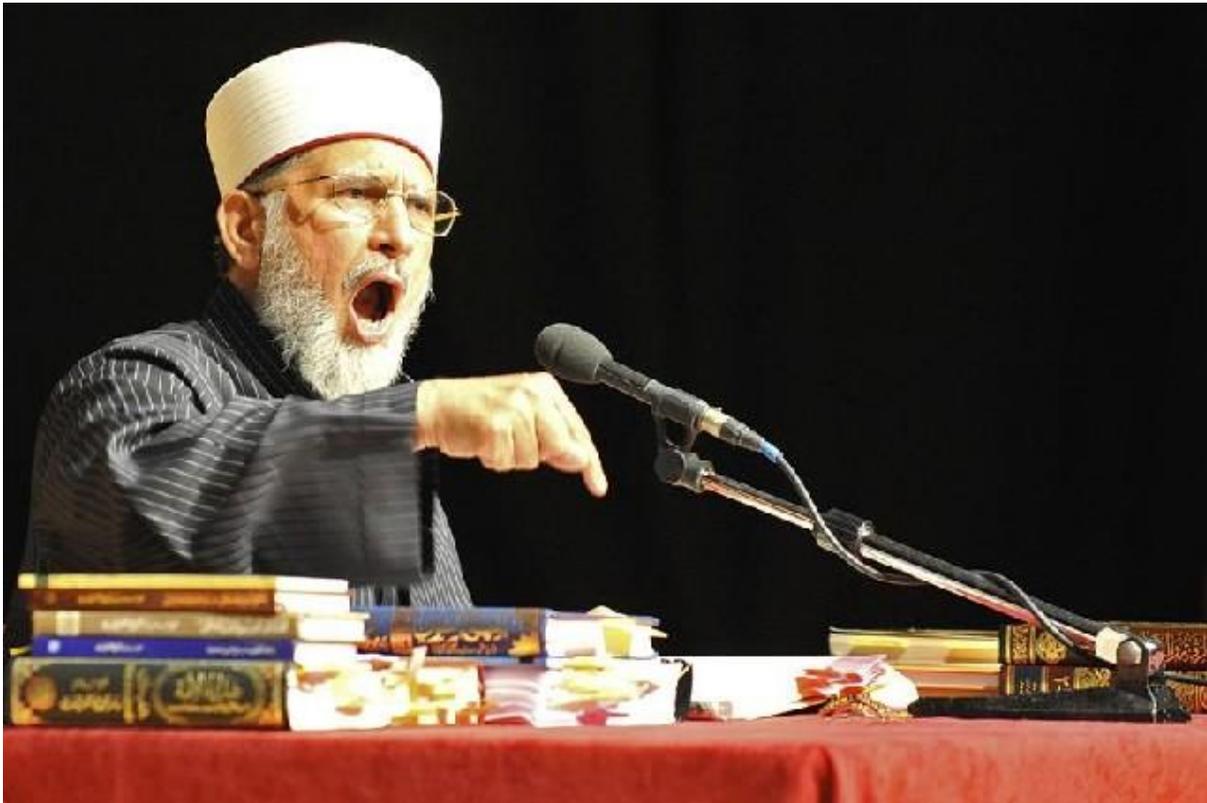
"Dr. ul-Qadri is respected for his ability to cross some of the notable sectarian boundaries that abound in the Islamic faith as in all others. Even Muslims who might dislike him will not be able to dismiss him out of hand.

"Yet even if the contents of this fatwa are what people have long hoped for, it will not, of course, stop Islamic terrorism straight away. A single fatwa will not change the level of denial and lack of self-criticism inherent in so much of modern Islam. Nor will it stop every fevered young radical eager to kill and maim. But the trickle-down effect is important. The most violent interpretations of Islam have indeed trickled down to terrorists via learned scholars," he said.

Tahir ul-Qadri and the difficulty of reporting on fatwas

MAR 2, 2010 14:27 EST

FATWA | ISLAM | MEDIA | MUSLIM | PAKISTAN | SUFI | SUICIDE BOMBING | TERRORISM



Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri at a youth camp in Coventry, central England, August 9, 2009/Kieran Doherty

It never was and may never be easy to report about fatwas for a world audience. This point was driven home once again today when a prominent Islamic scholar presented to the media his new 600-page fatwa against terrorism and suicide bombing. [Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri](#) is a Pakistani-born Sufi scholar whose youth workshops fostering moderation and understanding in Britain [had already caught our attention](#). His effort to knock down any and every argument in favour of violence is certainly welcome. But the back story to this event is so complicated that it's hard to report on the fatwa without simply ignoring many important parts of this back story.

Part of the problem was the PR drumroll leading up to ul-Qadri's news conference. [Minhaj-ul-Quran](#), his international network to spread his Sufi teachings, touted this fatwa in an email to journalists a week ago as a unique event "because **at no time in history** has such an extensively researched and evidenced work been presented by such a prominent Islamic authority." Hype like this usually prompts journalists to throw an invitation straight into the trash can.

Two days later, on February 25, the pitch was changed to present this document as *"the first ever fatwa against terrorism which declares terrorists as disbelievers."* Now, that's more likely to grab a busy journalist's attention. But once it has accomplished that, any hack with any experience covering Islam finds two big problems with this description.

First, it plays on a widely-held (and sometimes willful) misperception that Muslim leaders have not spoken out against Islamist violence. Large numbers of Muslim leaders have denounced violence, suicide bombs, 9/11, 7/7 and many other bloody attacks by Islamist radicals (check out [a long partial list here](#)). But since there is no real hierarchy in Islam, non-Muslims don't know who has the authority to speak out and Muslims often challenge the authority of those who do. Many of these statements end up unreported, like the trees nobody hears falling in the forest. But if a news story is written with the *"first ever"* tag in the lead, it gives the false impression that no other Muslim leader has ever done anything similar before.

Second, the clause *"which declares terrorists as disbelievers"* is difficult terrain. It's hard for a journalist to verify that this is the first such fatwa as no central directory of such edicts worldwide exists. Moreover, who has the authority in Islam to declare someone a non-Muslim? Al-Qaeda has been criticised for declaring its enemies non-Muslims (an act known as *takfir*) and either killing them or urging other Muslims to kill them.

In fact, an important group of mainstream Muslim scholars got together in 2004 to issue [the Amman Message](#) that denounces the use of *takfir*. On the website of the Amman Message is a list of scholars endorsing it. Among those listed under Pakistan is [none other than al-Qadri...](#)

Another problem is that al-Qadri issued an earlier, 150-page Urdu version of his fatwa last December and got a tepid reception — Pakistan's Interior Minister Rehman Malik welcomed it as ["a positive development"](#) and Pakistani media — [see The News here](#) — seem to have given it only short routine coverage. Maybe they're suffering from a fatwa overload there.

Assessing the fatwa's significance is also difficult when even Muslim views of it are quite divided. Check out these posts in the blogosphere — [Qadri's fatwa breaks no new ground](#) (with lots about what his critics think of him) ... [Shaikh Dr Tahir ul-Qadri – Anti-Terrorism Fatwa Without Teeth](#) ... [Fatwas can be a force for good](#) ... plus this *Guardian* comment [Fatwa wars are not the solution](#).

By this morning, the emails promoting the news conference took another angle: *"The launch of the fatwa is being regarded by many circles as a significant and historic step, the first time that such an explicit and unequivocal decree against the perpetrators of terror has been broadcast so widely."* The spin detectors go out when journalists read *"being regarded by many circles"* (and how many squares or triangles, one might ask). *"Historic"* is totally overused. But this statement at least makes sense by the end, because it talks about the first time such a fatwa *"has been broadcast so widely."*

Michael Holden, a correspondent in our London bureau, dealt with all this by interviewing al-Qadri a day in advance ([click here for the story](#)) to focus on him and his fatwa rather than the hype around it. He added useful background comments from [Tim Winter](#), a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, who called the fatwa *"a helpful initiative"* and added: *"To declare the miscreants as unbelievers is unusual, because it is not really clear that the rules allow one simply to say that they are not Muslims... Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all. But 'swing voters' — poorly educated and angry Muslims, who respect mainstream scholars, will probably take note."*

This fatwa shouldn't become another unheard tree falling in the forest, but screening out all the surrounding noise about it is not easy. What do you think about al-Qadri's fatwa and how the media covered it?

<http://in.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idINIndia-46566120100301>

Prominent Muslim to issue anti-terrorism fatwa

By Michael Holden

Mon Mar 1, 2010 9:55pm IST

LONDON (Reuters) - A prominent Islamic scholar is to issue a 600-page religious edict denouncing terrorism in London on Tuesday in what he says is a bid to persuade young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism.

The fatwa from Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, a leading figure who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years, echoes edicts condemning extremism issued by a number of Islamic groups since the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States.

But Qadri says his fatwa, which declares terrorists and suicide bombers to be unbelievers, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said Qadri, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship and is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam that focuses on peace, tolerance and moderation.

"I have tried to leave not a single stone unturned on this particular subject and I have tried to address every single question relevant to this subject," he told Reuters in a telephone interview.

Qadri, 59, who was born in Pakistan, is head of the global Minhaj ul-Quran religious and educational organisation which spreads his Sufi ideas.

A former Pakistani minister and associate of assassinated Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, he delivers lectures worldwide promoting his message of harmony and was one of the first Muslim leaders to condemn the Sept. 11 attacks.

Tim Winter, a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, said while there had been similar fatwas in the past, Qadri did appear to have gone further than most.

"To declare the miscreants as unbelievers is unusual, because it is not really clear that the rules allow one simply to say that they are not Muslims," he told Reuters.

"Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all. But 'swing voters' -- poorly educated and angry Muslims, who respect mainstream scholars, will probably take note.

"Certainly it is a helpful initiative," he said.

HELLFIRE

Qadri said he felt compelled to issue the edict because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, accused of trying to bomb a U.S.-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008. Yemen, where Abdulmutallab began his journey, has said he was radicalised while in Britain.

"The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire," Qadri said.

He is confident that the edict will have a significant impact, saying he had drawn on classical teachings and authorities acceptable to all sects of Islam.

"I will say more than 50 percent will change their way, they will be influenced. Of the remaining 50 percent at least some of them, half of them, will become doubtful about their life, their terrorist activity," he said.

While Qadri has followers across the globe, it is in Pakistan, where he has millions of followers, and in the diaspora that his impact would be greatest, Winter said.

Britain has about 1.7 million Muslims, mainly of Pakistani descent, and the security services say that nearly all major terrorism plots since 2001, including the 2005 London bombings which killed 52 people, were linked to Pakistan.

Government officials will be among those joining Qadri for the launch of the fatwa in central London. The Muslim Council of Britain, an umbrella organisation representing some 500 Islamic groups, said the fatwa was welcome.

"It is entirely laudable for scholars such as Tahir ul-Qadri to speak out against terrorism," it said in a statement.

Although his pronouncement will be good news for the authorities in Britain and other Western governments seeking to win Muslim support to stamp out extremism, Qadri said their backing is irrelevant to his views. (Editing by Charles Dick)

Islamic scholar says suicide bombers will 'go to hell'

By Jerome Taylor, Religious Affairs Correspondent

Monday, 1 March 2010



Shaikh ul-Qadri is explicit in his condemnation of suicide bombings, kidnappings and the killing of innocents which he describes as "absolutely against the teachings of Islam?"

A respected Islamic scholar will publish a seminal fatwa tomorrow that unequivocally condemns terrorism and warns suicide bombers that they will "go to hell" for their attacks.

Pakistani-born Shaikh Dr Tahir ul-Qadri is launching his fatwa in London as part of a drive to combat the power of jihadist rhetoric on the web and provide English-speaking Muslims with an authoritative theological explanation detailing why terrorism is not permitted.

Although numerous fatwas condemning terrorism have been released by scholars around the world since 9/11, Shaikh Dr Qadri's 600-page ruling is both significant and unusual because it is one of the few available in English and online.

Those hoping to combat terrorism have long spoken of their frustration at the traditional Islamic hierarchy's inability to exert their influence on the internet where violent jihadists and Saudi-influence Wahabis have long reigned supreme.

Until recently English speaking Muslims could easily obtain fatwas justifying suicide bombings and terrorism, but many would have struggled to locate the much more mainstream opinion that such attacks are not justified.

Shaikh Dr Qadri's ruling is unlikely to sway committed extremists who view any form of dissent from their uncompromising theological outlook as takfir, a sign of unbelief. But counter terrorism officials and mainstream scholars hope it will help persuade those who may be moving towards a violent extremism but have yet to fully devote themselves to terrorism.

Within the British Pakistani community Shaikh Dr Qadri - and his grassroots organisation Minhaj-ul Quran - is well known and respected. He is a "shaikh ul-Islam", one of the highest positions in Islamic jurisprudence, and the UK branch of Minhaj boasts some 25,000 signed up members, most of whom hail from the British Pakistani community.

He learned Islamic jurisprudence under the guidance of Tahir Allaiddin, a globally admired scholar who was born in Iraq and migrated to the Pakistani city of Quetta in the late 1950s. Although their teachings have Sufi leanings - like much of Pakistan's Barelwi school of Islam does - the Minhaj school of thought is very much considered part of the Sunni mainstream.

Finding fluent and approachable Pakistani scholars is important because the majority of British-born extremists involved in domestic or overseas plots have family or cultural links within the Pakistani community.

In his fatwa Shaikh Dr Qadri, 51, is explicit in his condemnation of suicide bombings, kidnappings and the killing of innocents which he describes as "absolutely against the teachings of Islam".

"Today's tragedy is that terrorists, murderers, mischief-mongers and rioters try to prove their criminal, rebellious, tyrannous, brutal and blasphemous activities as a right and a justified reaction to foreign aggression under the garb of defence of Islam and national interests," he writes.

"It can in now way be permissible to keep foreign delegates under unlawful custody and murder them and other peaceful non-Muslim citizens in retaliation for interference, unjust activities and aggressive advances of their countries. The one who does has no relation to Islam."

Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj ul Quran's British wing described the fatwa as an attempt to sow doubt in the minds of wannabe extremists.

"[Shaikh Dr Qadri] has hit hard on the terrorists as it prevents Islamists from considering suicide bombers as 'martyrs'. This fatwa injects doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers. Extremist groups based in Britain recruit the youth by brain washing them that they will 'with certainty' be rewarded in the next life and Dr Qadri's Fatwa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds."

Unlike extremists, traditional Islamic authorities have been notoriously slow to catch on to the appeal of the web in spreading their message. Violent groups such as Al Qaeda, and fundamentalist Islamic schools such as Saudi Arabia's Wahabism, have long used the net to propagate their uncompromising messages. Their fatwas have been translated into scores of languages and are readily accessible, describing suicide bombers as "shahiideen" (martyrs) and those committed to violence as "mujahiideen" (holy warriors).

In contrast, traditional Islamic exegesis has remained stubbornly impenetrable to most of the world's one billion Muslims. It is usually written in complex religious Arabic and is rarely accessible on the web.

But some mainstream scholars are beginning to play the extremists at their own cyber game. In November the Independent revealed how Cairo's Al Azhar, the Islamic world's oldest and most respected university, had published a series of fatwas in English that explicitly deconstructed the more hardline rulings from Saudi Arabia's Wahabi clerics. The 200-page book of fatwas, known as The Response, was published freely online both in English and Urdu, the language spoken most commonly in Pakistan.

Shaikh Dr Qadri's fatwa has been welcomed by a number of Muslim groups, many of whom do not usually agree with each other.

The Quilliam Foundation, an anti-extremist think tank comprised of former Islamists, described it as a "significant step" in countering Saudi and extremist rhetoric.

"Fatwas by Wahabi-influenced clerics and Islamist ideologues initiated modern terrorism against civilians," a spokesperson said. "Terrorist groups such as al-Qaeda continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture. Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dustbin of history."

Inayat Bunglawala, the former spokesman of the Muslim Council of Britain who has frequently clashed with Quilliam but has gone on to found his own anti-extremist group "Muslims4UK", also agreed.

"This adds to the view of many Islamic scholars internationally that terrorism and suicide bombings are unacceptable in Islam," he said. "It is a positive initiative. Anything that helps move young people away from violence and from those who promote violence must be welcomed."

<http://www.independent.co.uk/opinion/commentators/alexander-meleagrouhitchens--houriya-ahmed-to-be-effective-this-fatwa-needs-to-find-popular-purchase-1914779.html>

Alexander Meleagrou-Hitchens & Houriya Ahmed: To be effective, this fatwa needs to find popular purchase

Wednesday, 3 March 2010

This is not the first time that such a condemnation has been issued by a senior Islamic authority. Yet there are two aspects to this one which set it apart from the rest.

It is an unequivocal denunciation of suicide bombings and terrorism. Dr Qadri criticises others who condemn acts of terror, while at the same time providing a catalogue of excuses for it. Addressing the audience at the fatwa launch in Westminster he said: "A total condemnation should come from the Muslim world without playing with ifs or buts. No pretext, no foreign policy, no talk of occupation."

Previous condemnations have often referred to terrorism as *haram* (forbidden). Dr Qadri takes this a step further by comparing today's terrorists to the 7th century Kharijites, who were excommunicated because they permitted the killing of anyone deemed to be an obstacle to 'the rule of God'. Dr Qadri insists that terrorism is not just a forbidden act, but one that leads to expulsion from Islam: "it is an act of *kufr* (disbelief)".

Dr Qadri's message is expressly non-political. He recognises that terrorism feeds on the politicisation of religion, and he made this clear in his presentation. It is also important to note that Dr Qadri's fatwa is not the product of his own *ijtihad* (interpretation of religious texts); rather he is relaying previous edicts taken from orthodox and classical Islamic texts - the authenticity of which no Muslim can dispute.

Minhaj ul-Quran is based in Pakistan, and its decision to launch this fatwa in the UK was clearly a symbolic one. Britain is the European hub of international terror, with the majority of British terrorists being of Pakistani descent. This country sees high levels of extremist traffic - British citizens travel to Pakistan to strengthen their ideology as well as receive terror training. They then return to Britain seeking to commit or facilitate acts of terror.

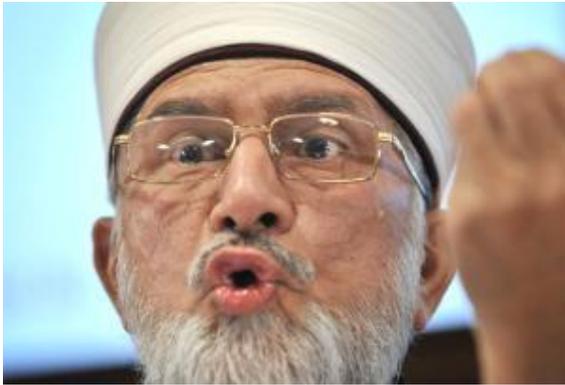
Whether or not this fatwa will be effective remains to be seen, however, this is an important document and its real value lies in whether its intellectual capital is able to find popular purchase. The writers are from the Centre for Social Cohesion

Sheikh issues fatwa against all terrorists

Muslim leaders urged to denounce suicide bombers as hell-bound 'unbelievers'

By Jerome Taylor, Religious Affairs Correspondent

Wednesday, 3 March 2010



Sheikh Tahir ul-Qadri at the launch of his fatwa in London yesterday

British imams must do more to condemn terrorism without any "ifs or buts" and should pronounce suicide bombers as "unbelievers" who are destined for hell, a leading Islamic scholar declared yesterday.

The comments were made during a remarkable assault on the ideology of violent Islamist extremists by Pakistani-born Sheikh Tahir ul-Qadri, a prominent theologian who launched a seminal fatwa in London yesterday condemning terrorism in all its forms.

The 59-year-old scholar, who has written more than 400 books on Islamic jurisprudence, told fellow Muslims: "Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses of ifs and buts. The world needs an absolute, unconditional, unqualified and total condemnation of terrorism".

He also denounced those who try to justify suicide bombings by claiming Muslims who carry out such operations are martyrs destined for paradise. "They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim umma [Islamic community]," he said. "No, they become the heroes of hellfire and they are leading towards hellfire. There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad [holy struggle]."

Although numerous fatwas condemning terrorism have been released by scholars around the world since 9/11, Dr Qadri's 600-page ruling is both significant and unusual because it is one of the few available in English and online. Those hoping to combat terrorism have long spoken of their frustration at the traditional Islamic hierarchy's inability to exert their influence on the internet, where violent jihadists and Saudi-influenced Wahabis have long reigned supreme.

Dr Qadri's ruling also goes further than most previous edicts by describing terror acts as so morally unjustifiable that they represent acts of "kufri" (disbelief). Most previous rulings only go as far as calling terrorism "haram" (forbidden). Kufri acts are so serious that those committing them essentially forfeit their right to call themselves Muslims.

A version of the fatwa in Urdu will also be launched later this month in Pakistan, where leading scholars have been killed by the Taliban for speaking out. Last year Sarfraz Ahmed Naeemi, a respected cleric and close friend of Dr Qadri, was assassinated days after issuing a verbal fatwa on national television condemning terrorism.

Dr Qadri's fatwa is unlikely to sway committed extremists. But counter-terrorism officials and mainstream scholars hope it will help to persuade those who may be moving towards a violent extremism but have yet to devote themselves fully to terrorist activities.

Rashad Ali, a former Islamist who now runs the counter-extremism think-tank Centri, said Dr Qadri's view that a terrorist is an unbeliever would cause many would-be extremists to think again about the religious justifications that they use to rationalise their path towards violence.

"[His] essential point is... someone that seeks to make licit what is explicitly illicit in religious terms, and agreed to be so by Muslim doctors of scripture, would then be considered to have permitted what God forbade, and to do so would take someone outside the pale of Islam," he said. "This is something that will have an impact amongst Muslim communities both in the East and in the West."

Finding fluent and approachable Pakistani scholars is important because most British-born extremists involved in domestic or overseas plots have family or cultural links within the Pakistani community.

Dr Qadri is a "sheikh ul-Islam", one of the highest positions in Islamic jurisprudence, and also the head of Minhaj ul-Quran, a global Islamic group with about 25,000 UK members, mostly from the British Pakistani community. Although his teachings have Sufi leanings – like much of Pakistan's Barelwi school of Islam – as an Islamic scholar he is considered part of the Sunni mainstream.

<http://news.independentminds.livejournal.com/6201991.html?thread=44500103>

Sheikh issues fatwa against all terrorists

Posted by [The Independent](#)

Wednesday, 3 March 2010 at 12:16 am

Author: By Jerome Taylor, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The comments were made during a remarkable assault on the ideology of violent Islamist extremists by Pakistani-born Sheikh Tahir ul-Qadri, a prominent theologian who launched a seminal fatwa in London yesterday condemning terrorism in all its forms.

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He also denounced those who try to justify suicide bombings by claiming Muslims who carry out such operations are martyrs destined for paradise. "They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim umma [Islamic community]," he said. "No, they become the heroes of hellfire and they are leading towards hellfire. There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad [holy struggle]."

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Dr Qadri's ruling also goes further than most previous edicts by describing terror acts as so morally unjustifiable that they represent acts of "kufr" (disbelief). Most previous rulings only go as far as calling terrorism "haram" (forbidden). Kufr acts are so serious that those committing them essentially forfeit their right to call themselves Muslims.

A version of the fatwa in Urdu will also be launched later this month in Pakistan, where leading scholars have been killed by the Taliban for speaking out. Last year Sarfraz Ahmed Naeemi, a respected cleric and close friend of Dr Qadri, was assassinated days after issuing a verbal fatwa on national television condemning terrorism.

Dr Qadri's fatwa is unlikely to sway committed extremists. But counter-terrorism officials and mainstream scholars hope it will help to persuade those who may be moving towards a violent extremism but have yet to devote themselves fully to terrorist activities.

Rashad Ali, a former Islamist who now runs the counter-extremism think-tank Centri, said Dr Qadri's view that a terrorist is an unbeliever would cause many would-be extremists to think again about the religious justifications that they use to rationalise their path towards violence.

"[His] essential point is... someone that seeks to make licit what is explicitly illicit in religious terms, and agreed to be so by Muslim doctors of scripture, would then be considered to have permitted what God forbade, and to do so would take someone outside the pale of Islam," he said. "This is something that will have an impact amongst Muslim communities both in the East and in the West."

Finding fluent and approachable Pakistani scholars is important because most British-born extremists involved in domestic or overseas plots have family or cultural links within the Pakistani community.

Dr Qadri is a "sheikh ul-Islam", one of the highest positions in Islamic jurisprudence, and also the head of Minhaj ul-Quran, a global Islamic group with about 25,000 UK members, mostly from the British Pakistani community. Although his teachings have Sufi leanings like much of Pakistan's Barelwi school of Islam as an Islamic scholar he is considered part of the Sunni mainstream

http://community.livejournal.com/ti_mr/15725.html

Rashad Ali: Why the latest fatwa condemning terrorism is a positive step forward

Posted by [Jerome Taylor](#)

Wednesday, 3 March 2010 at 05:42 pm

By Rashad Ali

Shaykh Dr Tahir ul-Qadri (pictured) is a scholar of repute who has followed across the East and the West. He is a Muslim scholar who had the likes of the al-Azhar institution of Cairo advocating his scholarship and knowledge. Al-Azhar in fact is seeking for the first time to have a college in Pakistan under Qadri's auspices.

Yesterday he launched [his extensive fatwa](#) - a religious edict addressing all of the basic issues of terrorism, taking civilian life, tactics of terror but also details and ancillary issues that relate to Islamist terror tactics such as taking civilian hostages, attacking people in "occupied territories", "resistance" and foreign policy and defining rules of conduct during warfare.

But the fatwa does not stop there. His ruling goes on to clearly declare that not only are the actions of a terrorist something antithetical to being a Muslim (he quoted a number of Prophetic sayings stating that "A Muslim is someone whom people are safe from his hand and tongue"), but moreover a terrorist believes his or her actions are sanctioned and in fact, obliged by Islam. This is then something that contradicts the fundamental principles of Islamic belief and would take someone out of the ambit of Islam.

This theological point is strong and powerful. The essential point is someone that seeks to make licit what is explicitly illicit in religious terms, and agreed upon to be so by Muslim doctors of scripture, would then be considered to have permitted what God forbade and to do so would take someone outside the pale of Islam.

He then cited Imam Abu Mansur al-Maturidi from the 4th century of Islam, a scholar who is considered one of the two leading authorities in Sunni orthodox creed. He clearly stated that those who permit spilling the blood of innocent people are committing "kufr" (disbelief) and are outside the pale of Islam. He then applied terrorists who justify the killing of innocent people, whether women, men or children, as falling under these categories. He explained that there could also be no usage of language for political purposes surrounding the phrase "innocent people". He emphasized that all people by virtue of their humanity were innocent, with no buts or ifs. (He was quite emphatic in making this point).

He elaborated that the Prophet Muhammad and the four caliphs had made the Islamic stance clear and beyond dispute; killing civilians, in fact chopping down trees, was against the rules of conduct during war.

He then went on to discuss the various sayings of the prophet elaborating that the Kharijite tendency

would exist within Muslims. The kharijites were a religious sectarian group, which were the first to use the slogan of 'only the rule of God', as a political slogan to justify killing those against the rule of God in their eyes. They were the group behind the assassination of the fourth caliph Ali, the son-in-law of the Prophet Muhammad.

Dr Qadri, cited jurists from all of the four main sunni schools of religious rules, and independent authorities such as Ibn Taymia in justifying all of the above points of view. He acknowledged that some scholars of the past have fallen short of describing such people as outside the pale of Islam, but all agreed that they should be fought.

He condemned Islamists who seek to reject democracy, liberty and human rights due to a warped interpretation of Islam, and advocated that Muslims engage and recognise that Islam was a faith which welcomed democracy, human rights, liberty and modern states. He refuted the idea of the need for a single caliphate. Rather all states where there was justice were Islamic. All states could claim to be caliphates if there was democracy and justice.

In a Q and A afterwards he explicitly condemned all sorts of terrorism without reserve, and explained that even if people have just causes, or perceive that they have just causes, they cannot engage in terrorism. He condemned suicide bombing and terrorism in Israel and Palestine, and anywhere else in the world.

He ended with a note that people, Muslims and non-Muslims, should unite in this fight against the common enemy, the enemy of humanity, Islam and Muslims, the terrorists.

The power of these words amongst Muslims is yet to be seen. As a scholar, his words are headed amongst Muslims. Fundamentally as a scholar, who has following across different sects, different schools of thought, shafi'i in Yemen, Hanafiya in Pakistan – including some deobandi as well as Bareilawi schools. This is something that will have impact amongst Muslim communities both in the East and the West.

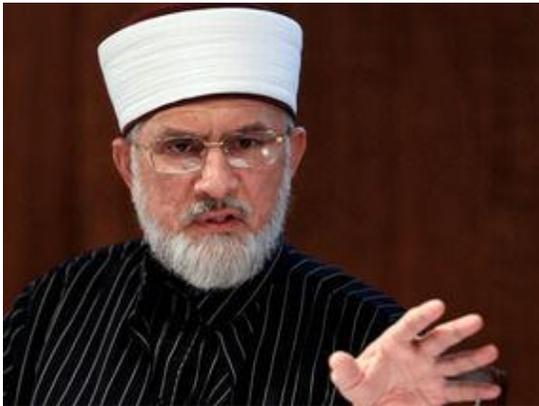
At least the scholarly and well cited writings, from various Qur'an exegesis, hadith collections, and authorities on medieval and post medieval Islamic scriptural exegesis, should at least make people take this seriously. Communities should be emboldened by his stance. Those justifying acts of terror or supporting the cause, should be challenged and on the back foot. Those walking the trajectory towards terrorism, may or may not take up all of his words, but it may go some way to producing elements of doubt in the "Islamicity" of their cause and end point – not paradise.

(The writer is a former non-violent Islamist and member of Hizb-ut-Tahrir who now runs Centri, an organisation which works in the field of de-radicalization.)

<http://www.express.co.uk/posts/view/161425/Cleric-issues-fatwa-on-suicide-bombers>

UK NEWS

CLERIC ISSUES FATWA ON SUICIDE BOMBERS



Dr Qadri delivers fatwa against bombers

Wednesday March 3, 2010

By Martyn Brown

SUICIDE bombers are going to hell and have no place in Islam, a highly respected Muslim leader said yesterday.

Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, who issued a fatwa, or religious ruling, on the fanatics, called on [Islamic](#) leaders to convey the message that acts of [terrorism](#) cut people off from their religion.

He told MPs, representatives from the police, charities, think-tanks and other groups: "They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Umma, the wider Muslim community. No, they become heroes of hellfire and they are leading towards hellfire."

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad (struggle)."

Pakistan-born Dr Qadri, who spoke in English and Arabic, said his fatwa was an "absolute" condemnation of terrorism without "any excuses or pretexts". "Good intentions cannot convert an evil into good," he added.

“Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts.” He insisted that Islam was a religion of peace that promoted beauty, betterment, goodness and “negates all form of mischief and strife”.

The 600-page fatwa by Dr Qadri, founder of the Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, which has thousands of supporters across the world, will be translated into English in the coming weeks. His talk will also be made available online in an attempt to counter extremist versions of Islam available on the internet.

The fatwa has been billed as “arguably the most comprehensive” theological refutation of Islamic terrorism so far by the counter-extremism think-tank the Quilliam foundation.

Dr Qadri’s Minhaj-ul-Quran movement runs courses in combating religious extremism in educational centres throughout Britain including London, Birmingham, Manchester, Nelson, Walsall and Glasgow.

Scholar Shaikh Mohammed Hisham Kabbani, of the Centre for Spirituality and Cultural Advancement, welcomed Dr Qadri’s fatwa.

“This scholarship is a landmark in enabling Muslim living in the UK to be able to silence the small minority of people who think it is OK to commit violent acts in the name of Islam,” he said.

“We are happy and honoured to be working with Dr Qadri to support the UK Muslims in countering the radical Islamist rhetoric.”

Communities Minister Shahid Malik, whose Dewsbury constituency was home to London suicide bomber Mohammad Siddique Khan, said: “It is incumbent on Muslims to stand up for their faith. I very much welcome the work of Dr Qadri in helping reinforce this most crucial of messages to Muslims and non-Muslim alike.”

The word fatwa became known in the West in 1989 after Satanic Verses author Salman Rushdie received a death threat from Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1254855/Muslim-leader-condemns-suicide-bombers-fatwa.html#ixzz0h8vua0t6>

Suicide bombers are the enemies of Islam: Muslim leader condemns terrorists with fatwa

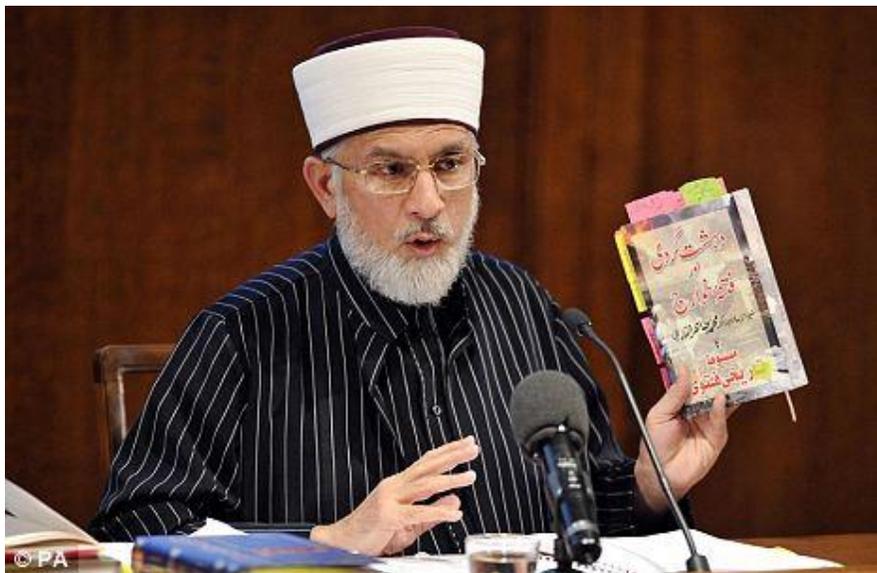
By [Daily Mail Reporter](#)

Last updated at 11:51 AM on 03rd March 2010

The leader of a worldwide Muslim movement today issued a fatwa condemning terrorists and suicide bombers as the enemies of Islam.

Pakistan-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri said there were no 'ifs or buts' about terrorism and such acts had no justification in the name of Islam.

In a news conference today he called on Islamic leaders to convey the message that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.



Muslim scholar, Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, launches a fatwa - or Islamic religious ruling - that condemns suicide bombings today

'They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma (the wider Muslim community), no, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire,' he said.

'There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered Jihad,' he said.

Dr Qadri, who spoke at length in both English and Arabic before his audience, said his fatwa, a religious edict or ruling, was an 'absolute' condemnation of terrorism without 'any excuses or pretexts'.

'Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good,' he said.

'Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts.'



7/7 bomber Shehzad Tanweer in a jihadist video recorded before his death

He insisted that Islam was a religion of peace that promotes beauty, 'betterment', goodness and 'negates all form of mischief and strife'.

The 600-page fatwa by Dr Qadri, founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, which has thousands of supporters across the world as well as in the UK, will be translated into English in the coming weeks.

His talk will also be made available online in an attempt to counter extremist versions of Islam available on the internet.

The fatwa has been billed as 'arguably the most comprehensive' theological refutation of Islamic terrorism to date by counter-extremism think-tank the Quilliam foundation.

The Minhaj-ul-Quran movement said it runs courses in combating religious extremism in educational centres throughout Britain including London, Birmingham, Manchester, Nelson, Walsall and Glasgow. It currently has an office in Dundee.

A fatwa, an edict issued by a learned Muslim scholar, may concern any aspect of Islamic life.

The term became famous in the Western world in 1989 after the author Salman Rushdie was forced into hiding following a 'death fatwa' issued by Ayatollah Khomeini, then Supreme Leader of Iran, on the grounds that his book, *The Satanic Verses*, had 'insulted' Islam.

<http://www.thisislondon.co.uk/standard/article-23810140-is-this-a-triumph-for-the-islamic-peacemakers.do>

Is this a triumph for the Islamic peacemakers?

Allegra Mostyn-Owen

26.02.10



Speaking against extremism: Allegra Mostyn-Owen meets Dr Tahir ul-Qadri

On Tuesday in [London](#), a revered Muslim scholar will announce a fatwa against suicide bombing in the name of Islam. Here, Allegra Mostyn-Owen talks exclusively to Dr Tahir ul-Qadri as he outlines his historic vision...

I meet Dr Tahir ul-Qadri in a neat, terraced house in Barking where he emerges from his studies resplendent in an elegant silk striped grey and white juba and a black woollen hat. I am honoured to be in his presence because he is considered a living saint by his followers. All Sunni and mainly Pakistani, they celebrate his birthday and his photograph adorns all the mosques which are part of Minhaj-ul-Quran, the movement which he has spent years raising into an international organisation. It now operates in 33 countries and advises the [British Government](#) on how to combat youth radicalisation.

Minhaj-ul-Quran welcomed, for example, the news last month that plans to build Europe's biggest mosque close to the Olympic site had been blocked. Weeks earlier, the group urged police to prevent Islamic extremists marching through [Wootton Bassett](#). "These kind of extremists do not represent the British Muslims," they said. Dr ul-Qadri is impressively ecumenical in his relations with other faiths such as Shia and Christian. He gets a lot of flak for this from those who do not agree with his views.

On Tuesday, in central London, Dr ul-Qadri, friend of former prime minister of [Pakistan Benazir Bhutto](#) who was assassinated in 2007, will declare suicide bombings and terrorism un-Islamic. Taken from a 600-page document published in Pakistan last month, Dr ul-Qadri will use texts in the Koran and other Islamic writings to argue that suicide and terrorist attacks are "absolutely against the teachings of Islam and that Islam does not permit such acts on any excuse, reason or pretext".

I first met Dr ul-Qadri five years ago at his headquarters in [Lahore](#), where I was for a wedding. I was recently married myself for the second time — as the former wife of [Mayor Boris Johnson](#). I'd wed again in secret to my 23-year-old Muslim lover, himself from Lahore. His parents knew nothing about it. Since 2005, I have been giving art classes for women and children at the Minhaj-ul-Quran mosque in Forest Gate.

Today, in Barking, Dr ul-Qadri is focusing on the problems of how many young British Pakistanis are being radicalised. Although the Government is working hard, says Dr ul-Qadri, they are working on the wrong lines. In other words, he believes, that the Government has not kept abreast of the multi-culturalism of its own people. "England is the hub of the Western world. There is a big community here of around two million with a Pakistani background. The communities are in great numbers." As Dr ul-Qadri sees it, no terrorists have emerged from a Sunni or Sufi background: instead, they have come from the Salafis (Wahhabis) or Deobandis. The Deobandis are a South Asian variant which is close to the Gulf-orientated Wahhabis. "Every Salafi and Deobandi is not a terrorist but I have no hesitation in saying that everyone is a well-wisher of terrorists and this has not been appreciated by the Western governments," he said.

Dr ul-Qadri, who has the authority of a Sheikh-ul-Islam, a title given to those who have superior knowledge of the principles of the faith, is coming out with his statement now because the Wahhabis and Deobandis have been silent in condemning the killings in Pakistan and abroad.

They dominate much of the apparatus of state in Pakistan — as well as most of the mosques in London — which is why in the West we receive mixed messages: the military launches vast offensives while the religious and education ministries say nothing. As a result, many in the West believe that the church in Pakistan is not doing enough to counter the violence.

British-Pakistanis lured into extremism present a peculiar problem because, when they go to Pakistan to further their murderous ambitions, they have mixed loyalties. They do not feel British but nor do they feel wholly Pakistani and yet they are a diplomatic nightmare for both countries. Terrorism is, Dr ul-Qadri says, an intellectual phenomenon as it applies to British-Pakistanis. They have been groomed from an early age in their Deobandi-leaning mosques where they are taught that they are living in a kafir society where they cannot integrate. It is an "us and them" way of thinking and the narrow-mindedness starts when children attend mosque from the age of five. But, as Dr ul-Qadri says: "isolation is not the Islamic model — integration was the practice of the Holy Prophet in the society of Medina".

The maulvis (untutored clerics) give a misguided concept of Jihad: "This is the burning issue of the whole world," says Dr ul-Qadri. Once these children have been groomed into intellectual conservatism, they are very susceptible to extremism especially if they are not attached to society by a job. "Those who still have contact with [such clerics], whether they act out their ideas or not, they will be well-wishers of the [Taliban](#)," he says. Since the governments and agencies working on anti-terrorism are not brought up in Muslim culture, Dr ul-Qadri believes they do not understand. "Still their policies are not on the right track." I ask him about the role of art in children's education. It is commonly thought that Islam is contrary to art. He has no quibbles: he sees art as helping to satisfy one aspect of the human personality. "Islam wants a balanced personality," he says.

"We teach children intellectually and academically. The fight against the darkness of ignorance, the fight for charity: this is the true jihad."

Why this fatwa for peace matters so much to us all

By Douglas Murray, Director of the Centre for Social Cohesion

The most commonly asked questions since the 9/11 and 7/7 terrorist attacks is "Where are the Muslim clerics who condemn violent actions? Where are the voices of opposition to violence being committed by people in the name of Islam?"

It is no small point. In recent years, when they have been needed most, far too few Muslim leaders have unequivocally condemned violence committed in the name of Islam. In fact, weasel words and double-speak have been endemic.

So a sentence that may to many people seem clear, such as "There can be no justification for the killing of innocent people" is filled with caveats.

What is an "innocent" person? Who decides who is or is not "innocent"? Too many Muslim religious figures sound as if they are condemning violence when in fact they are merely condemning violence in certain situations, against certain people.

So there are two potentially significant things about the fatwa being released by Tahir ul-Qadri. The first is that the ruling is said, by those who have seen it in advance, to include a comprehensive condemnation of violence, taking away any religious justification for attacks without caveats for "grievances" or other excuses. The second thing which makes this 600-page ruling potentially important is that Dr ul-Qadri has a highly respected scholarly background.

His ruling has the possibility of being respected by a far wider range of people than any of those individual non-scholarly Muslim voices who have also condemned terrorism without caveat.

Dr ul-Qadri has a large following, both here in the UK and in Pakistan. He is also respected for his ability to cross some of the notable sectarian boundaries that abound in the Islamic faith as in all others. Even Muslims who might dislike Dr ul-Qadri will not be able to dismiss him out of hand.

Yet even if the contents of this fatwa are what people have long hoped for, it will not, of course, stop Islamic terrorism straight away.

A single fatwa will not change the level of denial and lack of self-criticism inherent in so much of modern Islam.

Nor will it stop every fevered young radical eager to kill and maim. But the trickle-down effect is important.

The most violent interpretations of Islam have indeed trickled down to terrorists via learned scholars.

The clean-up operation will have to be dealt with by the same means. And we will have to hope, as ever, that the peaceful Muslim scholars in this millennia-long battle within Islam, can indeed win through. For all our sake

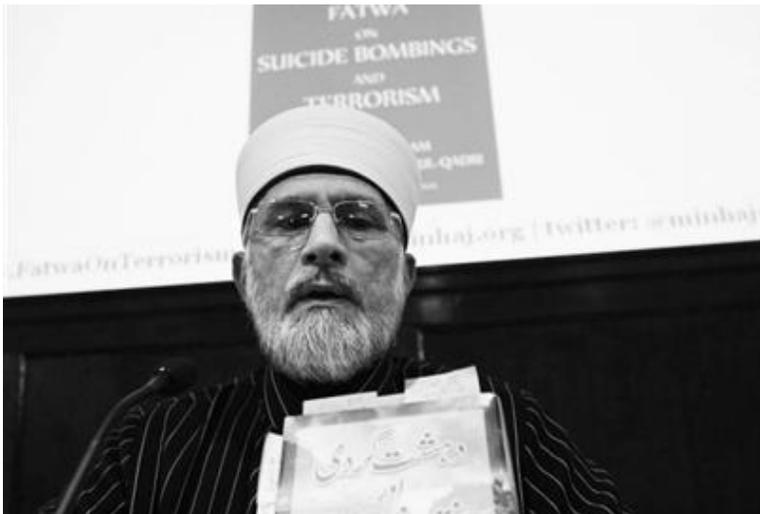
<http://www.nationalpost.com/news/story.html?id=2634649>

Top Islamic scholar issues 'absolute' fatwa against terror

'Heroes Of Hellfire'

Michael Holden, Reuters; With Files From Agence France-Presse

Published: Wednesday, March 03, 2010



Carl Court, AFP, Getty Images

Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri has issued an "absolute" fatwa against terrorism and extremism.

A prominent Islamic scholar denounced terrorism in London, England, yesterday, issuing a fatwa he hopes will persuade young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism.

Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri said there were no "ifs or buts" about terrorism, adding he wanted to convey the message that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma [the wider Muslim community]. No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire," he said. "There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad."

Yesterday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think-tank, and Dr. Qadri addressed an audience that included London's Metropolitan Police, lawmakers and officials from charitable organizations.

His 600-page fatwa was an "absolute" condemnation of terrorism without "any excuses or pretexts"

"Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good," added Dr. Qadri, who has been living in Southern Ontario for the past four years.

"Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts."

His words echo edicts condemning extremism issued by several Islamic groups since the 9/11 attacks

But Dr. Qadri says his fatwa, which declares terrorists and suicide bombers to be unbelievers, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said the scholar, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship and is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam that focuses on peace, tolerance and moderation.

"I have tried to leave not a single stone unturned on this particular subject and I have tried to address every single question relevant to this subject."

Dr. Qadri, 59, who was born in the Punjab city of Jhang, Pakistan, is head of the global Minhaj ul-Quran religious and educational organization that spreads his Sufi ideas.

A former Pakistani minister and associate of Benazir Bhutto, the assassinated former prime minister, he delivers lectures worldwide promoting his message of harmony.

Tim Winter, a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, said while there had been similar fatwas in the past, Dr. Qadri had gone further than most.

"To declare them iscreants as unbelievers is unusual, because it is not really clear that the rules allow one simply to say that they are not Muslims," he said.

"Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all. But 'swing voters' -- poorly educated and angry Muslims, who respect mainstream scholars, will probably take note."

The Times of India UK

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/uk/Pak-clerics-600-page-fatwa-against-terror-attacks/articleshow/5634982.cms>

Pak cleric's 600-page fatwa against terror attacks

ASHIS RAY, TNN, Mar 3, 2010, 12.30am IST

LONDON: Influential Pakistani Islamic scholar, Tahir ul-Qadri, on Tuesday issued a 600-page fatwa condemning terrorists and suicide bombers.

The fatwa is a point by point theological rebuttal to fanaticism of al-Qaida and its offshoots. "The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing isn't martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire," Qadri said in a statement on Tuesday.

He said Islam forbids massacre of innocent citizens and described al-Qaida as "an old evil with a new name". Policy-makers and security chiefs will follow the impact of the ruling with keen interest. "I'll say that 50% (of those prone to violence) will change their way, they will be influenced. Of the remaining 50% at least some of them, half of them, will become doubtful about their life, their terrorist activity," said Cambridge University Islamic Studies lecturer, Tim Winter, in his assessment to Sky News.

He said there have been similar fatwas in the past, but Qadri's edict had gone further than most. The influential scholar has been at the forefront of promoting peace and interfaith dialogue and heads an international religious and educational organisation Minhaj ul-Quran.

Fatwas can be a force for good

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2010/feb/26/fatwa-salman-rushdie-terrorism>

By Ed Husain

Friday 26 February 2010 11.30 GMT

Sadly, we all remember the death warrant on Salman Rushdie but next month a fatwa against terrorism will be delivered

Following the Salman Rushdie affair, the word fatwa became commonplace in our vernacular – it, lamentably, became associated with death, killing, and censorship. But to most Muslims, the word fatwa is not a political term, but an unbinding religious edict issued by erudite scholars who take into consideration the needs of the modern world. While most of us remember the Iranian cleric Ayatollah Khomeini's fatwa of death, how many remember the other scholar, Zaki Badawi, who offered refuge and solace to the then beleaguered Rushdie?

Sadly, fatwas with death warrants are still deemed necessary by some. Only this week, a leading Saudi Wahhabi cleric issued a fatwa suggesting death for Muslims who propagate free interaction with members of the opposite sex. This destructive cycle of judging Muslims' religious beliefs, then issuing excommunications or takfir, followed by calls for their deaths, lies behind the modern terrorism of al-Qaida and Taliban slaughter of Muslims in Iraq or Pakistan.

Rightly, then, many ask where are prominent Muslim voices who oppose extremism and terrorism?

Next week, here in Britain, one such renowned Muslim opinion-former will deliver a hard-hitting fatwa against suicide bombings and terrorism. Founder of the vast Pakistani grassroots movement known as Minhaj ul Quran, Dr Tahirul Qadri has authored an unprecedented 600-page fatwa on why suicide bombings and terrorism are un-Islamic and scripturally forbidden. This is likely to be a powerful, popular fatwa from a much loved, inspiring scholar of Islam.

Earlier this month, invitations to attend the launch of the fatwa went to most parliamentarians. A leading Labour MP friend wrote the following lines in an email to me: Is this helpful? Do we need a fatwa to say suicide bombing is wrong? Surely it should be just part of being a human being?

Well, yes and no. If our politicians and others ignore the value of moderate Muslim leaders coming out with fatwas against terrorism, not only do we close down an important and emerging public space, we also forget our own history of progress. After all, John Locke's works on tolerance were nothing more

than Christian fatwas in the midst of 17th century European wars of religion. Locke wrote with references to the Bible. His arguments were rooted in theology. More importantly, however, a prominent Muslim fatwa against killing innocent people, citing religious texts, does three things.

First, it emboldens other Muslim thought leaders to amplify their voices against extremism. Secondly, it prevents activist Muslims from considering suicide bombers as "martyrs", and thus removes the heroic status currently attached to murderers. And finally, a fatwa challenging perceived "martyrdom operations" will inject doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers. Where there is doubt, in Islamic religious behaviour, there is avoidance. Suicide bombers currently kill because they have certainty (yaqeen) of being rewarded in the next life (akhirah). Shaikh Tahir ul Qadri's fatwa removes this key intellectual ingredient from the minds of killers.

Finally, Shaikh Tahir is no ordinary scholar. He is the head of a global social movement of mainstream Muslims, a teacher to thousands, and a passionate Muslim leader who has drawn millions to normative Islam. Doubt me? Take a look at preparations for the mass celebration of remembering the birthday of the prophet Mohammad in Pakistan. Those mainstream Muslims that believe in love, compassion, song, music, fireworks and birthdays don't tend to kill fellow human beings. Shaikh Tahir is a leader of that caravan of ordinary Muslims, trying to rescue our Islam from the Saudi clerics that issue fatwas of death, and leading the way for announcing fatwas against death. In this battle of the fatwas, we must not make the mistake of supporting our oil supplying allies.

Dr. Qadri said he felt compelled to issue the edict because of concerns about the indoctrination of British Muslims at university -- Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, the accused Nigerian Christmas Day bomber, has said he was radicalized while studying in London in 2008 -- and the failure of Muslim clerics and scholars to condemn such extremism.

"The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire," Dr. Qadri said.

He is confident his edict will have a significant impact, saying it draws on classical teachings and authorities acceptable to all sects of Islam.

"I will say more than 50% will change their way, they will be influenced. Of the remaining 50% at least some of them, half of them, will become doubtful about their life, their terrorist activity."

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/international/article125059.ece>

Muslim scholar issues ‘fatwa’ condemning al-Qaeda terrorism

London, March 2, 2010

A leading Muslim scholar with a large following in Britain on Tuesday issued a fatwa — or Islamic religious ruling — condemning global terrorism and suicide bombings in a “direct challenge to al-Qaeda’s violent ideology.” Pakistan-born Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, the founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, made his formal proclamation of a fatwa, or religious edict, at a news conference in London.

The 600-page fatwa says that “suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers.” Mr. Qadri described the al-Qaeda movement as an “old evil with a new name” and said he believed that the overwhelming majority of young Muslims in Britain had not yet been radicalized and would “think again” on reading his proclamation.

Those who had already been “totally brainwashed” would not listen, said Mr. Qadri, but others would have “doubt” sewn in their minds.

“You don’t become a terrorist overnight. It is a journey ... Many are already on that road but they have not yet arrived to become suicide bombers,” Mr. Qadri told journalists.

He developed the document, which challenges the religious motivation of suicide bombers, in response to the rise in suicide bombings in Pakistan.

He said he hoped his arguments would attract the attention of politicians and security services in western nations.



http://www.icej.org/article/prominent_muslim_scholar_issues_fatwa_against_suicide_terror

Prominent Muslim scholar issues fatwa against suicide terror

By ICEJ News

03 Mar 2010

Sheikh Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri, a prominent Pakistani-born Muslim scholar who currently resides in Canada, issued a rare fatwa (religious ruling) against suicide bombings and terror attacks on Tuesday in London. "They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Umma (Muslim community). No, they become heroes of hellfire," Qadri wrote. "There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered Jihad.. Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good. Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts." Qadri also noted that while his fatwa had been long hoped for in the West, it would not stop Islamic terrorism straight away. "But the trickle-down effect is important," he added.

<http://blogs.telegraph.co.uk/news/georgepitcher/100028118/we-need-muslim-peace-makers-not-christian-soldiers/>

We need Muslim peace-makers, not Christian soldiers

By George Pitcher UK

March 2nd, 2010

A pretty co-incidence: Former Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Carey, spoke in Parliament yesterday of the need for Christians to stand up for their faith and “prevail on politicians” to speak up for their beliefs and to stop being treated as “second-class citizens” to Muslims. Today, Pakistan-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, founder of the highly significant and global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, issues a fatwa - a religious ruling for Muslims – against terrorism, declaring it an offence against Islam.

As it happens, I agree with Lord Carey, in so far as a new breed of authoritarian atheists and secularists are trying to force religion out of the public sphere. I agree even more with his successor in the See of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, that politicians tend to see religion only as a problem, practised by weirdos and extremists. And of course I welcome what Dr Tahir-ul-Qadri has to say about the profane radicalisation of Islam.

But it would be a shame if Christian leaders were now to become aggressive and confrontational, just as Islamic leaders are urging a more peaceable and conciliatory approach on Muslims. Especially in Lent.



<http://www.minhaj.org/english/oid/9981/Dr.Tahir-ul-Qadri's-fatwa-declares-Muslim-terrorists-as-disbelievers-:-APP-Pakistan.html>

Dr.Tahir-ul-Qadri's fatwa declares Muslim terrorists as disbelievers : APP Pakistan

Dated: 04 March 2010

LONDON, March 2 (APP)- Eminent Muslim scholar and founder of the Minhaj-ul-Quran International, Dr. Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri Tuesday launched fatwa on suicide bombings and terrorism and declared such acts as out of fold of Islam and those carrying out these despicable activities as disbelievers Dr.Qadri, who is considered a recognized authority on Islam, has authored the religious decree at a time of increasing concern about the radicalization of young British Muslims in university campuses and their recruitment by extremist organizations to commit acts of terror. Quoting extensively from the Holy Quran and the hadith of the Holy Prophet (Peace Be upon Him)Dr. Qadri hit hard on the terrorists describing them as misguided and brain washed persons who have no idea what the real Islam is.

Saying that terrorist acts expel a Muslim from Islam, the 59-year-old scholar announced categorically that suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, to become unbelievers in the divine, pristine message of Islam.

Pointing out that terrorists commit acts of self and mass murder with the firm conviction that they will be rewarded by God and that they are heaven bound, Dr.Qadri's fatwa convincingly advances scriptural evidence to demonstrate that the perpetrators of suicide bombings are destined for hell, not heaven.

According to the scholar, modern terrorists justify their indiscriminate killings by claiming that Islamic scripture allows such campaigns in war. However, he opened new ground by citing Islamic sources which prohibit killing of women, children, elders, religious leaders, business people, non-combatants and even service personnel not engaged in aggression.

"Contrary to the mindset of the perpetrators of the 11th of September 2001 attacks in New York or the 7th July 2005 tube bombs in London, damaging enemy property or avenging a wrong done by another is

strictly prohibited by sound Islamic scholarship," Dr. Qadri told the audience. He said the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) warned his followers about the dangers of extremism and terrorism.

The written fatwa collects evidence from early Islamic history about a group of violent renegades known as the Khawarij, the terrorist movement, emerged in the name of Islamic rule, universally accepted as being outside the fold of Islam by virtue of their extreme beliefs, violent acts, and terrorism and constantly labeling other Muslims as disbelievers.

"Al-Qaeda and its affiliates not only share these character traits, but share a theological and political outlook that is almost identical," he said.

Dr. Qadri enlisted in this fatwa classical sources to illustrate that the vast majority of Muslim scholars, past and present, consider the Khawarij, the founders of terrorism, to be totally un-Islamic. "The terrorists are the Khawarij of our time, based on direct evidence from the Qur'an and Sunnah."

He said Islam is not a religion of seclusion or detachment. "Those who are committing terroristic acts from Pakistan and Afghanistan and claiming it is jihad, they do not know what jihad is. It is forbidden. There will not be janna (paradise) for them."

Dr. Qadri who now lives in Canada said Islam supports democracy and formation of alliances with other religious groups for the betterment and prosperity of the mankind. He urged the Ummah to stand up to the enemies of mankind and Islam and promote moderation, peace, inclusion and understanding.

The British Justice Minister Shahid Malik appreciated the efforts of Dr. Qadri in promoting moderate Islam and his fatwa against the misguided Muslims. He urged other Muslim scholars to come out and speak against radicalization and attempts to divide the society through negative impression about Islam.



http://www.app.com.pk/en/_index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=97598&Itemid=2

Dr. Tahir-ul-Qadri's fatwa declares Muslim terrorists as disbelievers

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<http://aawsat.com/english/news.asp?section=1&id=20071>

Muslim Leader Issues Anti-Terror Fatwa

02/03/2010

LONDON, (AP) — The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London is being hosted by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded, anti-extremism think tank.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.



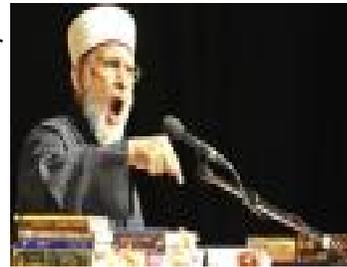
<http://www.emasc.com/en/contentdetails.asp?contentID=12771&chk=1>

Saudi Arabia to follow Tahir Ul Qadri fatwa to curb terrorism

3/3/2010

Pakistan Christian Post)- (PCP) Pakistan Christian Congress PCC welcomes religious ruling of Dr. Tahir Qadri on killing of non-Muslims in name of Islam in of terrorism.

PCC Central Secretariat here today issued a statement of Nazir S Bhatti, President of Pakistan Christian Congress in which he discussed 600 Fatwa issued by Dr. Qadri in UK, in a press conference.



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Dr. Nazir S Bhatti said “PCC highly appreciates Islamic verdict on terrorism by religious scholar like Tahir ul Qadri but it falls short while Sunni sects waging war against non-Muslims do not fall in Sunni sects followed by Dr. Qadri”

It is on record that all Sunni sects in Islam not accept terrorism in name of Jihad except Wahabi sect which links back to Saudi Arabia. The Wahabi teachings of Sunni sects gained momentum around globe when billions of dollars were pushed by Saudi Arabia in Islamic countries in 1970,s to preach such teaching practiced in this Holyland of Muslims.

“We witnessed emergence of Madaresses, religious schools in Pakistan after 1970, and different color of turbans on heads of Muslim youth on streets and it was claimed to be funded by Saudi Arabia” said Nazir Bhatti

The Saudi Arabia and Pakistan were first and only countries to recognize Islamic government of Taliban in Afghanistan because Taliban claimed to revive Wahabi sect around world.

It is on record that with petro-dollars Saudi Arabia became successful to press upon government of Pakistan and Egypt to legislate constitutions of “Islamic Republic of Pakistan Constitution of 1973” and “Islamic Republic of Egypt Constitution of 1971” It is ironic that Pakistan and Egypt, both Islamic states endorsed Article 2, in its Islamic Republic Constitutions declaring “States formed for Muslims only”

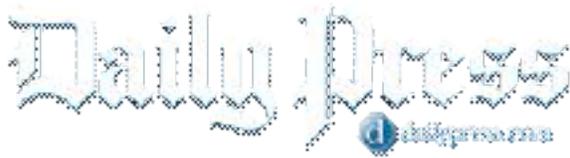
Nazir Bhatti said "Already an important Sunni leader was martyred in Lahore by suicide bomber during prayers in mosque after Fatwa issued like Tahir ul Qadri and it is duty of government of Pakistan to ensure safety and security of Dr. Qadri and his followers"

"I do not think Fatwa by Dr. Qadri will create an end to killing of innocent non-Muslims and followers of other Sunni sects by guns or suicide bombers by Wahabi Muslims but will be an issue in discussion forums" said Nazir Bhatti

Dr. Nazir S Bhatti added "If Saudi Arabia issues only 6 pages Fatwa and denounces such Jihad instead of 600 pages Islamic ruling of Dr. Tahir Qadri, there will be end to terrorism around world"

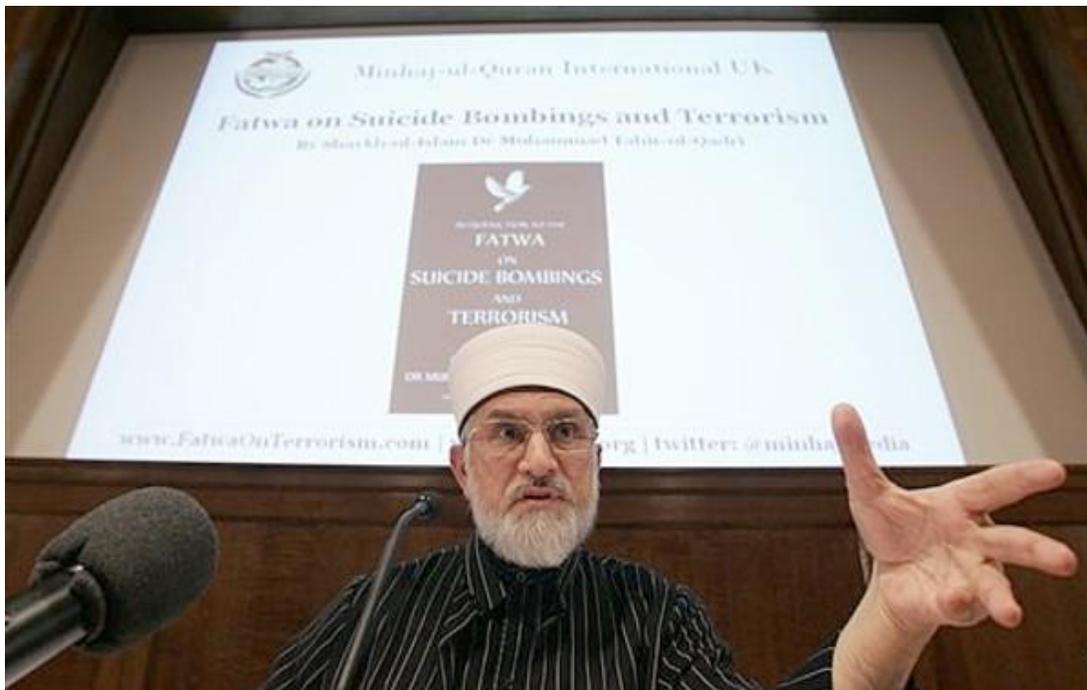
PCP take privilege to quote Dr. Qadri, s one paragraph of ruling which must be seconded by Saudi King and Imam of Khana-e-Kabba in Saudi Arabia to end terrorism "Today's tragedy is that terrorists, murderers, mischief-mongers and rioters try to prove their criminal, rebellious, tyrannous, brutal and blasphemous activities as a right and a justified reaction to foreign aggression under the garb of defense of Islam and national interests. It can in no way be permissible to keep foreign delegates under unlawful custody and murder them and other peaceful non-Muslim citizens in retaliation for interference, unjust activities and aggressive advances of their countries. The one who does has no relation to Islam."

Pakistan Christian Post



http://www.dailypress.com/news/national/sns-ap-eu-britain-anti-terror-fatwa,0,4923743.story?track=rss&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+hrdailypress%2Fnews%2Fnationworld+%28Daily+Press+-+National%2FWorld+News%29

Pakistan-born Muslim leader issues 600-page anti-terror fatwa in London.



Leading Muslim scholar Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri speaks at the UK launch of the Fatwa on suicide bombings and terrorism held by non-governmental organization Minhaj-ul-Quran International (MQI) in London, Tuesday, March 2, 2010. The fatwa is an Islamic decree that condemns suicide bombings and terrorist atrocities along with their perpetrators. (AP Photo/Akira Suemori) (Akira Suemori, AP / March 2, 2010)

By Associated Press

March 2, 2010

LONDON (AP) — The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

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Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think tank and drew strong media attention.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in [Pakistan](#) or Pakistanis living in other countries.



[/http://article.wn.com/view/2010/03/02/Islamic_scholar_Tahir_ulQ_adri_to_issue_terrorism_fatwa](http://article.wn.com/view/2010/03/02/Islamic_scholar_Tahir_ulQ_adri_to_issue_terrorism_fatwa)

Islamic scholar Tahir ul-Qadri to issue terrorism fatwa : Worldnews.com

BBC News 2010-03-02

An influential Muslim scholar has issued a global ruling against terrorism and suicide bombing. Dr Tahir ul-Qadri, from Pakistan, says his 600-page judgement, known as a fatwa, completely dismantles al-Qaeda's violent ideology. The scholar describes al-Qaeda as an "old evil with a new name" that has not been sufficiently challenged. The scholar's movement is growing in the UK and has attracted the interest of policymakers and security chiefs. In his religious ruling, delivered in London, Dr Qadri says that Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.



<http://www.abc3340.com/news/stories/0310/711753.html>

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwaposted

03/02/10 10:28 am

LONDON - The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism. Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

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<http://www.alarabiya.net/views/2010/03/06/102333.html>

[Saturday, 06 March 2010]

My fatwa against the terrorists' creed

Dr. Tahir ul Q adri have been compelled to issue a fat wa – a comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism – because of what has been happening in Pakistan over the past year. Terrorists are bombing mosques during Friday prayers, they are burning schools, killing women. They are digging bodies out of graves, cutting off their heads and hanging the bodies from trees.

My 600-page fatwa is based on all four schools of jurisprudence: Hanafi, Shafii, Hanbali and Maliki, and the Shia school of Jafari. I have consulted hundreds of classical Islamic texts, the scholars, fiqh and the Hadith. The main theme is this: any act of terrorism such as suicide bombing cannot be justified in any way. There are no conditions, no pretexts or exemptions. It is condemned by the Quran and the Sunna.

" Some scholars have said to me that we know suicide bombing is forbidden but to say that this is an act of an unbeliever is going far. I am not saying anyone who kills is an unbeliever. I say one who is committing acts of terrorism on the basis that it is sanctioned and lawful by Islam is an unbeliever. "Killing Muslims and non-Muslims through terrorist activities and using violent aggression to impose their mistaken and misplaced ideology is a fundamental rejection of faith. Such acts make the people carrying out the attacks unbelievers, or kufr.

The Quran says those who kill in mosques, burn people, blow them up, they will suffer the torments of hellfire. This is one aspect.

A second aspect I have examined is the justification that Muslim rulers in Arab countries or non-Muslims are not enforcing Islamic law so there is an obligation to fight against them. This is absolutely wrong. In no context is any organisation allowed to take up arms on their own and say we are defending Muslim land or we are avenging the aggression of non-Muslim powers. This is a matter for a state and its government.

The holy Prophet Mohammed told his companions that bad rulers would come and the people would curse them and the rulers would curse their people. The companions asked should they not fight them with swords if this time comes? And the holy Prophet said that no, they were not allowed as far as they were Muslims.

As for adopting the defence that the attacks are against foreign aggression, this is the privilege and responsibility of the state to stand up and to fight according to international law. If groups and individuals start taking revenge it will create global anarchy and there will be no rule of law, there will be just killing of mankind.

There is a prophecy of the Prophet Mohammed. He mentioned that the Kharijites would emerge continuously in Islamic history. The Kharijites believed that whoever did not agree with their philosophy was an unbeliever and should be killed. They wanted to resolve everything through the sword and through power. They rose up in the time of the rightly guided Caliphs, Usman and Ali, and fought against them.

This hadith, which appears in dozens of books, says the holy Prophet Mohammed said they would emerge again and again in different centuries until the final time of the anti-Christ. They would arrive more than 20 times. They would keep changing names and appear for the last time as part of the anti-Christ's army. They would slaughter people.

Al Q'eda is an old evil with a new name. They are the Kharijites with a new name. They are misguided today like the Khawarij youth were misguided at that time. They were brainwashed although they were religious people who prayed and fasted.

Those who have already decided to become suicide bombers are totally brainwashed. I exclude them from this discussion because they are blind. I am trying to reach the majority who have not reached that stage but have extremist tendencies and are proceeding in that direction.

" There have been many other fatwas that condemn suicide bombings and there have been verbal resolutions against it. They were very brief, maybe one or two pages signed by hundreds of scholars and they did not contain many references. These brief declarations were not able to answer the questions or address all the concerns "There are thousands of extremists running websites and applying misguided ideas. The radicals who have no access to classical authorities are misguided and give the wrong concept of jihad. This religious ruling is particularly important for Britain and the western world, where the majority of Muslims are of south Asian origin.

We have seen examples of extremist groups targeting vulnerable young people from these communities to carry out their acts of violence – from training them as suicide bombers to brainwashing students across British universities. I am sure that the hundreds of authorities I have quoted will allow them to rethink, to see that whatever they were taught was wrong.

The fatwa has appeared in Urdu, and English and Arabic translations have been started. It will be translated into many other languages and distributed through the internet accompanied by videos, summaries and talks. We will do whatever is possible to reach the youth with the Almighty Allah's help and grace.

Already it is happening. We have been contacted by the Afghan president Hamid Karzai's office and they want a copy to translate into Persian and Pashto. And so it will go.

There have been many other fatwas that condemn suicide bombings and there have been verbal resolutions against it. They were very brief, maybe one or two pages signed by hundreds of scholars and they did not contain many references. These brief declarations were not able to answer the questions or address all the concerns. I thought there was a need to address every major concern, every major and minor aspect which has already been planted in people's minds.

In Pakistan, some religious scholars have condemned the military action in the Swat valley and North-West Frontier Province, or they have said they already have condemned suicide bombings and acts of terrorism. Some have felt they have fulfilled their duty. But by simply condemning the Pakistani military action or staying silent they are creating doubt in the minds of the common people and youth.

While Muslims resist and fight terrorism and are not ready to accept its remotest possible link with Islam, there are some who are also seen supporting it. Instead of opposing and condemning it openly they confuse the issue.

After this fatwa more scholars will become courageous and stand up.

A few are scared. A friend of mine who recently condemned suicide bombing in Pakistan was assassinated.

This grand fatwa, when it is in the hands of every body, will give people courage, clarity and motivation.

*** Published in the UAE's THE NATIONAL on March 6. Dr. Tahir ul Qadri is the founding leader of Minhaj ul Quran, established in 1981 with headquarters in Lahore.**



http://townhall.com/news/world/2010/03/02/muslim_leader_issues_anti-terror_fatwa

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

Tuesday, March 02, 2010

The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think tank and drew strong media attention.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2010\03\03\story_3-3-2010_pg7_21

Tahirul Qadri's fatwa declares Muslim terrorists 'disbelievers'

Noted scholar bans suicide bombing without any excuses, pretexts, or exceptions'

LONDON: Eminent Muslim scholar and founder of the Minhajul Quran International, Dr Tahirul Qadri on Tuesday issued a fatwa that calls for an absolute condemnation of

terrorism and declares such acts as un-Islamic and those carrying out these despicable activities as disbelievers.

In his decree Dr Qadri described al Qaeda as an "old evil with a new name" that has not been sufficiently challenged. He said Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings. Quoting extensively from the holy Quran and the hadith of the Holy Prophet (Peace Be upon Him) Dr Qadri hit hard on the terrorists, describing them as misguided and brain washed people who had no idea about real Islam. He said the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, pretexts, or exceptions".

The 59-year-old scholar announced categorically that suicide attacks against civilians were not only condemned by Islam but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam.

According to Dr Qadri, modern terrorists justify their indiscriminate killings by claiming that Islamic scripture allows such campaigns in war. However, he opened new grounds by citing Islamic sources, which prohibit killing of women, children, elders, religious leaders, businessmen, non-combatants and even service personnel not engaged in aggression.

"Contrary to the mindset of the perpetrators of the September 11, 2001 attacks in New York or the July 7, 2005 bombings in London, damaging enemy property or avenging a wrong done by another is strictly prohibited by sound Islamic scholarship," Dr Qadri told the audience.

"Those who are committing terrorist acts from Pakistan and Afghanistan and claiming it as jihad, do not know what jihad is. What they are doing is forbidden. There will not be jannat (paradise) for them," he added.



<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSLDE62025B>

Prominent Muslim to issue anti-terrorism fatwa

Mon Mar 1, 2010 11:21am EST

- * Fatwa to declare terrorists to be unbelievers
- * Qadri seeks to persuade young Muslims to shun terrorism

[Michael Helden](#) By:

LONDON, March 1 (Reuters) - A prominent Islamic scholar is to issue a 600-page religious edict denouncing terrorism in London on Tuesday in what he says is a bid to persuade young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism.

The fatwa from Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, a leading figure who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years, echoes edicts condemning extremism issued by a number of Islamic groups since the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States.

But Qadri says his fatwa, which declares terrorists and suicide bombers to be unbelievers, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said Qadri, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship and is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam that focuses on peace, tolerance and moderation.

"I have tried to leave not a single stone unturned on this particular subject and I have tried to address every single question relevant to this subject," he told Reuters in a telephone interview.

Qadri, 59, who was born in Pakistan, is head of the global Minhaj ul-Quran religious and educational organisation which spreads his Sufi ideas.

A former Pakistani minister and associate of assassinated Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, he delivers lectures worldwide promoting his message of harmony and was one of the first Muslim leaders to condemn the Sept. 11 attacks.

Tim Winter, a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, said while there had been similar fatwas in the past, Qadri did appear to have gone further than most.

"To declare the miscreants as unbelievers is unusual, because it is not really clear that the rules allow one simply to say that they are not Muslims," he told Reuters.

"Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all. But 'swing voters' -- poorly educated and angry Muslims, who respect mainstream scholars, will probably take note.

"Certainly it is a helpful initiative," he said.

HELLFIRE

Qadri said he felt compelled to issue the edict because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, accused of trying to bomb a U.S.-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008. Yemen, where Abdulmutallab began his journey, has said he was radicalised while in Britain.

"The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire," Qadri said.

He is confident that the edict will have a significant impact, saying he had drawn on classical teachings and authorities acceptable to all sects of Islam.

"I will say more than 50 percent will change their way, they will be influenced. Of the remaining 50 percent at least some of them, half of them, will become doubtful about their life, their terrorist activity," he said.

While Qadri has followers across the globe, it is in Pakistan, where he has millions of followers, and in the diaspora that his impact would be greatest, Winter said.

Britain has about 1.7 million Muslims, mainly of Pakistani descent, and the security services say that nearly all major terrorism plots since 2001, including the 2005 London bombings which killed 52 people, were linked to Pakistan.

Government officials will be among those joining Qadri for the launch of the fatwa in central London. The Muslim Council of Britain, an umbrella organisation representing some 500 Islamic groups, said the fatwa was welcome.

"It is entirely laudable for scholars such as Tahir ul-Qadri to speak out against terrorism," it said in a statement.

Although his pronouncement will be good news for the authorities in Britain and other Western governments seeking to win Muslim support to stamp out extremism, Qadri said their backing is irrelevant to his views.

http://seattletimes.nwsource.com/html/nationworld/2011229365_ap_eubritainantiterrorfatwa.html?syndication=rss

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

March 2, 2010 at 5:20 AM | Page modified March 2, 2010 at 1:21 PM

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The Associated Press

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<http://www.tri-cityherald.com/2010/03/02/922452/muslim-leader-issues-anti-terror.html>

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<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/breaking-news/islamic-scholar-muhammad-tahir-ul-qadri-issues-anti-terrorism-fatwa/story-e6frf7jx-1225836314823>

Islamic scholar Muhammad Tahir ul Qadri issues anti-terrorism fatwa

By Mark White

March 03, 2010 1:47AM

A PROMINENT Islamic scholar will use a speech in London to issue a 600-page religious edict denouncing terrorists and suicide bombers as "unbelievers."

Muhammad Tahir ul Qadri is a leading figure who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years, Sky News reports.

He said he felt compelled to issue the fatwa because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

Ul Qadri says his fatwa, which is aimed at persuading young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said ul Qadri, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship.

Start of sidebar. Skip to end of sidebar.

End of sidebar. Return to start of sidebar.

He is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam which is widely seen as focusing on peace, tolerance and moderation.

Nigerian-born Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, accused of trying to bomb a US-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008.

Government officials in Yemen, where Mutallab began his journey, said he was radicalised while in Britain.

However, the British Government claims his introduction to hardcore extremists happened after he left the UK.

Government officials will be among those joining ul Q adri for the launch of the fatwa in central London.

The Muslim Council of Britain, an umbrella organisation representing some 500 Islamic groups, welcomed the new position.

Ul Q adri will tell his audience, "The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire."

The 59-year-old was born in Pakistan and is head of the global Minhaj ul Quran religious and educational organisation, which spreads his Sufi ideas.

A former Pakistani minister and associate of assassinated prime minister Benazir Bhutto, he delivers lectures worldwide promoting his message of harmony and was one of the first Muslim leaders to condemn the 9/11 attacks in the US.



<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5iwz1gRdaDGwSXQ-GhE6spvdtstp wD9E6I5084>

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

(AP) – 5 days ago

LONDON — The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think tank and drew strong media attention.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.



<http://www.indiancricketfans.com/showthread.php?t=210634>

Islamic scholar Tahir ul-Qadri to issue terrorism fatwa

03/03/2010

An influential Muslim scholar is to issue in London a global ruling against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Dr Tahir ul-Qadri, from Pakistan, says his 600-page judgement, known as a fatwa, completely dismantles al-Qaeda's violent ideology.

The scholar describes al-Qaeda as an "old evil with a new name" which has not been sufficiently challenged.

The scholar's movement is growing in the UK and has attracted the interest of policymakers and security chiefs.

In his religious ruling, Dr Qadri says that Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

Although many scholars have made similar rulings in the past, Dr Qadri's followers argue that the massive document being launched in London goes much further.

They say it sets out point-by-point theological arguments against the rhetoric used by al-Qaeda inspired recruiters.

The fatwa also challenges the religious motivations of would-be suicide bombers who are inspired by promises of an afterlife.

The populist scholar developed his document last year as a response to the increase in bombings across Pakistan by militants.

The basic text has been extended to 600 pages to cover global issues, in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in western nations. It will be promoted in the UK by Dr Qadri's organisation, Minhaj ul-Quran International.

Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran in the UK, said the fatwa was hard-hitting.

"This fatwa injects doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers," he said.

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit the youth by brain washing them that they will 'with certainty' be rewarded in the next life.

"Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds."

Religious rulings

The document is not the first to condemn terrorism and suicide bombing to be launched in the UK.

Scholars from across the UK came together in the wake of the 7 July London attacks to denounce the bombers and urge communities to root out extremists.

But some scholarly rulings in the Middle East have argued that the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians is an exceptional situation where "martyrdom" attacks can be justified.

Although Dr Qadri has a large following in Pakistan, Minhaj ul-Quran International remained largely unknown in the UK until relatively recently.

It now has 10 mosques in the British cities with significant Muslim communities and says it is targeting younger generations it believes have been let down by traditional leaders.

The organisation is attracting the attention of policymakers and security chiefs who are continuing to look for allies in the fight against extremists.

The Department for Communities, which runs most of the government's "Preventing Violent Extremism" strategy, has tried building bridges with a variety of liberal-minded groups, but often found that they have limited actual influence at the grassroots.



<http://www.itv.com/news/fatwa-condemns-terror52128/>

Fatwa condemns terror

By: Angus Walker

1.45PM Tue Mar 2 2010

The head of a worldwide Muslim movement which has thousands of followers in Britain has issued an Islamic religious ruling - known as a 'Fatwa' - condemning terrorism.

Pakistan born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri warned suicide bombers that they are 'destined for hell'. The founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement said attacks against civilian targets were condemned by Islam.

Shahid Mursaleen, from Minhaj-ul-Quran UK, said: "He has hit hard on the terrorists as it prevents Islamists from considering suicide bombers as 'martyrs'. This fatwa injects doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers."



<http://www.itv.com/news/cleric-condemns-bombers91720/>

Cleric condemns bombers

6.30PM Tue Mar 2 2010

A respected Muslim leader has issued a religious ruling condemning terror attacks.

Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri has made a formal fatwa, warning bombers that they are 'destined for hell'.

He added: "They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma (the wider Muslim community), no, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire."



<http://www.alertnet.org/the news/newsdesk/LDE62025B.htm>

Prominent Muslim to issue anti-terrorism fatwa

01 Mar 2010 16:21:31 GMT

Source: Reuters (By Michael Holden)

- * Fatwa to declare terrorists to be unbelievers
- * Qadri seeks to persuade young Muslims to shun terrorism

LONDON, March 1 (Reuters) - A prominent Islamic scholar is to issue a 600-page religious edict denouncing terrorism in London on Tuesday in what he says is a bid to persuade young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism.

The fatwa from Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, a leading figure who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years, echoes edicts condemning extremism issued by a number of Islamic groups since the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States.

But Qadri says his fatwa, which declares terrorists and suicide bombers to be unbelievers, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said Qadri, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship and is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam that focuses on peace, tolerance and moderation.

"I have tried to leave not a single stone unturned on this particular subject and I have tried to address every single question relevant to this subject," he told Reuters in a telephone interview. Qadri, 59, who was born in Pakistan, is head of the global Minhaj ul-Quran religious and educational organisation which spreads his Sufi ideas.

A former Pakistani minister and associate of assassinated Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, he delivers lectures world wide promoting his message of harmony and was one of the first Muslim leaders to condemn the Sept. 11 attacks.

Tim Winter, a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, said while there had been similar fatwas in the past, Qadri did appear to have gone further than most.

"To declare the miscreants as unbelievers is unusual, because it is not really clear that the rules allow one simply to say that they are not Muslims," he told Reuters.

"Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all. But 'swing voters' -- poorly educated and angry Muslims, who respect mainstream scholars, will probably take note.

"Certainly it is a helpful initiative," he said.

HELLFIRE

Qadri said he felt compelled to issue the edict because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, accused of trying to bomb a U.S.-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008. Yemen, where Abdulmutallab began his journey, has said he was radicalised while in Britain.

"The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire," Qadri said.

He is confident that the edict will have a significant impact, saying he had drawn on classical teachings and authorities acceptable to all sects of Islam.

"I will say more than 50 percent will change their way, they will be influenced. Of the remaining 50 percent at least some of them, half of them, will become doubtful about their life, their terrorist activity," he said.

While Qadri has followers across the globe, it is in Pakistan, where he has millions of followers, and in the diaspora that his impact would be greatest, Winter said.

Britain has about 1.7 million Muslims, mainly of Pakistani descent, and the security services say that nearly all major terrorism plots since 2001, including the 2005 London bombings which killed 52 people, were linked to Pakistan.

Government officials will be among those joining Q adri for the launch of the fatwa in central London. The Muslim Council of Britain, an umbrella organisation representing some 500 Islamic groups, said the fatwa was welcome.

"It is entirely laudable for scholars such as Tahir ul-Qadri to speak out against terrorism," it said in a statement.

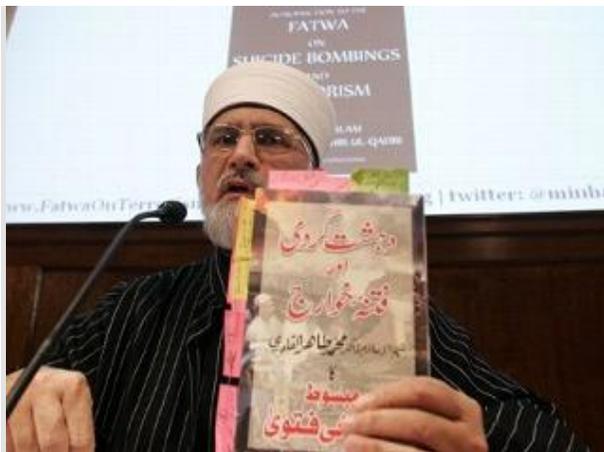
Although his pronouncement will be good news for the authorities in Britain and other Western governments seeking to win Muslim support to stamp out extremism, Q adri said their backing is irrelevant to his views.



<http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory?id=9985869>

Muslim Leader Issues Anti-Terror Fatwa

LONDON March 2, 2010 (AP)



Leading Muslim scholar Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri holds his Fatwa on suicide bombings and... 🇵🇰

(A kira Suemori/AP Photo)

The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."



<http://www.channel4.com/news/articles/uk/suicide%20bombers%20enemies%20of%20islam/3566687>

Suicide bombers 'enemies of Islam': Channel 4

Updated on 02 March 2010

Suicide bombers have been described as the "heroes of hellfire" by a leading Muslim scholar in a fatwa condemning terrorists as the enemies of Islam.

Pakistan-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri said there were no "ifs or buts" about terrorism and such acts had no justification in the name of Islam.

In a news conference attended by MPs, representatives from the Metropolitan Police, charitable organisations, think-tanks and other groups, he called on Islamic leaders to convey the message that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.



<http://www.channel4.com/news/articles/society/religion/fatwa+against+the+bombings/108975>

Fatwa against the bombings

By Benjamin Cohen

Updated on 15 July 2005

"We need the Muslim community to seize the moment"

The words of London's top Police chief, in a direct appeal to British muslims to "actively engage" with the police to root out extremists. This evening, some Muslim leaders issued a fatwa - condemning the attackers and the London suicide bombings.

But who are these leaders - and can they really represent Britain's largest and most diverse minority? Our foreign affairs correspondent Jonathan Miller reports.



http://www.upi.com/Top_News/Special/2010/03/02/Fatwa-condemns-terrorism/UPI-95591267541853/

Fatwa condemns terrorism

March. 2, 2010 at 9:57 AM

LONDON, March 2 (UPI) -- A Sufi Islamic cleric released a 600-page fatwa Tuesday in Britain describing suicide bombings and terrorism as contrary to the teachings of Islam.

Muhammed Tahir ul-Qadri, a Pakistani Islamic scholar, wrote the fatwa for his Sufi Minhaj-ul-Quran organization, which offers an alternative to radical Islamic preaching, reports The Times of London.

The fatwa, circulated in Pakistan in December, draws on the Koran to describe suicide bombings and terrorism as "absolutely against the teachings of Islam and that Islam does not permit such acts on any excuse, reason or pretext."

Radical Islamic teaching alludes to phrases in the Koran, the Islamic holy book, that equate the principles of holy war with violence against so-called infidels.

Shahid Mursaleen, a spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran, told The Times the fatwa strikes at the heart of the principle of martyrdom used to advocate suicide terrorism.

"This fatwa injects doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers," he said.

Minhaj-ul-Quran is a non-government Islamic organization with affiliates in 80 countries. The group's London branch teaches courses offering a counter viewpoint to misguided Islamic perceptions of jihad, said the Pakistani scholar.



http://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2010/03/03/UPI-NewsTrack-TopNews/UPI-42801267622269/

Cleric condemns terrorism

LONDON, March 3 (UPI) -- A Pakistani Muslim scholar, in a lengthy theological ruling against terrorism, rejected al-Qaida's philosophy, saying Islam forbids the massacre of innocents.

Appearing in London, Tahir ul-Qadri told a group of Muslims, clergy, political leaders and police officers his 600-page fatwa rejects violence and called al-Qaida an "old evil with a new name," the BBC reported.

Qadri's movement, called Minhaj ul-Quran International, is growing in Britain, drawing the interest of policymakers and law enforcement heads, the report said. Qadri said his study, resulting from the escalation of militant violence in Pakistan, is a detailed theological rebuttal of every point made by al-Qaida inspired recruiters.

"They (terrorists) can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma (global brotherhood)," he told his audience. "No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire. There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad."

Rejecting some scholarly rulings on martyrdom as it related to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, Qadri said there is no situation in which vengeful acts such as attacks on marketplaces or commuter trains can ever be considered a justifiable act of war.

The report said Qadri has many followers in Pakistan but his Minhaj ul-Quran International has become known in Britain only recently. The movement, which has 10 mosques in cities with significant Muslim communities, is targeting the younger generation, the BBC said.

http://www.straitstimes.com/BreakingNews/World/Story/STIStory_496743.html

Scholar to issue anti- terror fatwa

Mar 02, 2010

LONDON - A PROMINENT Islamic scholar is to issue a 600-page religious edict denouncing terrorism in London on Tuesday in what he says is a bid to persuade young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism.

The fatwa from Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, a leading figure who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years, echoes edicts condemning extremism issued by a number of Islamic groups since the Sept 11 attacks on the United States.

But Dr. Qadri says his fatwa, which declares terrorists and suicide bombers to be unbelievers, goes further than any previous denunciation.

'This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written,' said Dr. Qadri, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship and is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam that focuses on peace, tolerance and moderation. 'I have tried to leave not a single stone unturned on this particular subject and I have tried to address every single question relevant to this subject,' he told Reuters in a telephone interview.

Dr. Qadri, 59, who was born in Pakistan, is head of the global Minhaj ul-Quran religious and educational organisation which spreads his Sufi ideas. A former Pakistani minister and associate of assassinated Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, he delivers lectures worldwide promoting his message of harmony and was one of the first Muslim leaders to condemn the Sept 11 attacks.

Tim Winter, a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, said while there had been similar fatwas in the past, Dr. Qadri did appear to have gone further than most. 'To declare the miscreants as unbelievers is unusual, because it is not really clear that the rules allow one simply to say that they are not Muslims,' he told Reuters. 'Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all. But 'swing voters' - poorly educated and angry Muslims, who respect mainstream scholars, will probably take note.' - REUTERS

http://www.straitstimes.com/BreakingNews/World/Story/STIStory_497044.html

Mar 02, 2010

Muslim anti-terror fatwa issued

LONDON - THE leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing 'without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions.'

Mr Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicised by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think tank and drew strong media attention.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries. -- AP

Islamic scholar Tahir ul-Qadri to issue terrorism fatwa

By Rob Welham

2010-03-02 19:41:29

BEIJING, March 2 (Xinhuanet) -- Dr Tahir ul-Qadri, an influential Muslim scholar from Pakistan, is to issue a Fatwa against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Dr Qadri says his 600-page judgement completely dismantles al-Qaeda's violent ideology and describes the organisation as an "old evil with a new name".

Dr Qadri says that Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings and his movement, Minhaj ul-Quran International, has now drawn the interest of policymakers and security chiefs.

Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran in the UK, said the fatwa was hard-hitting and would "inject doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers." The document is not the first to condemn terrorism and suicide bombing to be launched in the UK. Following the terrorist attacks in London during July 2005 many scholars came together to denounce the bombers and urge communities to root out extremists.

A fatwa, an edict issued by a learned Muslim scholar, may concern any aspect of Islamic life. The term became famous in the western world in 1989 after the author Salman Rushdie was forced into hiding following a "death fatwa" issued by Ayatollah Khomeini, the then Supreme Leader of Iran, on the grounds that his book, the Satanic Verses had "insulted" Islam.

Editor: Anne Tang

<http://sify.com/news/muslim-scholar-in-britain-condemns-terrorism-news-international-kdcxObhjff.html>

Muslim scholar in Britain condemns terrorism

2010-03-02 23:50:00

A leading Muslim scholar in Britain issued a fatwa Tuesday condemning terrorists and suicide bombers, saying they had no justification in the name of Islam.

Pakistan-born Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri said there were no "ifs or buts" about terrorism, in a news conference attended by officers from London's Metropolitan Police, lawmakers, charitable organisations and think-tanks.

He said he wanted to convey the message that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma (the wider Muslim community). No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad," he added.

Qadri said his 600-page fatwa, or religious ruling, was an "absolute" condemnation of terrorism without "any excuses or pretexts".

"Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good," he said.

"Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts."

He said Islam was a religion of peace that promotes beauty, "betterment", goodness and "negates all form of mischief and strife".

The fatwa will be translated into English in the coming weeks and made available online in an attempt to counter extremist versions of Islam available on the Internet.

Qadri founded the Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, which has thousands of supporters in Britain and across the world.

In Britain, it says it runs courses in combating religious extremism in educational centres in London, Manchester and Birmingham.

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

2010-03-02 20:40:00



Leading Muslims scholar Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri holds his Fatwa on suicide... Leading Muslims scholar Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri speaks at the UK launch... Showing 1 of 2 The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani law maker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think tank and drew strong media attention.

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<http://sify.com/news/pakistani-islamic-scholar-to-issue-600-page-fatwa-against-terrorism-suicide-bombing-news-international-kdpahffbf.html>

Pakistani Islamic scholar to issue 600-page fatwa against terrorism, suicide bombing

2010-03-02 15:00:00

Describing Al-Qaeda as an 'old evil with a new name', influential Pakistani scholar Dr Tahir ul-Qadri has said he would soon issue a 'fatwa' against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Qadri said the Al-Qaeda has not been sufficiently challenged and that his global ruling against terrorism completely dismantles the banned terrorist organisation's violent ideology.

In his 600-page ruling, Qadri said Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

The fatwa also challenges the religious motivations of would-be suicide bombers who are inspired by promises of an afterlife, The BBC reports.

The famous Muslim scholar developed his document last year as a response to the sudden increase in suicide bombings across Pakistan.

The fatwa, which would be promoted in Britain by Qadri's organisation, Minhaj ul-Quran International, would cover global issues in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in western nations.

Terming the fatwa as 'hard hitting', Minhaj ul-Quran International's spokesperson Shahid Mursaleen said the ruling would inject doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers.

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit the youth by brain washing them that they will with certainty be rewarded in the next life. Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual actor from their minds," Mursaleen said. (ANI)

<http://sify.com/news/top-pak-islamic-scholar-issues-600-page-fat-wa-against-terrorism-suicide-bombings-news-international-kdnu9fefej.html>

Top Pak Islamic scholar issues 600-page 'fatwa' against terrorism, suicide bombings

2010-03-19 13:20:00

Influential Pakistani scholar Dr Tahir ul-Qadri has issued a 600-page 'fatwa' against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Speaking to reporters after releasing the 'fatwa' here, Qadri said suicide bombers are 'destined for hell' and that Islam does not support violence in any form.

"Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence, and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it," The News quoted Qadri, as saying.

Qadri said the Al-Qaeda has not been sufficiently challenged and that his global ruling against terrorism completely dismantles the banned terror organisation's violent ideology.

In his 600-page ruling Qadri said Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

The fatwa also challenges the religious motivations of would-be suicide bombers who are inspired by promises of an afterlife. The famous Muslim scholar developed his document last year as a response to the sudden increase in suicide bombings across Pakistan.

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"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit the youth by brainwashing them that they will with certainty be rewarded in the next life. Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds," Mursaleen said. (ANI)

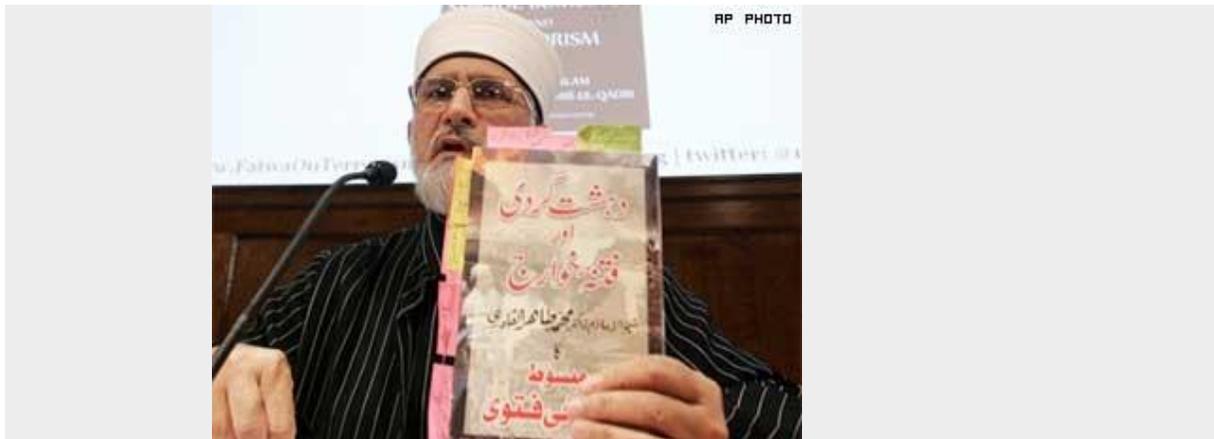


<http://ibnlive.in.com/news/top-muslim-cleric-to-issue-antiterrorism-fatwa/110955-2.html>

Top Muslim cleric to issue anti-terrorism fatwa

[Reuters](#)

Published on **Tue, Mar 02, 2010 at 22:38**, Updated on **Tue, Mar 02, 2010 at 22:58** in **World** section



A prominent Islamic scholar is to issue a 600-page religious edict denouncing terrorism in London on Tuesday in what he says is a bid to persuade young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism.

The fatwa from Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, a leading figure who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years, echoes edicts condemning extremism issued by a number of Islamic groups since the September 11 attacks on the United States.

But Qadri says his fatwa, which declares terrorists and suicide bombers to be unbelievers, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said Qadri, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship and is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam that focuses on peace, tolerance and moderation.

"I have tried to leave not a single stone unturned on this particular subject and I have tried to address every single question relevant to this subject," he said.

Qadri, 59, who was born in Pakistan, is head of the global Minhaj ul-Quran religious and educational organisation which spreads his Sufi ideas.

A former Pakistani minister and associate of assassinated Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, he delivers lectures worldwide promoting his message of harmony and was one of the first Muslim leaders to condemn the September 11 attacks.

Tim Winter, a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, said while there had been similar fatwas in the past, Qadri did appear to have gone further than most.

"To declare the miscreants as unbelievers is unusual, because it is not really clear that the rules allow one simply to say that they are not Muslims," he said.

"Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all. But 'swing voters' -- poorly educated and angry Muslims, who respect mainstream scholars, will probably take note.

"Certainly it is a helpful initiative," he said.

Hell fire

Qadri said he felt compelled to issue the edict because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, accused of trying to bomb a US-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008. Yemen, where Abdulmutallab began his journey, has said he was radicalised while in Britain.

"The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire," Qadri said.

He is confident that the edict will have a significant impact, saying he had drawn on classical teachings and authorities acceptable to all sects of Islam.

"I will say more than 50 percent will change their way, they will be influenced. Of the remaining 50 percent at least some of them, half of them, will become doubtful about their life, their terrorist activity," he said.

While Qadri has followers across the globe, it is in Pakistan, where he has millions of followers, and in the diaspora that his impact would be greatest, Winter said.

Britain has about 1.7 million Muslims, mainly of Pakistani descent, and the security services say that nearly all major terrorism plots since 2001, including the 2005 London bombings which killed 52 people, were linked to Pakistan.

Government officials will be among those joining Qadri for the launch of the fatwa in central London. The Muslim Council of Britain, an umbrella organisation representing some 500 Islamic groups, said the fatwa was welcome.

"It is entirely laudable for scholars such as Tahir ul-Qadri to speak out against terrorism," it said in a statement.

Although his pronouncement will be good news for the authorities in Britain and other Western governments seeking to win Muslim support to stamp out extremism, Qadri said their backing is irrelevant to his views.

The National

<http://www.thenational.ae/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100303/FOREIGN/703029829/1135/editorials>

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

David Sapsted, Foreign Correspondent

- Last Updated: March 03, 2010 12:49 AM UAE / March 2, 2010 8:49PM GMT



Muhammad Tahir ul Qadri says he felt compelled to write the edict because of concerns about the radicalisation of young Muslims. Akira Suemori / AP Photo

LONDON // A global fatwa condemning terrorism and warning suicide bombers that they were “destined for hell” was issued yesterday by the leader of an international Muslim movement.

The 600-page ruling was issued by Muhammad Tahir ul Qadri, founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement.

Announced at a conference in London, the fatwa decrees: “Suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam – in other words, to be unbelievers.”

The Pakistani-born Mr ul Qadri, who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years, describes his declaration as “the most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written”.

He said that it probably would have no effect on terrorists so brainwashed that they could no longer

think for themselves, but could influence those who were tempted to follow the teachings of extremists.

“The fatwa has been issued to provide clear, categorical and comprehensive injunctions that will dissuade confused and impressionable young Muslims from embarking upon the path of extremism and radicalism that eventually leads to the deadly and horrific outcomes we have all tragically come to know,” he said.

Mr ul Qadri said the fatwa completely dismantled al Qaeda’s violent ideology, which he described as an “old evil with a new name”.

“I have tried to leave not a single stone unturned on this particular subject,” said Mr ul Qadri, a scholar of Sufism who said he felt compelled to issue the edict because of concerns about the radicalisation of young Muslims. “The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire.”

Mr ul Qadri said he had drawn on classical teachings and authorities acceptable to all sects of Islam to compile his fatwa.

Shahid Malik, Britain’s communities’ minister, yesterday welcomed the fatwa. “It is incumbent on Muslims to stand up for their faith,” he said. “When 7/7 occurred [the London transport bombings in 2005], those four evil young men killed themselves and over 50 innocent people because they followed a twisted and perverted interpretation of Islam which told them by doing so they would go to heaven.

“A clear and unequivocal message must go out that Islam teaches that these four are not martyrs going to heaven but sinners going somewhere very different indeed.”

Shahid Mursaleen, the spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran UK, added that the fatwa “has hit hard on the terrorists as it prevents Islamists from considering suicide bombers as martyrs”.

He said: “This fatwa injects doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers. Extremist groups based in Britain recruit youth by brainwashing them that they will ‘with certainty’ be rewarded in the next life. Mr Qadri’s fatwa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds.”

A spokesman for the Quilliam Foundation, a London-based counterterrorism think tank, hailed the fatwa as “arguably the most comprehensive” theological refutation of Islamist terrorism. “Terrorist groups such as al Qaeda continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture,” he said.

“Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dustbin of history.”

Tim Winter, a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, said although there had been similar fatwas in the past, Mr ul Qadri appeared to have gone further than most. “To declare the miscreants as unbelievers is unusual because it is not really clear that the rules allow one simply to say that they are not Muslims,” he told Reuters.

“Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all. But ‘swing voters’ – poorly educated and angry Muslims, who respect mainstream scholars – will probably take note. Certainly it is a helpful initiative.”

Minhaj-ul-Quaran runs courses in combating religious extremism in educational centres throughout Britain.

Shaikh Mohammed Hisham Kabbani, an Islamic scholar at the Centre for Spirituality and Cultural Advancement, said: “This scholarship is a landmark in enabling Muslims living in the UK to be able to silence the small minority of people who think it is OK to commit violent acts in the name of Islam,” he said.

“We are happy and honoured to be working with Mr Qadri and Minhaj-ul-Quaran to support the UK Muslims in countering the radical Islamist rhetoric in the world.”

My fatwa against the terrorists' creed

Dr Tahir ul Qadri



Pep Montserrat for The National

I have been compelled to issue a fatwa – a comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism – because of what has been happening in Pakistan over the past year. Terrorists are bombing mosques during Friday prayers, they are burning schools, killing women. They are digging bodies out of graves, cutting off their heads and hanging the bodies from trees.

My 600-page fatwa is based on all four schools of jurisprudence: Hanafi, Shafii, Hanbali and Maliki, and the Shia school of Jafari. I have consulted hundreds of classical Islamic texts, the scholars, fiqh and the Hadith. The main theme is this: any act of terrorism such as suicide bombing cannot be justified in any way. There are no conditions, no pretexts or exemptions. It is condemned by the Qur'an and the Sunna.

Killing Muslims and non-Muslims through terrorist activities and using violent aggression to impose their mistaken and misplaced ideology is a fundamental rejection of faith. Such acts make

the people carry in g out the attacks un believers, or kuf r.

Some scholars have said to me that we know suicide bombing is forbidden but to say that this is an act of an unbeliever is going far. I am not saying anyone who kills is an unbeliever. I say one who is committing acts of terrorism on the basis that it is sanctioned and lawful by Islam is an unbeliever.

The Quran says those who kill in mosques, burn people, blow them up, they will suffer the torments of hellfire. This is one aspect.

A second aspect I have examined is the justification that Muslim rulers in Arab countries or non-Muslims are not enforcing Islamic law so there is an obligation to fight against them. This is absolutely wrong. In no context is any organisation allowed to take up arms on their own and say we are defending Muslim land or we are avenging the aggression of non-Muslim powers. This is a matter for a state and its government.

The holy Prophet Mohammed told his companions that bad rulers would come and the people would curse them and the rulers would curse their people. The companions asked should they not fight them with swords if this time comes? And the holy Prophet said that no, they were not allowed as far as they were Muslims.

As for adopting the defence that the attacks are against foreign aggression, this is the privilege and responsibility of the state to stand up and to fight according to international law. If groups and individuals start taking revenge it will create global anarchy and there will be no rule of law, there will be just killing of mankind.

There is a prophecy of the Prophet Mohammed. He mentioned that the Kharijites would emerge continuously in Islamic history. The Kharijites believed that whoever did not agree with their philosophy was an unbeliever and should be killed. They wanted to resolve everything through the sword and through power. They rose up in the time of the rightly guided Caliphs, Usman and Ali, and fought against them.

This hadith, which appears in dozens of books, says the holy Prophet Mohammed said they would emerge again and again in different centuries until the final time of the anti-Christ. They would arrive more than 20 times. They would keep changing names and appear for the last time as part of the anti-Christ's army. They would slaughter people.

Al Qaeda is an old evil with a new name. They are the Kharijites with a new name. They are misguided today like the Khawarij youth were misguided at that time. They were brainwashed although they were religious people who prayed and fasted.

Those who have already decided to become suicide bombers are totally brainwashed. I exclude them from this discussion because they are blind. I am trying to reach the majority who have not reached that stage but have extremist tendencies and are proceeding in that direction.

There are thousands of extremists running websites and applying misguided ideas. The radicals who have no access to classical authorities are misguided and give the wrong concept of jihad. This religious ruling is particularly important for Britain and the western world, where the majority of Muslims are of south Asian origin.

We have seen examples of extremist groups targeting vulnerable young people from these communities to carry out their acts of violence – from training them as suicide bombers to brainwashing students across British universities. I am sure that the hundreds of authorities I have quoted will allow them to rethink, to see that whatever they were taught was wrong.

The fatwa has appeared in Urdu, and English and Arabic translations have been started. It will be translated into many other languages and distributed through the internet accompanied by videos, summaries and talks. We will do whatever is possible to reach the youth with the Almighty Allah's help and grace.

Already it is happening. We have been contacted by the Afghan president Hamid Karzai's office and they want a copy to translate into Persian and Pashto. And so it will go.

There have been many other fatwas that condemn suicide bombings and there have been verbal resolutions against it. They were very brief, maybe one or two pages signed by hundreds of scholars and they did not contain many references. These brief declarations were not able to answer the questions or address all the concerns. I thought there was a need to address every major concern, every major and minor aspect which has already been planted in people's minds.

In Pakistan, some religious scholars have condemned the military action in the Swat valley and North-West Frontier Province, or they have said they already have condemned suicide bombings and acts of terrorism. Some have felt they have fulfilled their duty. But by simply condemning the Pakistani military action or staying silent they are creating doubt in the minds of the common people and youth.

While Muslims resist and fight terrorism and are not ready to accept its remotest possible link with Islam, there are some who are also seen supporting it. Instead of opposing and condemning it openly they confuse the issue.

After this fatwa more scholars will become courageous and stand up.

A few are scared. A friend of mine who recently condemned suicide bombing in Pakistan was assassinated.

This grand fatwa, when it is in the hands of everybody, will give people courage, clarity and motivation.

Dr Tahir ul Qadri is the founding leader of Minhaj ul Quran, established in 1981 with headquarters in Lahore. www.minhaj.org

<http://www.thenational.ae/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=20100307/OPINION/703069960/1033>

Fatwa exposes the lies of the terrorists

- Last Updated: March 06, 2010 7:47PM UAE / March 6, 2010 3:47PM GMT

The armed takeover of the Grand Mosque in Mecca in 1979 was a pivotal point in modern extremism. Led by the former Saudi national guardsman Juhayman al Utaibi and the false Mahdi Mohammed al Qahtani, the two-week occupation violated the most basic principles of Islam. While spilling the blood of fellow Muslims in Islam's holiest site, the rebels continued to claim divine justification for their acts. It was only after he was caught that al Utaibi admitted he had been wrong.

Terrorists far too often cloak their deeds in a supposed religious justification, even as those deeds abandon Islam. In the past 15 years, the al Qaeda franchise's trail of carnage, from suicide bombings to the murder of innocents, has time and again violated the explicit teachings of the Quran and the Hadiths. Al Qaeda has always been a theologically bankrupt organisation, owing more to the megalomania of Osama bin Laden than even the writings of the discredited Egyptian scholar Sayyid Qutb.

But the falsity of their claims must be exposed. Yesterday in the pages of The National, the esteemed Muslim scholar Dr Tahir ul Qadir, the founder of Minhaj ul Quran, explained the basis of his recent fatwa against the terrorists. Coming from a scholar of his standing and drawing deeply upon the schools of Islamic jurisprudence, Dr ul Qadir's fatwa is a strong blow to the false doctrines of the terrorists. He joins a growing number of religious leaders denouncing al Qaeda and its affiliates in recent years, but the battle is not yet won.

In Muslim communities across the world, from Riyadh to Jakarta, Washington DC to Baghdad, there are legitimate grievances that fuel the terrorists' misguided cause. Economic disparities, racism and prejudice, geopolitics: many factors serve to alienate Muslim youth from the mainstream. These young people – intelligent, committed and eager to improve the world – are the targets of terrorist recruitment, but also the greatest potential resource for their communities.

Al Qaeda will fail, not because of defeats on the battlefield, but because of its bereft ideology. The deceit that terrorists act in the name of Islam will be exposed. Bin Laden and his cronies cannot stand up against scholars such as Dr ul Qadir. Young people are simply too intelligent to believe their lies once they are exposed to light.

http://www.nation.com.pk/pakistan-news-new-spaper-daily-english-online/Politics/03-Mar-2010/Qadri-issues-fatwa-against-terrorism?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+pakistan-news-new-spaper-daily-english-online%2F24hours-news+%28The+Nation+%3A+Last+Twenty+Four+Hours+News%29

Qadri issues fatwa against terrorism

Published: March 03, 2010

Maulana Dr Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued a global ruling against terrorism and suicide bombing, reported BBC on Tuesday.

Dr Qadri, an influential Pakistani scholar, said his 600-page judgement, known as a fatwa, completely dismantles Al-Qaeda's violent ideology. The scholar describes Al-Qaeda as an 'old evil with a new name' that has not been sufficiently challenged. The scholar's movement is growing in the UK and has attracted the interest of policymakers and security chiefs.

In his religious ruling, delivered in London, Dr Qadri says that Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

Although many scholars have made similar rulings in the past, Dr Qadri argued that his massive document goes much further by omitting "ifs and buts" added by other thinkers. He said that it set out a point-by-point theological rebuttal of every argument used by Qaeda-inspired recruiters.

The populist scholar developed his document last year as a response to the increase in bombings across Pakistan by militants.

'HEROES OF HELLFIRE'

The basic text has been extended to 600 pages to cover global issues, in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in Western nations. It will be promoted in the UK by Dr Qadri's organisation, Minhajul Quran International. Dr Qadri spoke for more than hour to an audience of Muslims, clergy, MPs, police officers and other security officials.

"They [terrorists] can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Ummah [global brotherhood].

Proven at last

Published: March 31, 2010

One agrees wholeheartedly with the landmark fatwa of Dr Tahirul Qadri against terrorism, suicide bombing, mutiny or rebellion against the state, all being tantamount to creating divisions amongst the Ummah. Dr Tahirul Qadri's authoritative references to hundreds of Quranic verses and 17 major books of Tafseer, Ahadith (56 books, 12 sharahaat, 4 on asma-ur-rijaal), Fiqh wa Usool (50 major works by all schools of thought), As-Seerah (2 books), Al-Aqaeed (8 books), Al-Fatawas (6 books), Al-Tasawwuf (2 major books), History (8 by Islamic scholars & all major historians from Europe) and Encyclopedias (6 books, each work consisting tens and twenties of volumes) have made his fatwa unchallengeable.

Without any doubt, this recent effort by the so-far controversial and politically ambitious Dr Qadri, who started from being the Pesh-Imam of the mosque of House of Ittefaq, sailed through muddy waters of politics and is now focused on the real job of interpreting Islam at last, is laudable and timely.

I have gone through the book; it is really a huge work and removes a number of doubts about our war against the Taliban and al-Qaeda terrorists. Other scholars in Pakistan and the Muslim world at large should join hands with him on the issue and declare a war on terrorism, terrorists, extremists, conspirators and elements of hate who are defacing Islam. This book is also important for those who have taken up arms against the terrorists, either in uniform or in civil society, because this helps clear doubts in their minds, if any. The book helps unite the masses divided on lines of religious differences and sects, and if the common cause and fight against terrorism unites us in our ranks and file, why can't it help us shun our other petty differences and disputes? -F. Z. KHAN, Islamabad, March 28.

Monday, March 08, 2010

Fatwa versus terrorism

Published: December 10, 2009

Azam Khalil

Faith is the continuation of reason – William Adams The menace of terrorism has struck the very heart of this country and it now seems that the country's interior minister has accepted the dominance of these savages who have continued to strike at will at any and all targets they consider game. The country's interior minister has issued an appeal to the religious scholars asking them to issue a fatwa against the insurgents who are carrying out suicide attacks with impunity. The first to oblige has been none other than Dr Tahirul Qadri who has issued a fatwa terming suicide attacks as un-Islamic. The fatwa was issued to, as Dr Qadri explained, enlighten the Muslim Ummah and the entire world about the truth of terrorism and to make Islam's stance precisely evident in the light of the Holy Quran and Sunnah.

Mr Rehman Malik, instead of devising a better and effective modality that would curb the increasing activities of the terrorists, should have also by now strengthened the intelligence network to a degree where the government could have made life miserable for all those who indulged in the acts of terrorising the people of this country. However, the decision by Mr Malik to seek fatwas on this issue has not only exposed his weakness, but has also created serious doubts amongst a large number of Pakistanis about the resolve of the government to effectively go the whole hog after all those who indulge in acts of terrorism or sabotage.

It must be understood that there is a binding rule that saves the fatwa announcements from creating judicial havoc, whether within a particular Muslim country or the Islamic world in general.

Secondly, the fatwa must meet the following conditions in order to be valid.

- Ø The fatwa is in line with relevant legal proofs, deduced from Quranic verses and Ahadith.
- Ø It is issued by a person or a board having due knowledge and sincerity of heart.
- Ø It is free from individual opportunism, and not depending on political servitude.
- Ø It is adequate with the needs of the contemporary world

It must also be understood that the Islamic Fiqah Academy of Saudi Arabia, as early as April 12, 2006, declared that the fatwa is binding on no one, whether individuals or state. Similarly the Sheikh of Al-Azhar in Cairo, who is the leading religious authority in the Sunni Muslim establishment, declared that fatwas are not binding but they are not just whistling in the wind either. Therefore, it is not essential that any fatwa would be religiously binding on the Muslims of the nation that issues a single or several fatwas. As far as the issue of suicide bombing is concerned, it was declared haram and forbidden by the Indian Ulema. This was also supported by Saudi scholars such as Sheikh Muhammad bin Saleh Al-Uthaymeen, who also issued a fatwa saying that suicide bombings are haram and those who commit such acts are not shahed.

All The Latest News

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[/http://allnews.com/2928/islamic-sheik-issues-fatwa-against-terrorism](http://allnews.com/2928/islamic-sheik-issues-fatwa-against-terrorism)

Islamic Sheik Issues Fatwa Against Terrorism

03.03.2010

Islamic Sheik Issues Fatwa Against Terrorism – A prominent Islamic scholar has issued a religious fatwa condemning terrorism as “kufur” or an act of disbelief so severe that those who believe in it forfeit their right to call themselves Muslims.



“The world needs an absolute, unconditional, unqualified and total condemnation of terrorism,” Sheikh Tahir ul-Qadri, a prominent London-based Islamic scholar said in his fatwa, or religious edict.

Most previous fatwa rulings only go as far as calling terrorism “haram” or forbidden, which does not excommunicate them from Muslim.

Dr Qadri is a “sheikh ul-Islam”, one of the highest positions in Islamic jurisprudence, and also the head of Minhaj ul-Quran, a global Islamic group whose members are mostly from the Pakistani community.

The 59-year-old scholar, who has written more than 400 books on Islamic jurisprudence, told fellow Muslims: “Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses of ifs and buts. The world needs an absolute, unconditional, unqualified and total condemnation of terrorism”.

He also denounced those who try to justify suicide bombings by claiming Muslims who carry out such operations are martyrs destined for paradise. “They can’t claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim umma

[Islamic community]," he said. "No, they become the heroes of hellfire and they are leading towards hellfire. There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad [holy struggle]."

Although numerous fatwas condemning terrorism have been released by scholars around the world since 9/11, Sheik Tahir ul-Qadri's 600-page ruling is both significant and unusual because it is one of the few available in English and online.

Those hoping to combat terrorism have long spoken of their frustration at the traditional Islamic hierarchy's inability to exert their influence on the internet, where violent jihadis and Saudi-influenced Wahabis have long reigned supreme.

And that's the latest news on **Islamic Sheik Issues Fatwa Against Terrorism**.



http://alkimija.newsvine.com/_news/2010/03/03/3973976-top-islamic-scholar-issues-absolute-fatwa-against-terror

Top Islamic scholar issues 'absolute' fatwa against terror

Dated: 04 March 2010

Seeded on Wed Mar 3, 2010 1:22 PM EST

A prominent Islamic scholar denounced terrorism in London, England, yesterday, issuing a fatwa he hopes will persuade young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism.

Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri said there were no "ifs or buts" about terrorism, adding he wanted to convey the message that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma [the wider Muslim community]. No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire," he said. "There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad."

<http://www.minhaj.org/english/oid/9975/-Pakistan-born-Muslim-leader-issues-600-page-anti-terror-fatwa-in-London-:-LexisNexis-News.html>

Pakistan-born Muslim leader issues 600-page anti-terror fatwa in London : LexisNexis News

Dated: 02 March 2010

The Canadian Press(CP)
March 2, 2010 Tuesday
FOREIGN GENERAL NEWS

LONDON _ The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa , or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

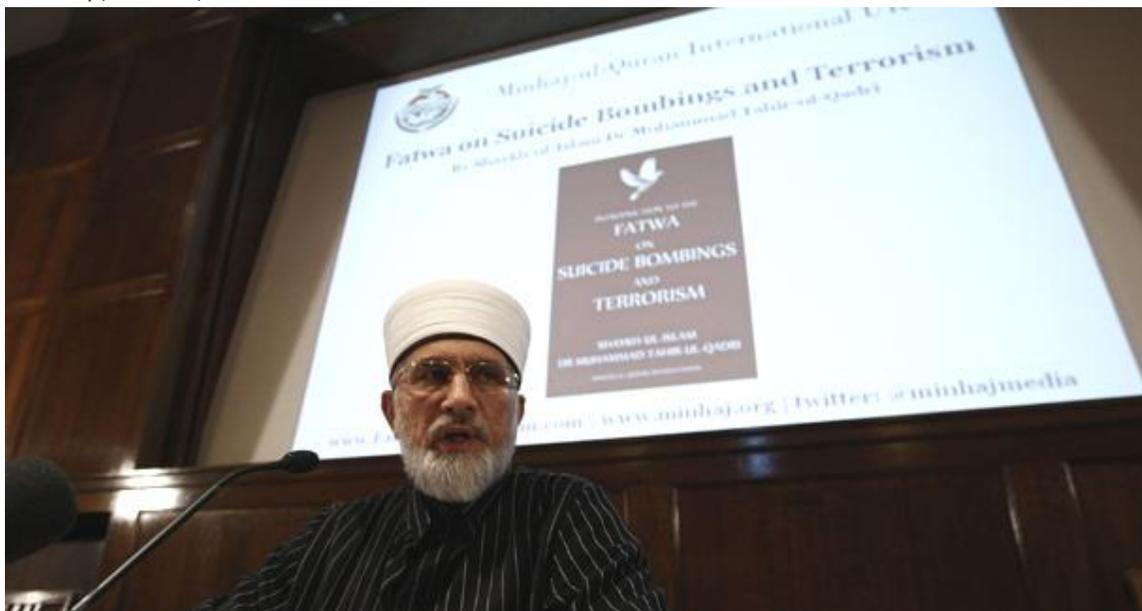
Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think-tank and drew strong media attention.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Qur'an, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/news/world/16-muslim+Header+issues+anti-terror+fatwa-hs-02>

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

Tuesday, 02 Mar, 2010



Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, speaks at a press conference in London. — AFP

LONDON: The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

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The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries. — AP



<http://www6.lexisnexis.com/publisher/EndUser?Action=UserDisplayFullDocument&orgId=574&topicId=100007195&docId=1137330806&isRss=true>

Pakistan-born Muslim leader issues 600-page anti-terror fatwa in London

March 2, 2010 Tuesday

FOREIGN GENERAL NEWS

125 words Pakistan-born Muslim leader issues 600-page anti-terror fatwa in London

CP

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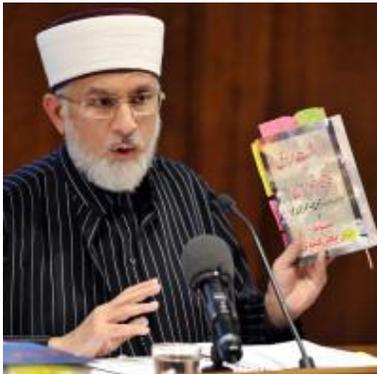
March 3, 2010

<http://www.thisislondon.co.uk/standard/article-23811033-suicide-bombers-enemies-of-islam.do>

Suicide bombers 'enemies of Islam'

03.03.10

Suicide bombers have been described as the "heroes of hellfire" by a leading Muslim scholar in a fatwa condemning terrorists as the enemies of Islam.



Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri launches a fatwa condemning terrorist atrocities

Pakistan-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri said there were no "ifs or buts" about terrorism and such acts had no justification in the name of Islam.

In a news conference attended by MPs, representatives from the Metropolitan Police, charitable organisations, think-tanks and other groups, he called on Islamic leaders to convey the message that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma (the wider Muslim community), no, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire," he said.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered Jihad," he added.

Dr Qadri, who spoke at length in both English and Arabic before his audience, said his fatwa - a religious edict or ruling - was an "absolute" condemnation of terrorism without "any excuses or pretexts".

"Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good," he said.

"Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts."

He insisted that Islam was a religion of peace that promotes beauty, "betterment", goodness and "negates all form of mischief and strife".

The 600-page fatwa by Dr Qadri, founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, which has thousands of supporters across the world as well as in the UK, will be translated into English in the coming weeks. His talk will also be made available online in an attempt to counter extremist versions of Islam available on the internet.

A fatwa, an edict issued by a learned Muslim scholar, may concern any aspect of Islamic life. The term became famous in the Western world in 1989 after the author Salman Rushdie was forced into hiding following a "death fatwa" issued by Ayatollah Khomeini, then Supreme Leader of Iran, on the grounds that his book, *The Satanic Verses*, had "insulted" Islam.



[/http://www2.macleans.ca/2010/03/02/fatwa-issued-against-terrorism](http://www2.macleans.ca/2010/03/02/fatwa-issued-against-terrorism)

Fatwa issued against terrorism

Islamic scholar denounces suicide bombings

Tuesday, March 2, 2010 12:24pm -

Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, one of the leading practitioners of Sufism, an Islamic sect that focuses on peace and tolerance, has issued a 600-page fatwa denouncing terrorism and suicide bombings. The Pakistani-born scholar said terrorists are destined for hell—not heaven, as they usually believe—and that he was moved to action because of the radicalization of Muslims at British universities. The Quilliam Foundation, an anti-terrorism think-tank, called the judgment “the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism to date.”

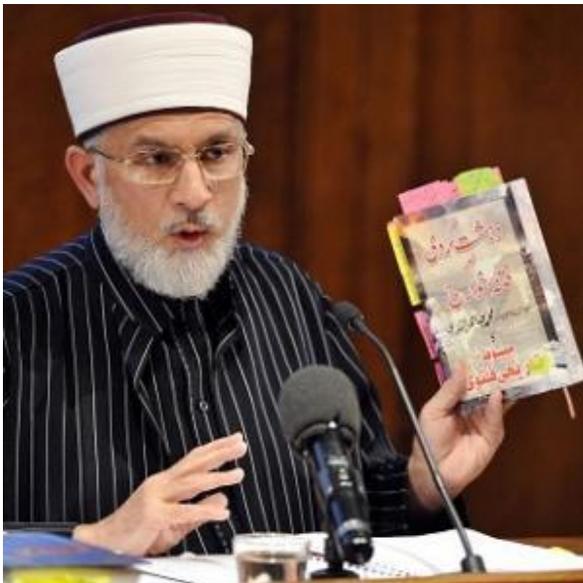
EALING TIMES

http://www.ealingtimes.co.uk/uk_national_news/5036431.Suicide_bombers_enemies_of_Islam/

Suicide bombers 'enemies of Islam'

12:53pm Tuesday 2nd March 2010

[© Press Association 2010 »](#)



Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri launches a fatwa condemning terrorist atrocities

Suicide bombers have been described as the "heroes of hellfire" by a leading Muslim scholar in a fatwa condemning terrorists as the enemies of Islam.

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He insisted that Islam was a religion of peace that promotes beauty, "betterment", goodness and "negates all form of mischief and strife".

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<http://www.wtop2.com/?nid=31&sid=1901297>

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

March 2, 2010 - 9:36am

LONDON (AP) - The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

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<http://www.morningstaronline.co.uk/index.php/news/layout/set/print/content/view/full/87455>

Britain

Muslim chief issues terror fatwa

Tuesday 02 March 2010

by **Paddy McGuffin**

The leader of a global Islamic organisation has used a press conference in London to issue a fatwa condemning terrorism and suicide bombing.

Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, founder of the Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, stated that "suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers."

While the word fatwa is often associated with the Ayatollah Khomeini and his call for the death of Salman Rushdie, a fatwa can be an edict issued by a leading Muslim scholar on any facet of Islamic life.

Minhaj-ul-Quran UK spokesman Shahid Mursaleen said: "Extremist groups based in Britain recruit youth by brainwashing them that they will 'with certainty' be rewarded in the next life and Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds."

Communities Minister Shahid Malik welcomed the proclamation.

"It is incumbent on Muslims to stand up for their faith," he said.

"When 7/7 (the London terrorist attacks of July 7 2005) occurred, those four evil young men killed themselves and over 50 innocent people because they followed a twisted and perverted interpretation of Islam which told them by doing so they would go to heaven," he said.

The fatwa was described by counter-extremism think tank the Quilliam foundation as "arguably the most comprehensive" theological refutation of Islamic terrorism to date.

A Quilliam spokesman said: "Terrorist groups such as al-Qaida continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture.

"Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dustbin of history."

<http://au.news.yahoo.com/thewest/a/-/world/6879113/fatwa-in-uk-condemns-suicide-bombings>

Fatwa in UK condemns suicide bombings

AAP March 3, 2010, 3:32 am

A leading Muslim scholar in Britain issued a fatwa on Tuesday condemning terrorists and suicide bombers, saying they had no justification in the name of Islam.

Pakistan-born Dr Tahir ul-Qadri said there were no "ifs or buts" about terrorism, in a news conference attended by officers from London's Metropolitan Police, MPs, charitable organisations and think-tanks.

He said he wanted to convey the message that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma (the wider Muslim community)," he said.

"No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad,."

Qadri said his 600-page fatwa, or religious ruling, was an "absolute" condemnation of terrorism without "any excuses or pretexts".

"Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good," he said.

"Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts."

He said Islam was a religion of peace that promotes beauty, "betterment", goodness and "negates all form of mischief and strife".

The fatwa will be translated into English in the coming weeks and made available online in an attempt to counter extremist versions of Islam available on the internet.

Qadri founded the Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, which has thousands of supporters in Britain and across the world. In Britain, it says it runs courses in combating religious extremism in educational centres in London, Manchester and Birmingham.



<http://www.wtop.com/?nid=105&sid=1901296>

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa: wTop News

Dated: March 2, 2010 - 9:36am

LONDON (AP) - The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think tank and drew strong media attention.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

Breaking News

<http://breakingnews.gaeatimes.com/2010/03/02/pakistani-islamic-scholar-to-issue-600-page-fatwa-against-terrorism-suicide-bombing-13291>

Pakistani Islamic scholar to issue 600-page fatwa against terrorism, suicide bombing

By ANI

2 March 2010

LO NDON - Describing Al-Q aeda as an 'old evil with a new name', influential Pakistani scholar Dr Tahir ul-Q adri has said he would soon issue a 'fatwa' against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Q adri said the Al-Q aeda has not been sufficiently challenged and that his global ruling against terrorism completely dismantles the banned terror organisation's violent ideology.

In his 600-page ruling, Q adri said Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

The fatwa also challenges the religious motivations of would-be suicide bombers who are inspired by promises of an afterlife, The BBC reports.

The famous Muslim scholar developed his document last year as a response to the sudden increase in suicide bombings across Pakistan.

The fatwa, which would be promoted in Britain by Q adri's organisation, Minhaj ul-Quran International, would cover global issues in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in western nations.

Teming the fatwa as 'hard hitting', Minhaj ul-Quran International's spokesperson Shahid Mursaleen said the ruling would inject doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers.

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit the youth by brainwashing them that they will with certainty be rewarded in the next life. Dr Q adri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual actor from their minds," Mursaleen said. (ANI)

<http://www.breakingnews.ie/world/muslim-leader-to-declare-fatwa-condemning-terrorism-448302.html>

Muslim leader to declare fatwa condemning terrorism

02/03/2010 - 08:45:01

The leader of a worldwide Muslim movement will today issue a fatwa – or Islamic religious ruling – condemning terrorism and warning suicide bombers that they are “destined for hell”.

Pakistan-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, will make the formal UK proclamation of a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism and suicide bombing at a news conference in London.

The 600-page fatwa announces that “suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers”.

The fatwa has been billed as “arguably the most comprehensive” theological refutation of Islamic terrorism to date by counter extremism think tank the Quilliam foundation.

A Quilliam spokesman said: “Terrorist groups such as al-Qaeda continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture.

“Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dustbin of history.”

The Minhaj-ul-Quran movement runs courses in combating religious extremism in educational centres throughout Britain including London, Birmingham, Manchester, Nelson, Walsall, Glasgow and Dundee.

A fatwa, an edict issued by a learned Muslim scholar, may concern any aspect of Islamic life.

The term became famous in the western world in 1989 after the author Salman Rushdie was forced into hiding following a “death fatwa” issued by Ayatollah Khomeini, then Supreme Leader of Iran, on the grounds that his book, the Satanic Verses had “insulted” Islam.



<http://breakingnews.iol.ie/news/world/muslim-leader-to-declare-fatwa-condemning-terrorism-448302.html>

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<http://www.minhaj.org/english/oid/9988/Sheikh-issues-fatwa-against-all-terrorists-:-Britannia-Radio.htm>

I **Dated: 04 March 2010**

Muslim leaders urged to denounce suicide bombers as hell-bound 'unbelievers'

By Jerome Taylor, Religious Affairs Correspondent

British imams must do more to condemn terrorism without any "ifs or buts" and should pronounce suicide bombers as "unbelievers" who are destined for hell, a leading Islamic scholar declared yesterday.

The comments were made during a remarkable assault on the ideology of violent Islamist extremists by Pakistani-born Sheikh Tahir ul-Qadri, a prominent theologian who launched a seminal fatwa in London yesterday condemning terrorism in all its forms.

The 59-year-old scholar, who has written more than 400 books on Islamic jurisprudence, told fellow Muslims: "Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses of ifs and buts. The world needs an absolute, unconditional, unqualified and total condemnation of terrorism".

He also denounced those who try to justify suicide bombings by claiming Muslims who carry out such operations are martyrs destined for paradise. "They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim umma [Islamic community]," he said. "No, they become the heroes of hellfire and they are leading towards hellfire. There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad [holy struggle]."

Although numerous fatwas condemning terrorism have been released by scholars around the world since 9/11, Dr Qadri's 600-page ruling is both significant and unusual because it is one of the few available in English and online. Those hoping to combat terrorism have long spoken of their frustration at the traditional Islamic hierarchy's inability to exert their influence on the internet, where violent jihadists and Saudi-influenced Wahabis have long reigned supreme.

Dr Qadri's ruling also goes further than most previous edicts by describing terror acts as so morally unjustifiable that they represent acts of "kufir" (disbelief). Most previous rulings only go as far as calling

terrorism "haram" (forbidden). Kufr acts are so serious that those committing them essentially forfeit their right to call themselves Muslims.

A version of the fatwa in Urdu will also be launched later this month in Pakistan, where leading scholars have been killed by the Taliban for speaking out. Last year Sarfraz Ahmed Naeemi, a respected cleric and close friend of Dr Qadri, was assassinated days after issuing a verbal fatwa on national television condemning terrorism.

Dr Qadri's fatwa is unlikely to sway committed extremists. But counter-terrorism officials and mainstream scholars hope it will help to persuade those who may be moving towards a violent extremism but have yet to devote themselves fully to terrorist activities.

Rashad Ali, a former Islamist who now runs the counter-extremism think-tank Centri, said Dr Qadri's view that a terrorist is an unbeliever would cause many would-be extremists to think again about the religious justifications that they use to rationalise their path towards violence.

"[His] essential point is ... someone that seeks to make licit what is explicitly illicit in religious terms, and agreed to be so by Muslim doctors of scripture, would then be considered to have permitted what God forbade, and to do so would take someone outside the pale of Islam," he said. "This is something that will have an impact amongst Muslim communities both in the East and in the West."

Finding fluent and approachable Pakistani scholars is important because most British-born extremists involved in domestic or overseas plots have family or cultural links within the Pakistani community.

Dr Qadri is a "sheikh ul-Islam", one of the highest positions in Islamic jurisprudence, and also the head of Minhaj ul-Quran, a global Islamic group with about 25,000 UK members, mostly from the British Pakistani community. Although his teachings have Sufi leanings – like much of Pakistan's Barelwi school of Islam – as an Islamic scholar he is considered part of the Sunni mainstream.



<http://buzz7.com/world/pakistani-islamic-scholar-to-issue-600-page-fatwa-against-terrorism-suicide-bombing.html>

Pakistani Islamic scholar to issue 600-page fatwa against terrorism, suicide bombing

March 2, 2010 – 8:43 am

London, Mar.2 (ANI): Describing **Al-Qaeda** as an 'old evil with a new name', influential Pakistani scholar Dr **Tahir ul-Qadri** has said he would soon issue a 'fatwa' against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Qadri said the Al-Qaeda has not been sufficiently challenged and that his global ruling against terrorism completely dismantles the banned terror organisation's violent ideology.

In his 600-page ruling, Qadri said Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

The fatwa also challenges the religious motivations of would-be suicide bombers who are inspired by promises of an afterlife, The **BBC** reports.

The famous Muslim scholar developed his document last year as a response to the sudden increase in suicide bombings across Pakistan.

The fatwa, which would be promoted in Britain by Qadri's organisation, **Minhaj ul-Quran International**, would cover global issues in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in western nations.

Terming the fatwa as 'hard hitting', Minhaj ul-Quran International's spokesperson Shahid Mursaleen said the ruling would inject doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers.

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit the youth by brainwashing them that they will with certainty be rewarded in the next life. Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds," Mursaleen said. (ANI)

<http://en.trendaz/regions/world/europe/1647577.html>

Islamic scholar Tahir ul-Qadri to issue terrorism fatwa

02.03.2010 11:46



An influential Muslim scholar is to issue in London a global ruling against terrorism and suicide bombing, BBC reported.

Dr Tahir ul-Qadri, from Pakistan, says his 600-page judgement, known as a fatwa, completely dismantles al-Qaeda's violent ideology.

The scholar describes al-Qaeda as an "old evil with a new name" which has not been sufficiently challenged.

The scholar's movement is growing in the UK and has attracted the interest of policymakers and security chiefs.

In his religious ruling, Dr Qadri says that Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

Although many scholars have made similar rulings in the past, Dr Qadri's followers argue that the massive document being launched in London goes much further.

They say it sets out point-by-point theological arguments against the rhetoric used by al-Qaeda inspired recruiters.

The fatwa also challenges the religious motivations of would-be suicide bombers who are inspired by promises of an afterlife.

The populist scholar developed his document last year as a response to the increase in bombings across Pakistan by militants.

The basic text has been extended to 600 pages to cover global issues, in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in western nations. It will be promoted in the UK by Dr Qadri's organisation, Minhaj ul-Quran International.

Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran in the UK, said the fatwa was hard-hitting.

"This fatwa injects doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers," he said.

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit the youth by brainwashing them that they will 'with certainty' be rewarded in the next life.

"Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds."

The document is not the first to condemn terrorism and suicide bombing to be launched in the UK.

Scholars from across the UK came together in the wake of the 7 July London attacks to denounce the bombers and urge communities to root out extremists.

But some scholarly rulings in the Middle East have argued that the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians is an exceptional situation where "martyrdom" attacks can be justified.

Although Dr Qadri has a large following in Pakistan, Minhaj ul-Quran International remained largely unknown in the UK until relatively recently.

It now has 10 mosques in the British cities with significant Muslim communities and says it is targeting younger generations it believes have been let down by traditional leaders.

The organisation is attracting the attention of policymakers and security chiefs who are continuing to look for allies in the fight against extremists.

The Department for Communities, which runs most of the government's "Preventing Violent Extremism" strategy, has tried building bridges with a variety of liberal-minded groups, but often found that they have limited actual influence at the grassroots.

<http://english.people.com.cn/90001/90777/90851/6906702.html>

English Online : Islamic scholar Tahir ul-Qadri to issue terrorism fatwa

20:01, March 02, 2010

Dr Tahir ul-Qadri, an influential Muslim scholar from Pakistan, is to issue a Fatwa against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Dr Q adri says his 600-page judgement completely dismantles al-Qaeda's violent ideology and describes the organisation as an "old evil with a new name".

Dr Q adri says that Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings and his movement, Minhaj ul-Quran International, has now drawn the interest of policymakers and security chiefs.

Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran in the UK, said the fatwa was hard-hitting and would "inject doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers." The document is not the first to condemn terrorism and suicide bombing to be launched in the UK. Following the terrorist attacks in London during July 2005 many scholars came together to denounce the bombers and urge communities to root out extremists.

A fatwa, an edict issued by a learned Muslim scholar, may concern any aspect of Islamic life. The term became famous in the western world in 1989 after the author Salman Rushdie was forced into hiding following a "death fatwa" issued by Ayatollah Khomeini, the then Supreme Leader of Iran, on the grounds that his book, the Satanic Verses had "insulted" Islam.

<http://english.sina.com/world/2010/0302/306502.html>

Sina English : Islamic scholar Tahir ul-Qadri to issue terrorism fatwa

2010-03-02 13:34:39 GMT2010-03-02 21:34:39 (Beijing Time)

BEIJING, March 2 (Xinhuanet) -- Dr Tahir ul-Qadri, an influential Muslim scholar from Pakistan, is to issue a Fatwa against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Dr Qadri says his 600-page judgement completely dismantles al-Qaeda's violent ideology and describes the organisation as an "old evil with a new name".

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[http://www.themuslimweekly.com/\(S\(jtx1fual10ldmd45dwfhmsrw\)\)/DetailView.aspx?NEWSID=TW00014230](http://www.themuslimweekly.com/(S(jtx1fual10ldmd45dwfhmsrw))/DetailView.aspx?NEWSID=TW00014230)

themuslimweekly.com : Muslim group issues fatwa against terrorists

A Muslim organisation in Britain has issued a fatwa to go along with the bulk of previous religious verdicts issued over the past decade that declares suicide bombings and terrorism to be forbidden in Islam.

Minhaj-ul-Quran, a Sufi organisation based in East London which has been allowed by the Government to be one of its advisers, on how to combat radicalisation of Muslim youth, launched the 600-page religious verdict.

It condemns the perpetrators of terrorist explosions and suicide bombings.

The document, written by Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former minister of Pakistan and friend of Benazir Bhutto, declares suicide bombings and terrorism as "totally un-Islamic".

It is one of the most detailed and comprehensive documents of its kind to be published in Britain.

The fatwa, which was released in Pakistan last month, uses texts from the Qur'an and other Islamic writings to argue that attacks against innocent citizens are "absolutely against the teachings of Islam and that Islam does not permit such acts on any excuse, reason or pretext".

Dr Tahir-ul-Qadri, who is based in Canada and has written more than 400 books on Islamic law, said: "All these acts are grave violations of human rights and constitute kufr, disbelief, under Islamic law."

Minhaj-ul-Quran is an organisation based in 80 countries that follows Sufi teachings.

It is gaining influence in Britain as the Government seeks to water down areas of Islam it considers "Islamist"

It also wants to gain ground among Muslim groups eager to combat the radicalisation of young people.

The group receives no government funding but its agenda is comparable to the official Prevent strategy, under which community organisations are encouraged to work together to counter extremism.

The fatwa is in line with other Islamic groups and sects that hold suicide bombings of all kinds carried out anywhere in the world to be Islamically forbidden.

The Salafi groups in Britain, who adhere to a strict interpretation of Islamic law, are also known to vocally oppose this practice.

"Extremist groups start brainwashing the young students from British universities and eventually convince them to oppose integration in British society," said Shahid Mursaleen, a spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran.

The fatwa would help fight extremist recruitment of young Muslims and was "one of the most comprehensive verdicts on this topic in the history of Islam", he added.

Inayat Bunglawala, former spokesman of the Muslim Council of Britain and founder of the new group Muslims4UK, set up to counter the radical message of the newly banned Islam4UK and other extremist groups, welcomed the fatwa.

"This adds to the view of many Islamic scholars internationally that terrorism and suicide bombings are unacceptable in Islam," he said.

"It is a positive initiative. Anything that helps move young people away from violence and from those who promote violence must be welcomed."

<http://australianetworknews.com/stories/201003/2834851.htm?desktop>

'Suicide bombers destined for hell', says Pakistani cleric



Pakistan-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, holds a copy of a 600 page Fatwa, written in Arabic and Urdu as he speaks during a press conference in central London, on March 2, 2010. The leader of a worldwide Muslim movement with thousands of followers in the UK on Tuesday issued a fatwa - or Islamic religious ruling - condemning terrorism and warning suicide bombers that they are "destined for hell". Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri made the formal UK proclamation of a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism and suicide bombing at a news conference in London. [AFP]

Rachael Brown, London

Last Updated: Wed, 3 Mar 2010 08:07:00 +1100

A leading Pakistani cleric has issued a religious ruling in Britain condemning terrorism, saying suicide bombers are destined for hell.

Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri's 600 page religious ruling, or fatwa, is a very different message to the interpretation of Islam in which martyrs go to heaven.

Dr Qadri says there is nothing written in the Koran that could be used to justify suicide bombings, rather, he warns, Islam condemns such acts.

"These kind of activities will lead them to hellfire, and they are not involved in any kind of martyrdom operation rather they are doing an act which is an act of disbelief," he said.

Dr Qadri preaches in Pakistan, but says he wanted to spread his message in the western world where youth are being brain washed, and misguided on the concepts of Islam.



http://www.achgut.com/dadqdx/index.php/dadqd/article/fatwa_against_terror

achgut.com : Fatwa against terror

Fundstück 01.03.2010 23:27

Sheikh Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri, a widely recognized and respected authority on Islamic jurisprudence, will issue a comprehensive fatwa prohibiting terrorism and suicide bombing at a press conference in Westminster, central London.

The Pakistani-born Dr. Qadri has authored an unprecedented, 600-page fatwa on why suicide bombings and terrorism are un-Islamic and scripturally forbidden. The ruling is the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism to date.

The fatwa will also be posted on the Internet and in English, making it readily accessible. It will also set an important precedent and allow other scholars to similarly condemn the ideas behind terrorism.



<http://www.philstar.com/Article.aspx?articleId=554519&publicationSubCategoryId=200>

philstar.com : Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

March 03, 2010 12:00 AM

LONDON (AP) — The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London is being hosted by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded, anti-extremism think tank.

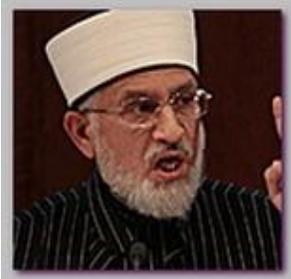
The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

http://globaljihad.net/view_news.asp?id=1381

SHEIKH TAHIR UL-KADRI ISSUED ANTI TERROR FATWA

A leading Islamic scholar has published, on Tuesday 03/02/2010, a fatwa in Britain condemning "terrorists" as the enemies of Islam, in a bid to deter young Muslims from extremism.

Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, head of the Minhaj ul-Quran religious and educational organization, said suicide bombers were destined for hell as he released his 600-page edict in [Londonstan](#). "They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma [the wider Muslim community], no, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire," he said.



"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered Jihad," he said. At a news conference, Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri said Islam was a religion of peace that promotes beauty, "betterment", goodness and "negates all form of mischief and strife".

A number of edicts condemning extremism have been made by Islamic groups since [The 9/11](#), but Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri insists his is the most wide-reaching. "This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," he told the Reuters news agency.

[Pakistan](#)-born Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, 59, has written about 350 books on Islam, and is a scholar of Sufism, a Muslim branch that focuses on peace, tolerance, and moderation.

The Quilliam Foundation, a [UK](#) counter-extremism think-tank, said the fatwa was "arguably the most comprehensive" theological refutation of Islamic extremism. Tim Winter, a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, said while Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri's step of declaring "miscreants as unbelievers" was unusual, it was unlikely extremists would take notice of his edict.

"Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all. But 'swing voters' - poorly educated and angry Muslims, who respect mainstream scholars, will probably take note," he told Reuters.

The Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, founded in Pakistan in 1980, works around the world to promote peace and interfaith dialogue.



<http://ca.quote.com/news/story.action?id=RTT003020630000439>

Islamic Scholar To Issue a Fatwa

Tuesday March 02, 2010 06:30:00 EST

(RTTNews) - A much respected Islamic scholar is to issue a "Fatwa" (edict) Tuesday against terrorism and suicide bombings carried out in the name of Islam.

Pakistan-born Tahir ul-Qadri, an authority on "Shariat law" (Islamic jurisprudence), will pronounce the ruling condemning the violence at a news conference in Westminster, central London.

Comprising 600 pages, this is a strong theological refutation of Islamist terrorism. Qadri who uses texts from the holy Koran to buttress his claims said the orgy of violence was "absolutely against the teachings of Islam" and that "Islam does not permit such acts on any excuse, reason or pretext."

He has argued that the perpetrators of suicide attacks were destined for hell, which directly contradicted "Jihad" (Holy War) supporters' claim that suicide bombers would be rewarded in afterlife.

Qadri who stated that suicide bombings and terrorism had become a convenient guise for criminals, mischief-mongers and rioters was scathing in his attack.

"It can in no way be permissible to keep foreign delegates under unlawful custody and murder them and other peaceful non-Muslim citizens in retaliation for interference, unjust activities and aggressive advances of their countries. The one who does has no relation to Islam," he asserted.

Supporters of Qadri, the founder of the international Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, said the fatwa was significant since he himself was issuing it and the organization commanded a large following both in South Asia and Britain.

It was also pointed out that although many similar fatwas were issued against terrorism earlier, the one by Qadri went much further.

The fatwa will be posted on the Internet and could well "turn the tide" in the fight against religious extremism worldwide.



<http://www.clyde1.com/Article.asp?id=1717246&spid=25213>

2010-03

A prominent Islamic scholar will use a speech in London to issue a 600-page religious edict, denouncing terrorists and suicide bombers as "unbelievers".

Muhammad Tahir ul Qadri is a leading figure who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years.

He said he felt compelled to issue the fatwa because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

Ul Qadri says his fatwa, which is aimed at persuading young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said ul Qadri, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship.

He is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam which is widely seen as focusing on peace, tolerance and moderation.

Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdul Mutallab, accused of trying to bomb a US-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008.

Government officials in Yemen, where Mutallab began his journey, have said he was radicalised while in Britain.

However, the British Government claims his introduction to hardcore extremists happened after he left the UK.

Government officials will be among those joining ul Qadri for the launch of the fatwa in central London.

The Muslim Council of Britain, an umbrella organisation representing some 500 Islamic groups, has welcomed the fatwa.

Ul Qadri will tell his audience: "The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire."

The 59-year-old was born in Pakistan and is head of the global Minhaj ul Quran religious and educational organisation which spreads his Sufi ideas.

A former Pakistani minister and associate of assassinated prime minister Benazir Bhutto, he delivers lectures world wide promoting his message of harmony and was one of the first Muslim leaders to condemn the 9/11 attacks in the US.

While ul Qadri has followers around the globe, it is in Pakistan where he has millions of followers and in the diaspora that his impact is likely to be greatest.

Britain has about 1.7 million Muslims, mainly of Pakistani descent.

The UK's security services say nearly all major terrorism plots since 2001, including the 2005 London bombings which killed 52 people, have been linked to Pakistan.

Ul Qadri said he is confident his edict will have a significant impact because he has drawn on classical teachings and authorities acceptable to all sects of Islam.

"I will say more than 50% will change their way, they will be influenced," he said.

"Of the remaining 50% at least some of them, half of them, will become doubtful about their life, their terrorist activity," he said.

Tim Winter, a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, said while there had been similar fatwas in the past, ul Qadri did appear to have gone further than most.

"To declare the miscreants as unbelievers is unusual because it is not really clear that the rules allow one simply to say that they are not Muslims."

He added: "Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all but 'swing voters' - poorly-educated and angry Muslims who respect mainstream scholars - will probably take note."

"Certainly it is a helpful initiative."

Ul Qadri's pronouncement will be welcomed by authorities in the UK and by other Western governments seeking to stamp out extremism - but the respected scholar said their backing is irrelevant to his views.



<http://www.clyde2.com/Article.asp?id=1717246&spid=25211>

Islamic Scholar Issues Anti-Terrorism Fatwa

Dated: 02 March 2010

A prominent Islamic scholar will use a speech in London to issue a 600-page religious edict, denouncing terrorists and suicide bombers as "unbelievers".

Muhammad Tahir ul Qadri is a leading figure who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years.

He said he felt compelled to issue the fatwa because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

Ul Qadri says his fatwa, which is aimed at persuading young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said ul Qadri, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship.

He is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam which is widely seen as focusing on peace, tolerance and moderation. Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdul Mutallab, accused of trying to bomb a US-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008.

Government officials in Yemen, where Mutallab began his journey, have said he was radicalised while in Britain. However, the British Government claims his introduction to hardcore extremists happened after he left the UK.

Government officials will be among those joining ul Qadri for the launch of the fatwa in central London.

The Muslim Council of Britain, an umbrella organisation representing some 500 Islamic groups, has welcomed the fatwa.

Ul Qadri will tell his audience: "The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire."

The 59-year-old was born in Pakistan and is head of the global Minhaj ul Quran religious and educational organisation which spreads his Sufi ideas.

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[http://www.orthocuban.com/2010/03/fatwa-pronounced-against-terrorists/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+orthocuban/\(KJr+\(O rthoCuban](http://www.orthocuban.com/2010/03/fatwa-pronounced-against-terrorists/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+orthocuban/(KJr+(O rthoCuban)

Fatwa pronounced against terrorists

Thursday, March 4, 2010 by [Fr. Orthoduck](#)



Islamabad, Pakistan (CNN) — A fatwa, or religious ruling, issued this week is roiling theological waters after it took aim at those notorious for targeting others: terrorists.

The anti-terrorism fatwa by renowned Muslim scholar Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri pulled no punches, declaring that terrorism was "haraam," or forbidden by the Quran, and that suicide bombers would be rewarded not by 72 virgins in heaven, as many terrorist recruiters promise, but with a suite in hell.

Qadri, the founder of the Minhaj-ul-Quran International, an Islamic movement with centers in 90 countries, told a news conference in London, England, on Tuesday that his decree categorically condemns terrorism and suicide bombings in the name of Islam.

"Until now, scholars who were condemning terrorism were conditional and qualified what they said," Qadri said in a phone interview, noting that his 600-page ruling left no room for interpretation. "I didn't leave a single, minor aspect that, in the mind of radicals or extremists, can take them to the direction of martyrdom." . . .

Father Orthoduck was glad to see the action above. It should have a good effect among the non-jihadists, and make recruiting significantly harder for the terrorists. Please notice that this was issued by a leading scholar from Pakistan, a country full of jihadists. And, please do go and read the rest of the article on CNN. Father Orthoduck would like to echo another poster and say to the Iman:

To Muslim scholar Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri: Assalamu Alikum Wa Rahmatullah Wa Barakatuh (meaning peace, mercy, and blessings be upon from Allah) And thank you!

Frankly, the terrorists have done it to themselves and helped us to redeem a mistaken act. We had and have significant world support for the invasion of Afghanistan. At the time of that invasion, there was no general Islamic support for the Taliban or the Al Qaeda. But, when President Bush (son) decided to invade Iraq, we lost some significant support from the Arab world. And we did not just lose support from outside the USA. I have cited in other posts the strong opposition of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops to the invasion of Iraq. Both they and the Pope went on record saying that Iraq did not qualify as a just war. But that is not my point.

After the invasion of Iraq, Arab support was on the side of Al Qaeda. From terrorist in 2001, they quickly went to being almost heroes. Their opposition to what was unanimously seen in the Arab world as an illegal American invasion started looking like the underdog fighting an evil bully. Suicide bombing directed against USA troops was seen as a heroic self-sacrifice to permit the self-determination of an occupied people. IED's were seen as the only way to fight an empire with overwhelming firepower. If you read the stories from back then, there were even places where Al Qaeda was providing food and infrastructure to villages in outer parts of Iraq. Had they kept on this course, the current situation in Iraq would be much more difficult.

But Al Qaeda made a major mistake. C.S. Lewis has pointed out that evil often makes the mistake of over-reaching itself, of getting greedy for more and more gain and power, thereby ruining their plans. Al Qaeda began to treat everyone who was not actively helping them as though they were enemies. They thoroughly applied the idea of, "he who is not with us is against us." They began to suicide bomb fellow Muslims. It did not matter whether or not the persons killed had any involvement with the Americans. The idea was to sow such terror that the populace itself would rise up against the invader just to get relief from the bombers. But, it did not work that way. Instead, the people began to turn against Al Qaeda.

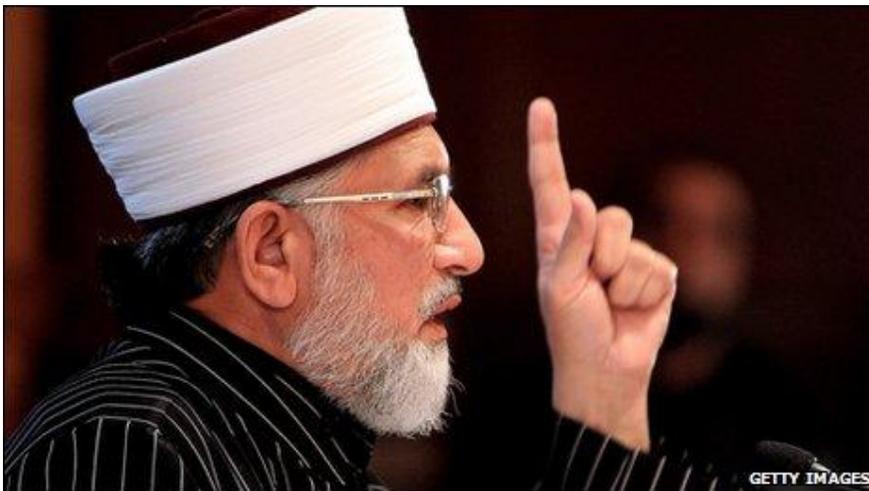
The fatwa above is a sign of what is slowly becoming a general rejection of Al Qaeda among your average Muslim. This is not to say that Muslims are now in agreement that the USA invasion was correct. You would be quite mistaken if you thought that was true. Rather, we are being seen more and more as the lesser of two evils. If we are fortunate, we may someday make it all the way to no longer being perceived as evil, but rather being perceived as good. Insha'Allah.



<http://www.rocketnews.com/2010/03/fatwa-flashing/>

Fatwa flashing

Written on March 10th, 2010 by Editor



By Dominic Casciani

BBC News

An Islamic scholar tuned up in London last week to deliver a religious ruling denouncing terrorism in all its forms – but what was it about him that made everyone sit up and listen

He's a man on a mission – a mission to state the obvious.

But for Dr Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri it is the obvious facts that need stating loudest. Last week the Pakistani-born cleric took to a stage in London to declare his Islamic religious ruling, or fatwa, against terrorism.

There was a man from the other side of the world telling an audience that included Parliamentarians and other government officials what they had been wanting to hear. A clear, concise and quotable denouncement of al-Qaeda's worldview.

Canada-based Dr Qadri spoke for more than an hour on his reasons why the Koran forbids the murder and mayhem of suicide bombings.

"If [the child] he has reached the stage where he is a terrorist, the parents are duty bound according to Islamic law to inform the anti-terrorist squad"

Dr Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri

"This fatwa is an absolute condemnation of terrorism. Without any excuse, without any pretext, without any exceptions, without creating any ways of justification," he said.

"This condemnation is in its totality, in its comprehensiveness, its absoluteness, a total condemnation of every act of terrorism in every form which is being committed or has been committed wrongly in the name of Islam."

Classically trained

Dr Q adri is a classically-trained Islamic scholar and his organisation, [Minhaj ul-Quran International](#), has spent 30 years building a strong following in Pakistan.



He is also a former Parliamentarian who was very close to Benazir Bhutto, the former Pakistani prime minister assassinated by a suicide bomber in 2007.

Some two years on, Dr Q adri's vast review of what Islam says about terrorism comes down to the very simple idea that there is no theological or moral case for a wronged party being allowed to seek vengeance against the innocent.

His fatwa makes detailed observations of the principles of a just war and rules of engagement. And he goes further than some scholars in stating that bombers who use an ideology to justify their actions have turned away from their faith.

His arrival in the UK was a quite deliberate attempt to shake things up. The youth, he says, need more help to counter the brain washers. But in saying so, the fatwa became political.

Its launch was notable not just for who was there from the corridors of power, but who wasn't from the Muslim communities.

Supporters from communities close to his own background turned out. But the head of the Muslim Council of Britain, the umbrella body representing 500 groups, sent apologies. Some of the scholars who had signed a fatwa led by the MCB against terrorism after the 7 July attacks, were not there either.

Community fault lines

Dr Q adri's intervention in the UK has exposed complicated fault lines in the Muslim communities that often go unseen. Some people in the MCB are suspicious of his motives. One Muslim campaign group close to the MCB, iEngage, accused Dr Q adri of sectarianism. He denies trying to stir things up.

"I have never been sectarian in my life. Never, ever," he says.

"I have helped Christians to celebrate Christmas. But that liberal point of view is not acceptable to [some Muslim groups in the UK].

"They talk about openness and integration but what do they really believe in. The language of the heart and the language of the mouth are different."

Dr Q adri goes on to criticise scholars whom he believes are equivocal over violence in Israel or any other situation where they claim there are exceptions that make suicide bombing permissible. He reserves special ire for scholars who argue that there the West is part of a "sphere of war," calling them "quacks" who have understood neither Islamic history, nor how to interpret the present.

But the real question is whether anyone is listening Can a son on the edge of turning to al-Qaeda be brought back by his family

"If he has reached the stage where he is a terrorist, the parents are duty bound according to Islamic law to inform the anti-terrorist squad," he says banging his point home on the table.

"If he is at the stage where he can be reformed, then they should take every possible act to reform him."

Countering extremism

But almost five years on from London's 7/7 attacks, in which 52 people died, there is no settled view on how to do it. Government has put a lot of effort into backing groups like the Quilliam Foundation, a counter-extremism think tank led by two former members of a legal Islamist movement.

There are separate programmes involving the police and Security Service which deal with people right on the cusp. It uses a variety of methods – but some experts believe the best results come from deploying hardline Saudi-influenced clerics who have the street credibility to mentor a youngster while demolishing al-Qaeda's arguments.

CHANNEL PROJECT

- Special programme to turn around people identified as 'potentially vulnerable to violent extremism'
- 228 referrals April 07 – Dec 08
- Youngest seven-years-old
- Oldest 50-years-old
- Most between 15 and 24

Source: Home Office/Hansard

There is tension between the two camps – because there are a great deal of people who see hardline clerics as part of the conveyor belt that ultimately leads to terrorism. But both sides at least agree that they need a proper "toolkit" of theological arguments.

"If someone is going to be a suicide bomber, they have to be 100% convinced that they are going to heaven," says Maaajid Nawaz, co-director of the Quilliam Foundation. "If you can put just 1% of doubt in their minds, then you could stop them. And you do that that by presenting them with detailed evidences from Islam itself. This fatwa helps."

That's not an argument that washes with everyone.

Azzam Tamimi, a Palestinian academic based in London, infamously became a tabloid hate figure by supporting suicide bombing in Israel because it was the only means of self-defence available. He is less well known for the critical role he played in helping the police bring down the now-jailed preacher Abu Hamza.

"People who resort to these bombings do it because they believe it is justified, that it is commendable and rewardable," he says. "Otherwise they would not do it. For every fatwa there is a counter fatwa." Amid all this fatwa flashing, many Muslims fear divide and rule – and suspect that someone, somewhere will use Dr Tahir ul-Qadri to further that agenda.

The scholar sees this as the signs of paranoia brought on by a weakness – and his answer is to expand his organisation's mission in the UK beyond its 10 mosques and 5,000 members.

So will Dr Q adri's fatwa do some good or end up on the great big pile of similar denouncements

An hour after he delivered his address, the former leader of al-Muhajiroun, a group recently banned for extremism, turned up at the doorstep of a news channel and asked to go on air to counter Dr Q adri.

Would he have bothered if the scholar was such an irrelevance in the battle for hearts and minds



http://ca.news.yahoo.com/s/capress/100302/world/cda_britain_anti_terror_fatwa

Muslim leader issues 600-page anti-terror fatwa in London

Tue Mar 2, 2:43 PM

By The Associated Press

LONDON - A former Pakistani legislator who lives in Canada and leads a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

He is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Qur'an, a worldwide movement that promotes a non-political, tolerant Islam.

A spokesman for the group told The Canadian Press that Tahir-ul-Qadri has been living in southern Ontario for almost four years. The spokesman would not reveal the exact location.

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think-tank.

The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

Bomb-news.newslib.com

<http://bomb-news.newslib.com/story/8009-11642/>

Suicide bombers 'unIslamic' and going to Hell, says leading cleric

March 2, 2010

A prominent Muslim organisation in Britain has issued a fatwa on suicide bombings and terrorism — declaring them “un-Islamic”.



Minhaj-ul-Quran, a organisation based on Sufi principles which advises the Government on how to combat radicalisation in Muslim youth, launched its 600-page religious verdict in Central London this morning, condemning the perpetrators of terrorist explosions and suicide bombings.

The fatwa condemns suicide bombers saying that they are destined for Hell, countering extremist propaganda that Islamist terrorists will enter paradise after death.

The document is written by Muslim scholar Dr Mohammed Tahir ul-Qadri, a former government adviser in Pakistan and friend of the former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, and the founder of the increasingly influential Minhaj-ul-Quran movement.

In it, suicide bombings and terrorism are prohibited as “totally un-Islamic”.

The fatwa, first launched in Pakistan in December, uses texts from the Koran and other Islamic writings to argue that attacks against innocent citizens are “absolutely against the teachings of Islam and that Islam does not permit such acts on any excuse, reason or pretext”.

Although the fatwa might carry little weight among some in Britain's majority Sunni Muslim community, it will have an overall impact because of Minhaj-ul-Quran's growing influence as a community representative body with hundreds of thousands of followers in South Asia as well as the UK. It is a strong counter to Islamic schools of thought that condemn unbelievers and call for their subjugation, and will contribute to a climate where all Muslims can speak out freely against atrocities committed in the name of their religion.

Dr Tahir ul-Qadri, who is based in Canada and has written more than 400 books on Islamic law, is recognised in Pakistan as an authority on Islamic jurisprudence.

A spokesman for the counter-extremist think tank Quilliam said: "This fatwa has the potential to be a highly significant step towards eradicating Islamist terrorism."

"Fatwas by Wahhabi-influenced clerics and Islamist ideologues initiated modern terrorism against civilians."

"Terrorist groups such as al-Qaeda continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture. Fatwas that demystify and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dustbin of history." Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran UK, said: "He has hit hard on the terrorists as it prevents Islamists from considering suicide bombers as 'martyrs'. This fatwa injects doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers."

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit youth by brainwashing them that they will — with certainty — be rewarded in the next life and Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds."

Minhaj-ul-Quran is an organisation based in 80 countries that follows Sufi teachings of peace and moderation, gaining ground among Muslim groups eager to combat the radicalisation of young people. The group receives no government funding.

The Minhaj-ul-Quran movement runs courses in combating religious extremism in educational centres throughout Britain including London, Birmingham, Manchester, Nelson, Walsall, Glasgow and Dundee.

A fatwa, an edict issued by a Muslim scholar, may concern any aspect of Islamic life. It became associated with extremism after 1989 when the author Salman Rushdie was forced into hiding following a fatwa calling for his death was issued by Ayatollah Khomeini, then the Supreme Leader of Iran, on the grounds that his book, *The Satanic Verses* had "insulted" Islam.

The Communities Minister Shahid Malik, whose Dewsbury constituency was home to the 7/7 bomber Mohammad Siddique Khan, welcomed the new fatwa.

"It is incumbent on Muslims to stand up for their faith — when 7/7 occurred those four evil young men killed themselves and over 50 innocent people because they followed a twisted and perverted interpretation of Islam which told them by doing so they would go to heaven," he said.

"A clear and unequivocal message must go out that Islam teaches that these four are not martyrs going to heaven but sinners going somewhere very different indeed."

"Hence, I very much welcome the work of Dr Qadri in helping reinforce this most crucial of message to Muslims and non-Muslims alike."

An Islamic scholar Shaikh Mohammed Hisham Kabbani, of the Centre for Spirituality and Cultural Advancement, also welcomed the fatwa.

"This scholarship is a landmark in enabling Muslims living in the UK to be able to silence the small minority of people who think it is OK to commit violent acts in the name of Islam," he said.

"We are happy and honoured to be working with Dr Qadri and Minhaj-ul-Quran to support the UK Muslims in countering the radical Islamist rhetoric in the world."

Fatwa in UK condemns suicide bombings

March 3, 2010

AFP

A leading Muslim scholar in Britain issued a fatwa on Tuesday condemning terrorists and suicide bombers, saying they had no justification in the name of Islam.

Pakistan-born Dr Tahir ul-Qadri said there were no "ifs or buts" about terrorism, in a news conference attended by officers from London's Metropolitan Police, MPs, charitable organisations and think-tanks.

He said he wanted to convey the message that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma (the wider Muslim community)," he said.

"No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad."

Qadri said his 600-page fatwa, or religious ruling, was an "absolute" condemnation of terrorism without "any excuses or pretexts".

"Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good," he said.

"Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts."

He said Islam was a religion of peace that promotes beauty, "betterment", goodness and "negates all form of mischief and strife".

The fatwa will be translated into English in the coming weeks and made available online in an attempt to counter extremist versions of Islam available on the internet.

Qadri founded the Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, which has thousands of supporters in Britain and across the world.

In Britain, it says it runs courses in combating religious extremism in educational centres in London, Manchester and Birmingham.

rediff NEWS

<http://news.rediff.com/report/2010/mar/02/terror-has-no-place-in-islam-anti-terror-fatwa.htm>

Terror has no place in Islam, says new fatwa

Last updated on: March 02, 2010 22:29 IST

The leader of a global Muslim movement on Tuesday issued a fatwa (religious edict) against acts of violence and terror in the name of Islam, calling the perpetrators of violence and their mentors as "heroes of hellfire".

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani diplomat who is the founder of formidable Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, unreservedly condemned terrorist attacks and suicide bombers and urged the Muslim world to take a firm stand against those who bring Islam to disrepute.

"Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching. Islam is a religion of peace. It promotes goodwill, beauty, betterment, goodness and negates all forms of mischief, strife and division," he said.

Delivering a lecture in London, Qadri frequently referred to the holy book of Quran, Companions of the Prophet, Hadith and leading Muslim imams to prove his point that Islam did not allow individuals and non-state groups to launch attacks on civilians and opposition targets.

"Islam absolutely condemns violence and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and it is our Islamic duty to condemn acts of terrorism without any ifs or buts, without any excuses, pretexts and selfish justifications.

Those who perpetrate violent attacks and target humanity act outside of the ambit of Islam, they are the enemies of Islam," he said.

Qadri was joined at the fatwa launch event by government ministers Jim Fitzpatrick, Shahid Malik, Muhammad Sarwar MP, Dominic Grieve MP, representatives of various Muslims organisations, government departments and security think-tanks.

The 600-page 'Fatwa on Suicide Bombings and Terrorism' has been extracted from Qadri's latest research work titled 'Dehshet Geri aur Fitna-e-Khawarij', in a reference to those rebels who had taken up arms against Imam Ali (AS).

The launch of the fatwa is being regarded by many circles as a significant and historic

step, the first time that such an explicit and unequivocal decree against the perpetrators of terror has been broadcast widely.

The fatwa is considered arguably the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism as demonstrated by Taliban, Al-Qaeda and their like-minded sectarian groups.

To those who laud suicide bombers and praise their acts, Qadri said they are in unison with "heroes of hellfire".

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma.

"No, they indeed become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire. Their actions have nothing to do with Jihad," Qadri, who has a sizable following in Europe said.



<http://cnews.canoe.ca/CNEWSWorld/2010/03/02/13078661-ap.html>

Muslim leader issues fatwa on terrorism

By The Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London is being hosted by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded, anti-extremism think tank.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

<http://australianconservative.com/2010/03/muslim-leader-condemns-terrorism/>

Muslim leader condemns terrorism



Cory Bernardi

Muslim scholar, Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, launches a fatwa that condemns suicide bombings

It's about time.

I am referring to reports in the UK newspapers yesterday that a Muslim leader has finally condemned the acts of terrorism conducted in the name of Islam.

Pakistani-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri said there were no 'ifs or buts' that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

In issuing his fatwa, or religious edict concerning Islamic life, he said "There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad."

He further called on Islamic leaders to convey the message to all their followers.

Dr Qadri's comments are a welcome change to the equivocation of many self-styled imams and Islamic religious leaders who refuse to condemn suicide bombings and other atrocities committed in the name of their religion.

In Australia, one supporter of a convicted terrorist plotter blamed the Australian social security system for the extremist behaviour.

In the face of great adversity, there has been a great deal of tolerance extended to those of the Islamic faith by the western world. Such tolerance has been wearing thin by the refusal of so many Islamic scholars to unequivocally condemn terrorism, in all its forms, as evil.

In a further departure from the intolerance, hate and barbarism preached by radical Islamists, Dr Qadri was quoted as saying

'Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good. Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts.'

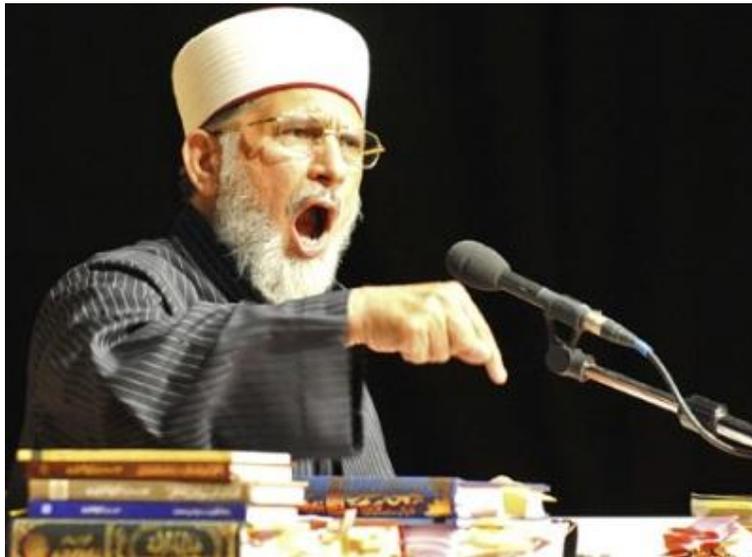
Three cheers for Dr Qadri.



<http://defenseoftherepublic.com/fatwa-against-terrorism.html/>

Wednesday, March 3rd, 2010 | Posted by [defenseoftherepublic](#)

Fatwa Against Terrorism



From London Leader Speaks Out Against Terrorists

I found this on a CBC (Canadian Broadcasting) link. It's not enough to denounce terrorism. We must promote those who believe the religion of Islam is being used for political purposes. Giving sunlight to those who believe strongly in the Faith and denounce political is our best hope in the war against terror.

Islamic scholar issues fatwa against terrorism

'Whatever these terrorists are doing, it's not martyrdom'

Last Updated: Tuesday, March 2, 2010 | 9:47 AM ET

CBC News

A prominent Islamic scholar issued a religious ruling against terrorism and suicide bombings at a speech in London Tuesday.

Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, a leading scholar of Sufism, the tradition within Islam that focuses on peace and tolerance, isn't the first Islamic teacher to denounce acts of terrorism.

But Qadri's 600-page judgment, or fatwa, is among the harshest denunciations of the theological arguments used by militant groups like al-Qaeda.

"Whatever these terrorists are doing it's not martyrdom," said Qadri on Tuesday.

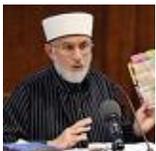
U.K.-based anti-extremism think-tank the Quilliam Foundation, which sponsored the speech, called the Pakistani-born Qadri's fatwa "arguably the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism to date."

It's Not Martyrdom



<http://americabreakingnews.com/2010/03/islamic-scholar-tahir-ul-qadri-issues-terrorism-fatwa/>

Islamic scholar Tahir ul-Qadri issues terrorism fatwa



Islamic **scholar** Tahir ul-Qadri issues terrorism fatwa.

An influential Muslim scholar issues a global ruling in London against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Ekklesia

<http://ekkleisia.co.uk/node/11415>

Muslim scholar demolishes religious justifications for terror and violence

By staff writers
4 Mar 2010

"Violence is violence. It has no place in Islamic teaching", says a leading Muslim scholar in a *fatwa*, an extended religiously-based argument, directed at those who justify hatred and terror in the name of faith.

Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri UI-Qadri's 600-page analysis is "arguably the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism to date," according to the Quilliam Foundation, the London-based counter-terrorism think tank.

"Terrorism is terrorism," UI-Qadri, founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, an organisation claiming hundreds of thousands of followers in South Asia and the United Kingdom, declared.

Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri is regarded as a mainstream Muslim scholar who is a "widely recognised and respected authority on Islamic jurisprudence."

At a press conference earlier this week, he criticised Muslims who, in justifying terrorism, say it furthers the goal of correcting wrongs done to Muslims.

"No good intention - even one thousand good intentions put together -- cannot justify a wrong and forbidden act," UI-Qadri said. "Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good."

Perpetration of murder and violence in the name of Islam separates people from Allah and from the destiny of paradise, the *fatwa* says.

'Top' Muslim cleric issues fatwa against violence

March 3 7:41 AM ■ [Chicago Islam Examiner](#) ■ Qasim Rashid



Mullah Tahirul Qadri

Mullah Tahir ul Qadri, who visits Chicago regularly, recently issued a 600 page fatwa (edict) condemning violence in the name of Islam for any reason. For this act, Muslim and non-Muslim media alike are hailing him as a revolutionary. Alas, nothing could be further from the truth. This praise for Mullah ul Qadri is misplaced and unjustified for several reasons.

First, for nearly a decade now some so called Muslims have actively engaged in suicide bombings and other atrocities. Why did it take Mullah ul Qadri a full decade to realize that perhaps violence in the name of Islam is wrong? Imagine the lives that could have been saved if he expressed this feature of Islam in 2000, instead of 2010.

Second, historically, Mullah ul Qadri has [actively persecuted](#) and spoken out against religious minorities, particularly Muslim minorities. How can a man who has no tolerance for a different religious point of view be trusted to stop violence against them? Pakistan's blasphemy laws were enacted in his time and with his knowledge and support, and as a result, thousands of religious minorities have been beaten up, harassed, and even murdered. Mullah ul Qadri has not offered even a single statement of concern or rebuke.

Third, Mullah ul Qadri believes the punishment for apostasy in Islam is death. Aside from the fact that this is [not true](#), Mullah ul Qadri insists that a peaceful Islam can co-exist with an Islam that kills those who choose to accept a different faith. He is a prime example of a walking contradiction.

The last and most crucial point is that Imam Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of India declared over 100 years ago that [violence has no place in Islam](#). Muslims who follow Mirza Ghulam Ahmad provide a 100 plus year history of absolute non-violence. Not a single example can be found to the contrary. Mullah ul Qadri considers Imam Ahmad a heretic for this peaceful interpretation of Jihad. Now, it seems that Mullah ul Qadri has boarded the wagon. How unfortunate that he does not give credit where it is due.

If Mullah Tahir ul Qadri is sincere about his beliefs in a peaceful Islam, let him truly act. To do this, he must first apologize for not issuing the fatwa sooner and allowing thousands to perish in the meantime. Next, he must actively work to revoke the blasphemy laws he endorsed either by action or with his silence. Third, he must acknowledge that his so called profound understanding of Jihad is in fact the very understanding for which he called Imam Ahmad a heretic.

Once Mullah ul Qadri can take these steps, he can be trusted. As long as he promotes his beliefs of death for apostasy and the suppression of the rights of non-Muslims, he should not be allowed in our nation, let alone our city. He is just another politician trying to get support by telling people what he thinks they want to hear.



<http://thetyee.ca/CanadianPress/2010/03/02/Cda-Britain-Anti-Terror-Fatwa/>

Muslim leader issues 600-page anti-terror fatwa in London

2 Mar 2010

LONDON - A former Pakistani legislator who lives in Canada and leads a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

He is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a non-political, tolerant Islam.

A spokesman for the group told The Canadian Press that Tahir-ul-Qadri has been living in southern Ontario for almost four years. The spokesman would not reveal the exact location.

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think-tank.

The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

<http://www.examiner.com/x-32569-Pakistan-Headlines-Examiner~y2010m3d2-Pakistan-born-Muslim-scholar-issues-edict-against-al-Qaeda>

Pakistan born Muslim scholar issues edict against al-Qaeda

March 2 8:36 AM [Pakistan Headlines Examiner](#) Ibrahim Sajid Malick

Islamic

edict condemning terrorism and suicide bombings and challenged "al-Qaeda's violent ideology."

Pakistan born Muslim scholar with a large following in Britain made his formal proclamation of a fatwa, or religious edict, at a news conference in London.

The 600 page fatwa described the al-Qaeda movement as an "old evil with a new name." Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri believes that the overwhelming majority of young Muslims in Britain have not yet been radicalized and would "think again" after reading his proclamation.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri said that "suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers."

Qadri said those who have already been "totally brainwashed" would not listen, but others would have "doubt" sewn in their minds.

"You don't become a terrorist overnight. It is a journey ... Many are already on that road but they have not yet arrived to become suicide bombers," Mr. Qadri told journalists.

He developed the document, which challenges the religious motivation of suicide bombers, in response to the rise in suicide bombings in Pakistan.

He said he hoped his arguments would attract the attention of politicians and security services in western nations.

Dr Qadri says that Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings and his movement, Minhaj ul-Quran International, has now drawn the interest of policymakers and security chiefs.

Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran in the UK, said the fatwa was hard-hitting and would "inject doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers."

The document is not the first to condemn terrorism and suicide bombings. Following the terrorist attacks in London during July 2005 many scholars came together to denounce the bombers and urge communities to root out extremists.

A fatwa, an edict issued by a learned Muslim scholar, may concern any aspect of Islamic life. The term became famous in the western world in 1989 after the author Salman Rushdie was

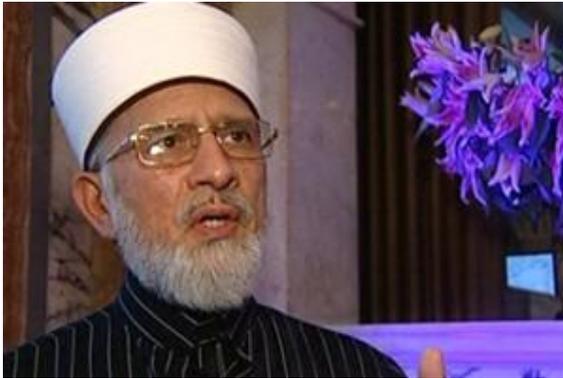
forced into hiding following a "death fatwa" issued by Ayatollah Khomeini, the then Supreme Leader of Iran, on the grounds that his book, the Satanic Verses had "insulted" Islam.



<http://www.3news.co.nz/Muslim-leader-Absolute-condemnation-of-terrorism/tabid/973/articleID/144468/Default.aspx>

Muslim leader: Absolute condemnation of terrorism

WED, 03 MAR 2010 10:02A.M.



Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker

The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions".

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but the event in London was publicised by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think tank and drew strong media attention.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a non-political, tolerant Islam.

The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

<http://www.nigeriannews.net/story/607422>

Islam leader condemns terrorists in fatwa

Nigeria News.Net

Tuesday 2nd March, 2010

A Muslim leader in the UK has announced a special religious ruling, otherwise known as a fatwa, against terrorism in the name of Islam.

The widely respected authority on Islamic law, Dr Tahir Qadri, has issued the fatwa, which condemns terrorism and suicide bombing.

Dr Qadri has addressed a press conference in Westminster, central London, to talk about why suicide bombings and terrorism are un-Islamic and scripturally forbidden.

His theological refutation of Islamist terrorism is likely to be discussed widely amongst the world's Muslim population and will be posted on the Internet in English and Arabic, making it readily accessible.

Dr Qadri has used texts from the Koran to argue that Islam does not permit such acts "on any excuse, reason or pretext" referring to a passage in the Quran in which the death of one innocent is aligned with the death of all humanity.

His fatwa condemns suicide bombers as destined for hell, refuting the claim used by extremists that such terrorists will earn paradise after death.

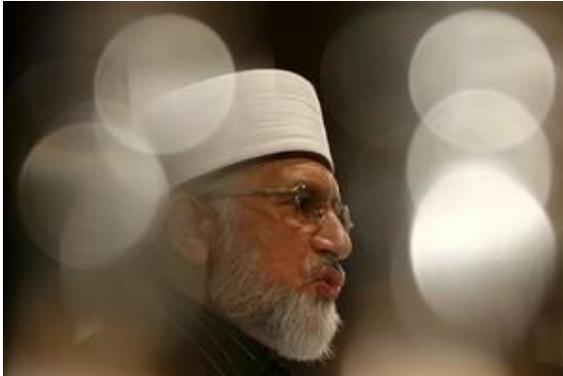
In his posting on terrorism he says: "Today's tragedy is that terrorists, murderers, mischief-mongers and rioters try to prove their criminal, rebellious, tyrannous, brutal and blasphemous activities as a right and a justified reaction to foreign aggression under the garb of defense of Islam and national interests. It can in no way be permissible to keep foreign delegates under unlawful custody and murder them and other peaceful non-Muslim citizens in retaliation for interference, unjust activities and aggressive advances of their countries. The one who does has no relation to Islam."

Dr Qadri's international organisation, the Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, has many supporters throughout the world.

<http://www.examiner.com/x-39682-San-Diego-Nonpartisan-Examiner-y2010m3d3-New-fatwa-could-undermine-terrorism-suicide-bombing-and-extreme-Islamists>

New fatwa could undermine terrorism, suicide bombing, and extreme Islamists

March 3, 6:38 PM ■ [San Diego Nonpartisan Examiner](#) ■ Brian St. Clair



Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri announces fatwa condemning terrorism.
AP / Akira Suemori

Outsiders to the faith tradition can feel baffled by the cacophony of conflicting voices and opinions that issue from the mouths of different Islamic clerics. Unlike many Christian denominations familiar to the West, religious authority in Islam's many varieties tends to be much more diffuse.

This week, an Islamic scholar and former Pakistani lawmaker, Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, decried suicide bombings as unworthy of association with the Muslim faith. According to [CNN](#), Tahir ul-Qadri stressed that while other fatwas (religious rulings based on Islamic law) contained qualifications that seemed to hedge their bets, his "didn't leave a single, minor aspect that, in the mind of radicals and extremists, can take them to the direction of martyrdom." Tahir ul-Qadri came down hard on opponents, emphasizing his belief that Islam rejects terrorist violence no matter the motivation. Also important to one [commentator](#) was that the argument was based purely on theological grounds, which could make it more persuasive to the devout. San Diegans paid close attention when, subsequent to the shooting at Fort Hood in Texas, more and more information became available about Major Nidal Hasan's correspondence with a radical cleric in Yemen named [Anwar al-Awlaki](#). It turned out Anwar al-Awlaki was born in New Mexico, lived in San Diego, and studied education at San Diego State University.

When leaders across the Islamic world make intentionally charged, frequently belligerent statements, they tend to receive heavy news coverage. For example, Libyan leader Muammar el-Qaddafi's [declaration of jihad](#) against Switzerland in retaliation for a ban on minarets designated as too tall has been given perhaps a little [more attention](#) than its worth. After all, attracting attention is probably the main motive for the declaration in the first place.

When Muslim religious leaders, often taken to task for not speaking out against terrorism publicly, decide to come out strongly with denunciations, they deserve broad support from people all over the world. In order for anti-terrorist Muslim leaders to undermine the currents of extremism, they need help getting their message out. Let's not let their voices be drowned

out by the loudest and vilest of their counterparts, who preach hate. Everyone can do their part. Listen to the voices of reason; pass on what you hear.



<http://europenews.dk/en/node/30361>

Yes, There Are Moderate Muslims and Here Is One

David Horowitz's NewsReal 5 March 2010
By Ryan Mauro

I can't tell you how many times I've gotten angry e-mails from people condemning all one billion members of the faith of Islam, saying the religion is so evil that all of its followers must be hostile to democracy and closet jihadists fighting for world wide theocracy. Any moderate Muslim whom I respect or even have a friendship with is practicing al-taqiyya and I'm a dupe, just another pawn in their sick game of conquest.

Luckily, those on my side can point to groups like the Free Muslims Coalition, Quilliam Foundation, the American-Islamic Congress and the American-Islamic Congress. And now, we can point to Sheikh Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri in the United Kingdom, who has published a 600 page fatwa against terrorism based on the Islamic holy texts. The Jerusalem Post describes it as the "most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism."

"Today's tragedy is that terrorists, murderers, mischief-mongers and rioters try to prove their criminal, rebellious, tyrannous, brutal and blasphemous activities as a right and a justified reaction to foreign aggression under the garb of defense of Islam and national interests," ul-Qadri said.

What's most important to note here is that he says such actions are not permissible even when facing "foreign aggression." Often, fake moderates would condemn Al-Qaeda but praise those fighting non-Muslim soldiers in Muslim lands and groups like Hamas. Ul-Qadri should be applauded for saying there is no exception, and he says suicide bombers are going to go to hell.

Frankly, I would have thought that the ongoing pro-democracy uprising in Iran would debunk the notion that devout Muslims cannot be seen as allies. And these moderate Muslim forces are making significant progress against the forces of extremism. Click here for an article I wrote last summer summarizing some of these decisive victories.

Update: NRB readers have made me aware that I may have jumped the gun in calling ul-Qadri a moderate. On the website of his organization, they boast of his role in creating Pakistan's anti-blasphemy law (which I somehow missed), and this article raises further issues that ul-Qadri must address. I have sent an email in to his organization asking for a response (...)



<http://europenews.dk/en/node/30363>

Anti-terror fatwa to de-radicalise students

[The Asian News](#) 5 March 2010

The historic fatwa on terrorism by a renowned Islamic scholar will be used as an effective 'tool' to de-radicalise Muslim students at British campuses. Minhaj-ul-Quran will use this historic Fatwa to de-radicalise youth at British universities in the UK.

Dr Tahir-ul-Qadri has hit hard on the terrorists as it prevents Islamists from considering suicide bombers as 'martyrs' and it will create doubt in the minds of potential radicals.

Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran UK said: "This historic document will play a vital role in the fight against terror and this fatwa has all the evidences from the classical sources to refute the ideologies which extremist groups in the UK use to brainwash the youth.

"The fatwa will be translated into mainstream languages."

The fatwa received massive media attention due to its importance in the fight against terrorism.

Afghanistan president Hamid Karzai has requested a copy of the fatwa from Minhaj-ul-Quran (...)



http://www.mynews.in/News/Terror_has_no_place_in_Islam_says_new_fatwa_N39685.html

Terror has no place in Islam, says new fatwa

The leader of a global Muslim movement on Tuesday issued a fatwa (religious edict) against acts of violence and terror in the name of Islam, calling the perpetrators of violence and their mentors as "heroes of hellfire".

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani diplomat who is the founder of formidable Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, unreservedly condemned terrorist attacks and suicide bombers and urged the Muslim world to take a firm stand against those who bring Islam to disrepute.

"Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching. Islam is a religion of peace. It promotes goodwill, beauty, betterment, goodness and negates all forms of mischief, strife and division," he said.

Delivering a lecture in London, Qadri frequently referred to the holy book of Quran, Companions of the Prophet, Hadith and leading Muslim imams to prove his point that Islam did not allow individuals and non-state groups to launch attacks on civilians and opposition targets.

"Islam absolutely condemns violence and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and it is our Islamic duty to condemn acts of terrorism without any ifs or buts, without any excuses, pretexts and selfish justifications. Those who perpetrate violent attacks and target humanity act outside of the ambit of Islam, they are the enemies of Islam," he said.

Qadri was joined at the fatwa launch event by government ministers Jim Fitzpatrick, Shahid Malik, Muhammad Sarwar MP, Dominic Grieve MP, representatives of various Muslims organisations, government departments and security think-tanks.

The 600-page 'Fatwa on Suicide Bombings and Terrorism' has been extracted from Qadri's latest research work titled 'Dehshet Geri aur Fitna-e-Khawarij', in a reference to those rebels who had taken up arms against Imam Ali (AS).

The launch of the fatwa is being regarded by many circles as a significant and historic step, the first time that such an explicit and unequivocal decree against the perpetrators of terror has been broadcast widely.

The fatwa is considered arguably the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism as demonstrated by Taliban, Al-Qaeda and their like-minded sectarian groups.

To those who laud suicide bombers and praise their acts, Qadri said they are in unison with "heroes of hellfire".

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma.

"No, they indeed become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire. Their actions have nothing to do with Jihad," Qadri, who has a sizable following in Europe said.

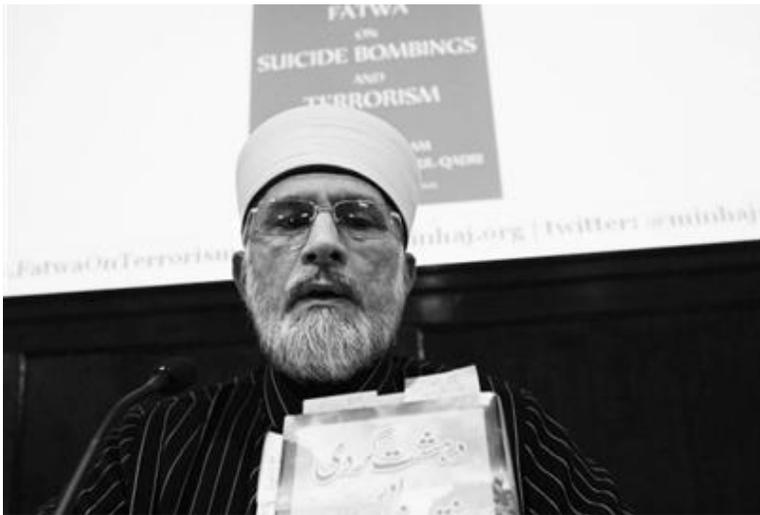
NATIONAL POST

<http://www.nationalpost.com/news/story.html?id=2634649>

Top Islamic scholar issues 'absolute' fatwa against terror

'Heroes Of Hellfire'

Michael Holden, Reuters; With Files From Agence France-Presse Published: Wednesday, March 03, 2010



Carl Court, AFP, Getty Images Dr. Tahir ul-

Qadri has issued an "absolute" fatwa against terrorism and extremism.

A prominent Islamic scholar denounced terrorism in London, England, yesterday, issuing a fatwa he hopes will persuade young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism.

Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri said there were no "ifs or buts" about terrorism, adding he wanted to convey the message that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma [the wider Muslim community]. No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire," he said. "There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad."

Yesterday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think-tank, and Dr. Qadri addressed an audience that included London's Metropolitan Police, lawmakers and officials from charitable organizations.

His 600-page fatwa was an "absolute" condemnation of terrorism without "any excuses or pretexts"

"Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good," added Dr. Qadri, who has been living in Southern Ontario for the past four years.

"Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts."

His words echo edicts condemning extremism issued by several Islamic groups since the 9/11 attacks

But Dr. Qadri says his fatwa, which declares terrorists and suicide bombers to be unbelievers, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said the scholar, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship and is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam that focuses on peace, tolerance and moderation.

"I have tried to leave not a single stone unturned on this particular subject and I have tried to address every single question relevant to this subject."

Dr. Qadri, 59, who was born in the Punjab city of Jhang, Pakistan, is head of the global Minhaj ul-Quran religious and educational organization that spreads his Sufi ideas.

A former Pakistani minister and associate of Benazir Bhutto, the assassinated former prime minister, he delivers lectures worldwide promoting his message of harmony.

Tim Winter, a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, said while there had been similar fatwas in the past, Dr. Qadri had gone further than most.

"To declare them iscreants as unbelievers is unusual, because it is not really clear that the rules allow one simply to say that they are not Muslims," he said.

"Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all. But 'swing voters' -- poorly educated and angry Muslims, who respect mainstream scholars, will probably take note."

Dr. Qadri said he felt compelled to issue the edict because of concerns about the indoctrination of British Muslims at university -- Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, the accused Nigerian Christmas Day bomber, has said he was radicalized while studying in London in 2008 -- and the failure of Muslim clerics and scholars to condemn such extremism.

"The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire," Dr. Qadri said.

He is confident his edict will have a significant impact, saying it draws on classical teachings and authorities acceptable to all sects of Islam.

"I will say more than 50% will change their way, they will be influenced. Of the remaining 50% at least some of them, half of them, will become doubtful about their life, their terrorist activity."

<http://www.newkerala.com/news/fullnews-61870.html>

Pakistani Islamic scholar to issue 600-page fatwa against terrorism, suicide bombing

London, Mar.2 : Describing Al-Qaeda as an 'old evil with a new name', influential Pakistani scholar Dr Tahir ul-Qadri has said he would soon issue a 'fatwa' against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Qadri said the Al-Qaeda has not been sufficiently challenged and that his global ruling against terrorism completely dismantles the banned terror organisation's violent ideology.

In his 600-page ruling, Qadri said Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

The fatwa also challenges the religious motivations of would-be suicide bombers who are inspired by promises of an afterlife, The BBC reports.

The famous Muslim scholar developed his document last year as a response to the sudden increase in suicide bombings across Pakistan.

The fatwa, which would be promoted in Britain by Qadri's organisation, Minhaj ul-Quran International, would cover global issues in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in western nations.

Terming the fatwa as 'hard hitting', Minhaj ul-Quran International's spokesperson Shahid Mursaleen said the ruling would inject doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers.

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit the youth by brain washing them that they will with certainty be rewarded in the next life. Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds," Mursaleen said



<http://www.news.com.au/breaking-news/islamic-scholar-muhammad-tahir-ul-qadri-issues-anti-terrorism-fatwa/story-e6frku0-1225836314823>

Islamic scholar Muhammad Tahir ul Qadri issues anti-terrorism fatwa

A PROMINENT Islamic scholar will use a speech in London to issue a 600-page religious edict denouncing terrorists and suicide bombers as "unbelievers."

Muhammad Tahir ul Qadri is a leading figure who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years, [Sky News](#) reports.

He said he felt compelled to issue the fatwa because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

Ul Qadri says his fatwa, which is aimed at persuading young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said ul Qadri, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship.

He is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam which is widely seen as focusing on peace, tolerance and moderation.

Nigerian-born Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, accused of trying to bomb a US-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008.

Government officials in Yemen, where Mutallab began his journey, said he was radicalised while in Britain.

However, the British Government claims his introduction to hardcore extremists happened after he left the UK.

Government officials will be among those joining ul Qadri for the launch of the fatwa in central London.

The Muslim Council of Britain, an umbrella organisation representing some 500 Islamic groups, welcomed the new position.

Ul Qadri will tell his audience, "The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire."

The 59-year-old was born in Pakistan and is head of the global Minhaj ul Quran religious and educational organisation, which spreads his Sufi ideas.

A former Pakistani minister and associate of assassinated prime minister Benazir Bhutto, he delivers lectures worldwide promoting his message of harmony and was one of the first Muslim leaders to condemn the 9/11 attacks in the US.



<http://www.news889.com/news/world/article/31569--muslim-leader-issues-600-page-anti-terror-fatwa-in-london>

Muslim leader issues 600-page anti-terror fatwa in London

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS *Mar 02, 2010 14:46:16 PM*

LONDON - A former Pakistani legislator who lives in Canada and leads a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

He is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Qur'an, a worldwide movement that promotes a non-political, tolerant Islam.

A spokesman for the group told The Canadian Press that Tahir-ul-Qadri has been living in southern Ontario for almost four years. The spokesman would not reveal the exact location.

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think-tank.

The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

Sheik Issues Fatwa Against Terrorists

SUICIDE BOMBERS ARE HELL-BOUND, WARNS ISLAMIC SCHOLAR

all its forms as un-Islamic. "Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it," Sheik Tahir ul-Qadri wrote in his 600-page fatwa ruling against terrorism. He warned that suicide bombers are not martyrs but "heroes of hellfire" whose actions can never be considered part of holy war.

Qadri is far from the first Islamic scholar to condemn terrorism, but he goes further than most by declaring terrorists unbelievers instead of merely declaring terrorist acts forbidden, the *Independent* notes. His ruling is one of the few available both online and in English, and experts hope it may sway Western-born Muslims leaning toward extremism. An Urdu-language version will soon be issued in Pakistan, where a close friend of Qadri's was assassinated last year after issuing a similar fatwa.

<http://www.southasianews.com/493454/Pakistani-Islamic-scholar-to-issue-600-page-fatwa-against-terrorism-suicide-bombing.htm>

Pakistani Islamic scholar to issue 600-page fatwa against terrorism, suicide bombing

3/2/2010 2:41:00 PM

London, Mar.2 (ANI): Describing Al-Qaeda as an 'old evil with a new name', influential Pakistani scholar Dr Tahir ul-Qadri has said he would soon issue a 'fatwa' against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Qadri said the Al-Qaeda has not been sufficiently challenged and that his global ruling against terrorism completely dismantles the banned terror organisation's violent ideology.

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The fatwa also challenges the religious motivations of would-be suicide bombers who are inspired by promises of an afterlife, The BBC reports.

The famous Muslim scholar developed his document last year as a response to the sudden increase in suicide bombings across Pakistan.

The fatwa, which would be promoted in Britain by Qadri's organisation, Minhaj ul-Quran International, would cover global issues in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in western nations.

Terming the fatwa as 'hard hitting', Minhaj ul-Quran International's spokesperson Shahid Mursaleen said the ruling would inject doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers.

Extremist groups based in Britain recruit the youth by brainwashing them that they will with certainty be rewarded in the next life. Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual actor from their minds, Mursaleen said. (ANI)

The Muslim Militant Tendency

Tuesday, 2nd March 2010

The fatwa issued today by the respected Islamic scholar Sheikh Dr Tahir ul-Qadri, ruling that terrorism against anyone is a violation of Islamic precepts, is of course welcome as far as it goes. Unfortunately, that's not likely to be very far when other fatwas by differently respected scholars have validated such attacks as being justified and even mandated under Islamic law.

The real problem in the UK, moreover, lies not simply in the fact that jihad is being waged in and against Britain, but even more crucially in Britain's spineless and indeed suicidal response to it. Consider, for example, the reaction to last night's Channel Four [Dispatches](#) programme which exposed the infiltration of the Labour party in east London by militant Islamists of the Islamic Forum for Europe, and whose findings were extensively reported in the [Sunday Telegraph](#). As the Labour MP for Poplar and Canning Town observes, the IFE has become, in effect, a secret party within Labour and other political parties:

'They are acting almost as an entryist organisation, placing people within the political parties, recruiting members to those political parties, trying to get individuals selected and elected so they can exercise political influence and power, whether it's at local government level or national level,' he said. 'They are completely at odds with Labour's programme, with our support for secularism.'

Mr Fitzpatrick, the MP for Poplar and Canning Town, said the IFE had infiltrated and 'corrupted' his party in east London in the same way that the far-Left Militant Tendency did in the 1980s. Leaked Labour lists show a 110 per cent rise in party membership in one constituency in two years.

When Militant infiltrated Labour in the 1980s, the party effectively went to war against it. It took a heroic effort and iron determination to expel Militant from its ranks, and the media covered the battle extensively. Yet following the Sunday Telegraph story and the Dispatches programme, there has been virtual silence from the rest of the media and from the politicians. This time, as Britain's governing party is once again suborned by forces determined to overturn British society, both the media and the Labour party appear to be looking the other way.

Sheikh ul-Qadri is therefore not just at odds with the fanatics in his own religion, but even worse is fatally undermined by the cowardice and paralysis of the British governing class.

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

The Associated Press Updated 9:41 AM Tuesday, March 2, 2010

LONDON — The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think tank and drew strong media attention.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.



Leading Muslim scholar Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri holds his Fatwa on suicide bombings and terrorism, as he speaks at its UK launch held by non-governmental organization Minhaj-ul-Quran International (MQI) in London, Tuesday, March 2, 2010. The fatwa is an Islamic decree that condemns suicide bombings and terrorist atrocities along with their perpetrators. (AP Photo/Akira Suemori)



Leading Muslim scholar Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri speaks at the UK launch of the Fatwa on suicide bombings and terrorism held by non-governmental organization Minhaj-ul-Quran International (MQI) in London, Tuesday, March 2, 2010. The fatwa is an Islamic decree that condemns suicide bombings and terrorist atrocities along with their perpetrators. (AP Photo/Akira Suemori)

UK MUSLIM LEADER TO ISSUE FATWA AGAINST JIHAD



BY JONNY PAUL
THE JERUSALEM POST

Ruling is most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism.
Talkbacks (11)

LONDON – A revered mainstream Muslim scholar is set to announce in London on Tuesday a fatwa (Muslim ruling) against terrorism and suicide bombing in the name of Islam.

Sheikh Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri, a widely recognized and respected authority on Islamic jurisprudence, will issue a comprehensive fatwa prohibiting terrorism and suicide bombing at a press conference in Westminster, central London.

The Pakistani-born Dr. Qadri has authored an unprecedented, 600-page fatwa on why suicide bombings and terrorism are un-Islamic and scripturally forbidden. The ruling is the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism to date.

The fatwa will also be posted on the Internet and in English, making it readily accessible. It will also set an important precedent and allow other scholars to similarly condemn the ideas behind terrorism.

Dr. Qadri has used texts in the Koran and other Islamic writings to argue that suicide and other terrorist attacks are “absolutely against the teachings of Islam” and that “Islam does not permit such acts on any excuse, reason or pretext.”

The fatwa condemns suicide bombers as destined for hell, refuting the claim used by Islamists that such terrorists will earn paradise after death.

“Today’s tragedy is that terrorists, murderers, mischief-mongers and rioters try to prove their criminal, rebellious, tyrannous, brutal and blasphemous activities as a right and a justified reaction to foreign aggression under the garb of defense of Islam and national interests,” he says about suicide bombing

“It can in no way be permissible to keep foreign delegates under unlawful custody and murder them and other peaceful non-Muslim citizens in retaliation for interference, unjust activities and aggressive advances of their countries,” Qadri said, asserting, “The one who does has no relation to Islam.”

Dr. Qadri is the founder of the international Minhaj-ul-Quran movement. Supporters say his fatwa is significant because he is issuing it himself and his movement, a major grass-roots global organization, has hundreds of thousands of followers in South Asia and the UK. The move has been welcomed by the Quilliam Foundation, a London-based anti-extremism think-tank led by former Islamists.

“This fatwa has the potential to be a highly significant step towards eradicating Islamist terrorism,” a Quilliam spokesperson said. “Fatwas by Wahhabi-influenced clerics and Islamist ideologists initiated modern terrorism against civilians. Terrorist groups such as al-Qaida continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture. “Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dust bin of history.”

London’s Centre for Social Cohesion think-tank has also welcomed the initiative. CSC director Douglas Murray believes that in recent years, and since the July 2005 terrorist attack in London, Muslim leaders have failed to unequivocally condemn violence committed in the name of Islam.

“A sentence that may to many people seem clear, such as ‘There can be no justification for the killing of innocent people’ is filled with caveats – what is an ‘innocent’ person? Who decides who is or is not ‘innocent’?”

“Too many Muslim religious figures sound as if they are condemning violence when in fact they are merely condemning violence in certain situations, against certain people,” he said. Murray said the fatwa takes away the caveats and will have far-reaching consequences. However he said it won’t stop Islamic terrorism instantaneously.

“Dr. ul-Qadri is respected for his ability to cross some of the notable sectarian boundaries that abound in the Islamic faith as in all others. Even Muslims who might dislike him will not be able to dismiss him out of hand.

“Yet even if the contents of this fatwa are what people have long hoped for, it will not, of course, stop Islamic terrorism straight away. A single fatwa will not change the level of denial and lack of self-criticism inherent in so much of modern Islam. Nor will it stop every fevered young radical eager to kill and maim. But the trickle-down effect is important. The most violent interpretations of Islam have indeed trickled down to terrorists via learned scholars,” he said.

<http://www.studentnewsdaily.com/daily-news-article/printer-friendly/muslim-leaders-edict-decries-terrorism/>

Daily News Article - March 3, 2010

Muslim leader's edict decries terrorism

(by Nicholas Kralev, WashingtonTimes.com) - The leader of a global Muslim movement Tuesday issued a rare religious edict condemning terrorism and denouncing suicide bombers as "heroes of hellfire" in an effort to help prevent the radicalization of young British Muslims.

The State Department welcomed the 600-page document known as a fatwa, which was released in London with the British government's support, as a "very important step" in "taking back Islam" from al Qaeda and other extremist groups.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawyer and a leading scholar of Islam, has issued similar, shorter decrees in the past. But the new fatwa makes the most detailed and comprehensive case against Islamic extremism by a Muslim, diplomats and analysts said.

"Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence, and it has no place in Islamic teaching, and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts," Mr. Tahir-ul-Qadri said at a news conference in London. "Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good; they cannot convert an evil into good."

It was not clear how much influence the fatwa will have in the broad Muslim world or even outside the South Asian community whose members are Mr. Tahir-ul-Qadri's most dedicated followers.

Timothy R. Furnish, a historian of Islam, said the fatwa may not carry significant weight for many Muslims because Mr. Tahir-ul-Qadri is a Sufi Muslim, and not a Koranic literalist, as are such Sunni groups as the Wahhabis and the Salafis, who form the core of groups such as al Qaeda.

"It would seem to be simply another example of this centuries-long Sufi/Wahhabi-Salafi spat over how to interpret the authoritative texts of Islam," said Mr. Furnish, who noted that he has not read Tuesday's fatwa. "For every such legal pronouncement, there is an antithetical one from the literalist camp ..., which justifies such attacks with clear Koranic and Hadith [Traditions] citations."

In recent years, Britain has coped with growing radicalization among its Muslim youths - a development that also has attracted young Muslims from other countries to study at British schools. One of them is Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, the 23-year-old Nigerian who later received training from al Qaeda and is charged with trying to blow up a Detroit-bound airliner in December.

Mr. Tahir-ul-Qadri, founder of the Minhaj-ul-Quran worldwide movement promoting a tolerant Islam, and his followers hope that his fatwa will show those youths an alternative to extremism, said Ghaffar Hussein, a spokesman for the Quilliam Foundation, a British government-funded think tank.

The foundation's backing and promotion of Tuesday's event drew much more media and public attention than it would have received otherwise, according to British press reports.

"This fatwa has the potential to be a highly significant step towards eradicating Islamist terrorism," Mr. Hussein said. "Terrorist groups, such as al Qaeda, continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture. Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dustbin of history."

In a display of official support for Mr. Tahir-ul-Qadri's teachings, his news conference was attended by members of Parliament and representatives of London's Metropolitan Police. He spoke in both English and Arabic, and an English translation of the fatwa is expected in the coming weeks, said people who attended the event.

Mr. Tahir-ul-Qadri said that terrorism should never be "considered jihad," or holy war.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations, and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma," he said in reference to the wider Muslim community. "No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire." ...

Mr. Tahir-ul-Qadri's fatwa echoed efforts by anti-extremist Muslims to use their religion to counter terrorists.

In October, a senior Muslim cleric, grand mufti Ali Gomaa of Egypt, told editors and reporters at The Washington Times that one strategy has been to try to declare terrorists "un-Islamic." But he also warned that going too far could prompt greater divisions rather than persuade radicals to change.

Juan Zarate, senior adviser at the Center for Strategic and International Studies and a former counterterrorism official at the National Security Council in the George W. Bush White House, said the new fatwa is important because it "adds to the growing list of rejections of al Qaeda's ideology" and is a "public recognition" of the group's "declining popularity and legitimacy."

Rob Satloff, executive director of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, said the fatwa undoubtedly will have "a useful, positive impact among Pakistanis and other South Asians," who form the base of Minhaj-ul-Quran's membership of hundreds of thousands.

However, globally, "any one particular fatwa, especially by an imam known predominantly in a single ethnic and linguistic group, is probably not too consequential," Mr. Satloff said.

"It's all very positive and very welcome, but there remain loud and influential voices arguing the opposite view - that 'invaders,' 'Crusaders' and 'Zionists' are all legitimate targets, somewhere they may be found," he added. "It is important to amplify the voices of moderation and marginalize the voices of radicalism."



<http://www.sunday-sun.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/2010/03/02/muslim-leader-to-condemn-terrorists-84229-25941524/>

Muslim leader to condemn terrorists

[Mar 2 2010](#)

The leader of a worldwide Muslim movement with thousands of followers in the UK is due to issue a fatwa - or Islamic religious ruling - condemning terrorism and warning suicide bombers that they are "destined for hell".

Pakistan-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, will make the formal UK proclamation of a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism and suicide bombing at a news conference in London.

The 600-page fatwa announces that "suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers".

Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran UK, said: "He has hit hard on the terrorists as it prevents Islamists from considering suicide bombers as 'martyrs'. This fatwa injects doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers. Extremist groups based in Britain recruit youth by brainwashing them that they will 'with certainty' be rewarded in the next life and Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds."

The fatwa has been billed as "arguably the most comprehensive" theological refutation of Islamic terrorism to date by counter extremism think tank the Quilliam foundation.

A Quilliam spokesman said: "Terrorist groups such as al Qaida continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture. Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dustbin of history."

Communities Minister Shahid Malik, whose Dewsbury constituency was home to 7/7 bomber Mohammad Siddique Khan, welcomed the fatwa. "It is incumbent on Muslims to stand up for their faith - when 7/7 occurred those four evil young men killed themselves and over 50 innocent people because they followed a twisted and perverted interpretation of Islam which told them by doing so they would go to heaven," he said.

"A clear and unequivocal message must go out that Islam teaches that these four are not martyrs going to heaven but sinners going somewhere very different indeed. Hence, I very much welcome the work of Dr Qadri in helping reinforce this most crucial of message to Muslims and non-Muslims alike."

The Minhaj-ul-Quran movement runs courses in combating religious extremism in educational centres throughout Britain including London, Birmingham, Manchester, Nelson, Walsall, Glasgow and Dundee.

A fatwa, an edict issued by a learned Muslim scholar, may concern any aspect of Islamic life. The term became famous in the western world in 1989 after the author Salman Rushdie was forced into hiding following a "death fatwa" issued by Ayatollah Khomeini, then Supreme Leader of Iran, on the grounds that his book, the Satanic Verses had "insulted" Islam.

Sunni Muslims News

News From Islamic World

<http://www.sunnimuslimsnews.co.cc/2010/03/muslim-leader-issues-fatwa-against-terrorists.html>

Muslim leader issues fatwa against terrorists

London: Influential Pakistani Islamic scholar, Shaukat Islam Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri, on Tuesday issued a 600-page fatwa condemning terrorists and suicide bombers. The fatwa is a point by point theological rebuttal to fanaticism of al-Qaida and its offshoots. "The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing isn't martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire," Qadri said in a statement.

He said Islam forbids massacre of innocent citizens and described al-Qaida as "an old evil with a new name". Policymakers and security chiefs will follow the impact of the ruling with keen interest.

"I'll say that 50% (of those prone to violence) will change their way, they will be influenced. Of the remaining 50% at least some of them, half of them, will become doubtful about their life, their terrorist activity," said Cambridge University Islamic Studies lecturer, Tim Winter, in his assessment to Sky News.

He said there have been similar fatwas in the past, but Qadri's edict had gone further than most. "Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all but swing voters — poorly-educated and angry Muslims who respect mainstream scholars — will probably take note," he said. "Certainly it's a helpful initiative."

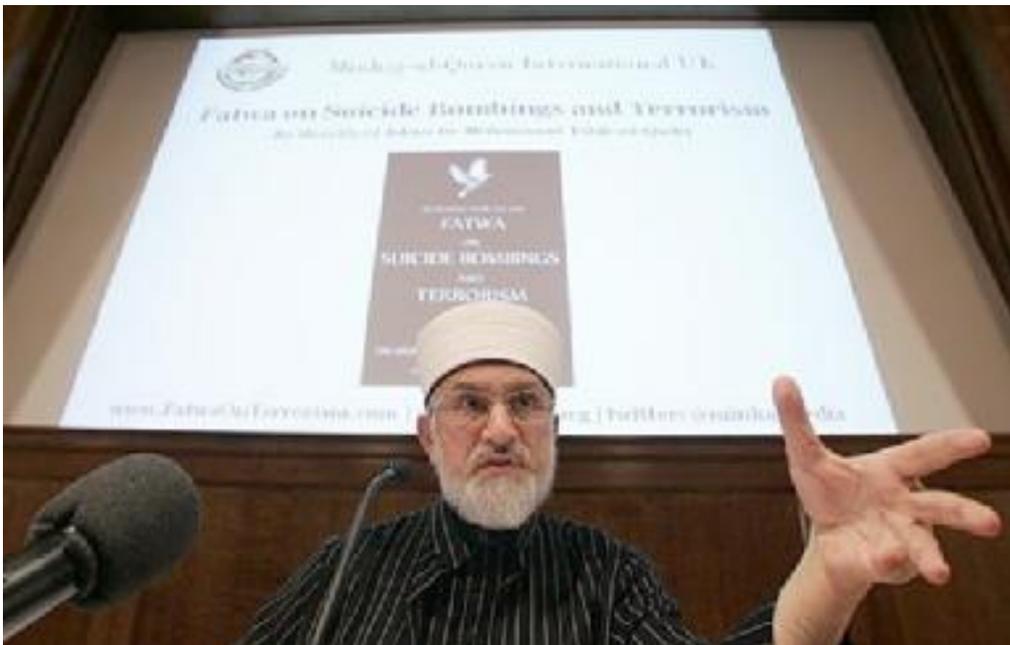
The influential scholar, who belongs to Sufism's Qadri order, has been at the forefront of promoting peace and interfaith dialogue and heads an international religious and educational organisation — Minhaj ul-Quran.

He said he was compelled to issue the fatwa because of the radicalisation of British Muslims on university campuses and the absence of criticism of this phenomenon by Islamic clerics. Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran in the UK, said the fatwa was hard-hitting and would "inject doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers". The document isn't the first to condemn terrorism and suicide bombing to be launched in the UK. Following the terrorist attacks in London during July 2005, many scholars came together to denounce the bombers and urge communities to root out extremists



<http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/nationworld/sns-ap-eu-britain-anti-terror-fatwa,0,980121.story>

Pakistan-born Muslim leader issues 600-page anti-terror fatwa in London



Leading Muslim scholar Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri speaks at the UK launch of the Fatwa on suicide bombings and terrorism held by non-governmental organization Minhaj-ul-Quran International (MQI) in London, Tuesday, March 2, 2010. The fatwa is an Islamic decree that condemns suicide bombings and terrorist atrocities along with their perpetrators. (AP Photo/Akira Suemori) (Akira Suemori, AP / March 2, 2010)

LONDON (AP) — The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think tank and drew strong media attention.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in [Pakistan](#) or Pakistanis living in other countries.

Islam leader condemns terrorists in fatwa

Taipei News.Net
Tuesday 2nd March, 2010

A Muslim leader in the UK has announced a special religious ruling, otherwise known as a fatwa, against terrorism in the name of Islam.

The widely respected authority on Islamic law, Dr Tahir Qadri, has issued the fatwa, which condemns terrorism and suicide bombing.

Dr Qadri has addressed a press conference in Westminster, central London, to talk about why suicide bombings and terrorism are un-Islamic and scripturally forbidden.

His theological refutation of Islamist terrorism is likely to be discussed widely amongst the world's Muslim population and will be posted on the Internet in English and Arabic, making it readily accessible.

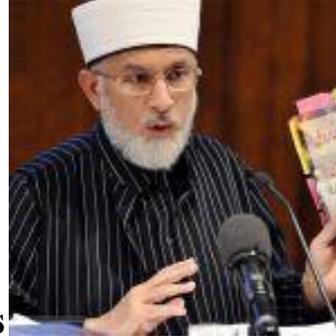
Dr Qadri has used texts from the Koran to argue that Islam does not permit such acts "on any excuse, reason or pretext" referring to a passage in the Quran in which the death of one innocent is aligned with the death of all humanity.

His fatwa condemns suicide bombers as destined for hell, refuting the claim used by extremists that such terrorists will earn paradise after death.

In his posting on terrorism he says: "Today's tragedy is that terrorists, murderers, mischief-mongers and rioters try to prove their criminal, rebellious, tyrannous, brutal and blasphemous activities as a right and a justified reaction to foreign aggression under the garb of defense of Islam and national interests. It can in no way be permissible to keep foreign delegates under unlawful custody and murder them and other peaceful non-Muslim citizens in retaliation for interference, unjust activities and aggressive advances of their countries. The one who does has no relation to Islam."

Dr Qadri's international organisation, the Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, has many supporters throughout the world

<http://www.talktalk.co.uk/news/pa/uknews/2010/03/02/muslim-leader-to-condemn-terrorists.html>



Muslim leader to condemn terrorists

The leader of a worldwide Muslim movement with thousands of followers in the UK is due to issue a fatwa - or Islamic religious ruling - condemning terrorism and warning suicide bombers that they are "destined for hell".

Pakistan-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, will make the formal UK proclamation of a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism and suicide bombing at a news conference in London.

The 600-page fatwa announces that "suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers".

Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran UK, said: "He has hit hard on the terrorists as it prevents Islamists from considering suicide bombers as 'martyrs'. This fatwa injects doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers. Extremist groups based in Britain recruit youth by brainwashing them that they will 'with certainty' be rewarded in the next life and Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds."

The fatwa has been billed as "arguably the most comprehensive" theological refutation of Islamic terrorism to date by counter extremism think tank the Quilliam foundation.

A Quilliam spokesman said: "Terrorist groups such as al Qaida continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture. Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dustbin of history."

Communities Minister Shahid Malik, whose Dewsbury constituency was home to 7/7 bomber Moham mad Siddique Khan, welcomed the fatwa. "It is incumbent on Muslims to stand up for their faith - when 7/7 occurred those four evil young men killed themselves and over 50 innocent people because they followed a twisted and perverted interpretation of Islam which told them by doing so they would go to heaven," he said.

"A clear and unequivocal message must go out that Islam teaches that these four are not martyrs going to heaven but sinners going somewhere very different indeed. Hence, I very much welcome

the work of Dr Qadri in helping reinforce this most crucial of message to Muslims and non-Muslims alike."

The Minhaj-ul-Quaran movement runs courses in combating religious extremism in educational centres throughout Britain including London, Birmingham, Manchester, Nelson, Walsall, Glasgow and Dundee.

A fatwa, an edict issued by a learned Muslim scholar, may concern any aspect of Islamic life. The term became famous in the western world in 1989 after the author Salman Rushdie was forced into hiding following a "death fatwa" issued by Ayatollah Khomeini, then Supreme Leader of Iran, on the grounds that his book, the Satanic Verses had "insulted" Islam.



<http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2010/03/worldwide-fatwa-issued-against-terrorism/36913/>

Worldwide Fatwa Is Issued Against Terrorism

Mar 2 2010, 1:30 PM ET

Pakistani religious scholar Dr. Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri presented the [600 page document](#) at an extremely well-covered news conference in London today. Dr. ul-Qadri promised that according to Islamic principles, suicide bombers would go to hell. He hopes the fatwa will help Muslims, especially young men, stay away from extremist groups that use violence.

Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri has been a long-time advocate for peace and interfaith dialogue and founded the group [Minhaj-ul-Quran](#).

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/terrorism-in-the-uk/7350741/Fatwa-to-condemn-terrorism-to-be-issued.html>

Fatwa to condemn terrorism to be issued

The leader of a worldwide Muslim movement with thousands of followers in the UK will today issue a fatwa - or Islamic religious ruling - condemning terrorism and warning suicide bombers that they are "destined for hell".

Published: 9:11 AM GMT 02 Mar 2010

Pakistan-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Koran movement, will make the formal UK proclamation of a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism and suicide bombing at a news conference in London.

The 600-page fatwa announces that "suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers".

Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Koran UK, said: "He has hit hard on the terrorists as it prevents Islamists from considering suicide bombers as 'martyrs'. This fatwa injects doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers.

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit youth by brain washing them that they will 'with certainty' be rewarded in the next life and Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds."

The Quilliam foundation, the counter-extremism think-tank, described the fatwa as "arguably the most comprehensive" theological refutation of Islamic terrorism to date.

A Quilliam spokesman said: "Terrorist groups such as al-Qaeda continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture.

"Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dustbin of history."

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Shahid Malik, the Communities Minister, whose Dewsbury constituency was home to the lead 7/7 bomber Mohammad Siddique Khan, welcomed the fatwa.

"It is incumbent on Muslims to stand up for their faith – when 7/7 occurred those four evil young men killed themselves and over 50 innocent people because they followed a twisted and perverted interpretation of Islam which told them by doing so they would go to heaven," he said.

"A clear and unequivocal message must go out that Islam teaches that these four are not martyrs going to heaven but sinners going somewhere very different indeed.

"Hence, I very much welcome the work of Dr Qadri in helping reinforce this most crucial of message to Muslims and non-Muslims alike."

Islamic scholar Shaikh Mohammed Hisham Kabbani, of the Centre for Spirituality and Cultural Advancement, also welcomed the fatwa.

"This scholarship is a landmark in enabling Muslims living in the UK to be able to silence the small minority of people who think it is OK to commit violent acts in the name of Islam," he said.

"We are happy and honoured to be working with Dr Qadri and Minhaj-ul-Koran to support the UK Muslims in countering the radical Islamist rhetoric in the world."

SATURDAY Star

<http://www.thestar.co.za/index.php?fArticleId=5375419>

March 03, 2010 *Edition 3*

Fatwa bans suicide bombing

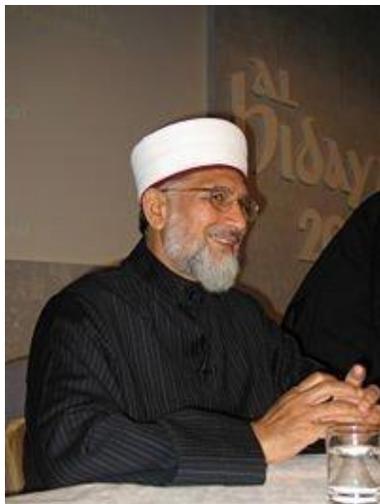
LONDON: The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a religious edict that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism. Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani law maker, said the fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts or exceptions". He was hosted in London by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think-

SOUTH ASIA MAIL

An independent internet daily

<http://www.southasiain.com/mainnews.php?id=7737>

Anti-terrorism fatwa launched in London



On 2 March, the renowned, mainstream Muslim scholar Shaikh Dr Tahir ul-Qadri issued a comprehensive fatwa (religious ruling) prohibiting terrorism and suicide bombing at a press conference in Westminster, London.

Founder of the international Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, his fatwa is significant because:

- Minhaj-ul-Quran is a major grass-roots organisation with hundreds of thousands of followers in South Asia and the UK.
- Shaikh Dr Tahir ul-Qadri is a widely recognised and respected authority on Islamic jurisprudence.
- The fatwa condemns suicide bombers as destined for hell, which helps remove extremists' certainty of earning paradise after death.
- The 600-page fatwa is arguably the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism to date.
- Dr Tahir ul-Qadri's fatwa will set an important precedent and will allow other scholars to similarly condemn the ideas behind terrorism.

A Quilliam spokesperson said:

"This fatwa has the potential to be a highly significant step towards eradicating Islamist terrorism. Fatwas by Wahhabi-influenced clerics and Islamist ideologues initiated modern terrorism against civilians. Terrorist groups such as al-Qaeda continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture. Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dustbin of history."

Quilliam is Britain's first counter-extremism think tank. It is an independent organization. For further information, please call Quilliam's media line on 0207 182 7286 or 07590 229 917 or

email
media@quilliamfoundation.org.

Thaindian News

http://www.thaindian.com/newsportal/south-asia/pakistani-islamic-scholar-to-issue-600-page-fatwa-against-terrorism-suicide-bombing_100328463.html

Pakistani Islamic scholar to issue 600-page fatwa against terrorism, suicide bombing

London, Mar.2 (ANI): Describing Al-Qaeda as an 'old evil with a new name', influential Pakistani scholar Dr Tahir ul-Qadri has said he would soon issue a 'fatwa' against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Qadri said the Al-Qaeda has not been sufficiently challenged and that his global ruling against terrorism completely dismantles the banned terror organisation's violent ideology.

In his 600-page ruling, Qadri said Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

The fatwa also challenges the religious motivations of would-be suicide bombers who are inspired by promises of an afterlife, The BBC reports.

The famous Muslim scholar developed his document last year as a response to the sudden increase in suicide bombings across Pakistan.

The fatwa, which would be promoted in Britain by Qadri's organisation, Minhaj ul-Quran International, would cover global issues in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in western nations.

Terming the fatwa as 'hard hitting', Minhaj ul-Quran International's spokesperson Shahid Mursaleen said the ruling would inject doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers.

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit the youth by brain washing them that they will with certainty be rewarded in the next life. Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds," Mursaleen said. (ANI)

Muslim leader to condemn terrorists

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A Quilliam spokesman said: "Terrorist groups such as al Qaida continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture.

"Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dustbin of history."

The Minhaj-ul-Quaran movement runs courses in combating religious extremism in educational centres throughout Britain including London, Birmingham, Manchester, Nelson, Walsall, Glasgow and Dundee.

A fatwa, an edict issued by a learned Muslim scholar, may concern any aspect of Islamic life. The term became famous in the western world in 1989 after the author Salman Rushdie was forced into hiding following a "death fatwa" issued by Ayatollah Khomeini, then Supreme Leader of Iran, on the grounds that his book, the Satanic Verses had "insulted" Islam.



http://www.theasiannews.co.uk/news/s/1194570_antiterror_fatwa_to_deradicalise_students

Anti-terror fatwa to de-radicalise students

March 04, 2010

The historic fatwa on terrorism by a renowned Islamic scholar will be used as an effective 'tool' to de-radicalise Muslim students at British campuses.

Minhaj-ul-Quran will use this historic Fatwa to de-radicalise youth at British universities in the UK.

Dr Tahir-ul-Qadri has hit hard on the terrorists as it prevents Islamists from considering suicide bombers as 'martyrs' and it will create doubt in the minds of potential radicals.

Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran UK said: "This historic document will play a vital role in the fight against terror and this fatwa has all the evidences from the classical sources to refute the ideologies which extremist groups in the UK use to brainwash the youth.

"The fatwa will be translated into mainstream languages."

The fatwa received massive media attention due to its importance in the fight against terrorism.

Afghanistan president Hamid Karzai has requested a copy of the fatwa from Minhaj-ul-Quran.

Some extraxts from the Fatwa

Terrorist acts expel a Muslim from Islam

While most Muslim scholars denounce terrorism, Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri goes that crucial step forward and announces categorically that suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, to become unbelievers in the divine, pristine message of Islam. This empowering, unprecedented fatwa strengthens troops and civil society bodies that are engaged in counter terrorism operations, and expels terrorists from within Islam.

Hell, not heaven

Terrorists commit acts of self and mass murder with the firm conviction that they will be rewarded by God; that they are heaven bound. For the first time in contemporary Muslim discourse, this fatwa convincingly advances scriptural evidence to demonstrate that the perpetrators of suicide bombings are destined for hell, not heaven. This bold Islamic view, amplified properly, will inject doubt into the minds of aspiring suicide bombers and thereby prevent them from this heinous crime.

No terrorism, even in war time

Modern terrorists justify their indiscriminate killings by claiming that Islamic scripture allows such campaigns in war. This fatwa opens new ground by citing Islamic sources which prohibit killing of women, children, elders, religious leaders, business people, non-combatants and even service personnel not engaged in aggression. Contrary to the mindset of the perpetrators of the 11th of September 2001 attacks in New York or the 7th July 2005 tube bombs in London, damaging enemy property or avenging a wrong done by another is strictly prohibited by sound Islamic scholarship.

Al-Qaeda, old evil with a new name

The Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him) warned his followers about the dangers of extremism and terrorism. This fatwa collects evidence from early Islamic history about a group of violent renegades known as the Khawarij, the terrorist movement, emerged in the name of Islamic rule, universally accepted as being outside the fold of Islam by virtue of their extreme beliefs, violent acts, terrorism and constantly labelling other Muslims as disbelievers. Al-Qaeda and its affiliates not only share these character traits, but share a theological and political outlook that is almost identical. This fatwa enlists classical sources to illustrate that the vast majority of Muslim scholars, past and present, consider the Khawarij, the founders of terrorism, to be totally un-Islamic. The terrorists are the Khawarij of our time, based on direct evidence from the Qur'an and Sunnah."

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/breaking-news/islamic-scholar-muhammad-tahir-ul-qadri-issues-anti-terrorism-fatwa/story-fn3dxity-1225836314823>

Islamic scholar Muhammad Tahir ul Qadri issues anti-terrorism fatwa

A PROMINENT Islamic scholar will use a speech in London to issue a 600-page religious edict denouncing terrorists and suicide bombers as "unbelievers."

Muhammad Tahir ul Qadri is a leading figure who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years, [Sky News](#) reports.

He said he felt compelled to issue the fatwa because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

Ul Qadri says his fatwa, which is aimed at persuading young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said ul Qadri, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship.

He is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam which is widely seen as focusing on peace, tolerance and moderation.

Nigerian-born Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, accused of trying to bomb a US-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008.

Government officials in Yemen, where Mutallab began his journey, said he was radicalised while in Britain.

However, the British Government claims his introduction to hardcore extremists happened after he left the UK.

Government officials will be among those joining ul Qadri for the launch of the fatwa in central London.

The Muslim Council of Britain, an umbrella organisation representing some 500 Islamic groups, welcomed the new position.

Ul Qadri will tell his audience, "The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire."

The 59-year-old was born in Pakistan and is head of the global Minhaj ul Quran religious and educational organisation, which spreads his Sufi ideas. A former Pakistani minister and associate of assassinated prime minister Benazir Bhutto, he delivers lectures worldwide promoting his message of harmony and was one of the first Muslim leaders to condemn the 9/11 attacks in the US.

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/world/fatwa-condemns-terrorists/story-e6frg6so-1225836700672>

Fatwa condemns terrorists

LONDON: A leading Muslim scholar in Britain has issued a fatwa condemning terrorists and suicide bombers, saying they had no justification in the name of Islam.

Pakistan-born Tahir ul-Qadri said there were no "ifs or buts" about terrorism, in a news conference attended by officers from London's Metropolitan Police, MPs, charitable organisations and think tanks.

British imams should pronounce suicide bombers as "unbelievers" who are destined for hell, Dr Qadri declared, adding that he wanted to convey the message that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam. "They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma (the wider Muslim community)," he said.

"No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading to wars hellfire.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad."

Dr Qadri said his 600-page fatwa, or religious ruling, was an "absolute" condemnation of terrorism without "any excuses or pretexts".

"Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good," he said.

"Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts."

Dr Qadri said Islam was a religion of peace that promotes beauty, betterment, goodness and "negates all form of mischief and strife".

The fatwa will be translated into English and made available online in an attempt to counter extremist versions of Islam available on the internet.

AFP

The Daily Star

<http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/news-details.php?nid=128403>

Pak Islamic scholar to issue fatwa against suicide bombing

Describing al-Qaeda as an 'old evil with a new name', influential Pakistani scholar Dr Tahir ul-Qadri has said he would soon issue a 'fatwa' against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Qadri said the al-Qaeda has not been sufficiently challenged and that his global ruling against terrorism completely dismantles the banned terror organisation's violent ideology.

In his 600-page ruling, Qadri said Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

The fatwa also challenges the religious motivations of would-be suicide bombers who are inspired by promises of an afterlife, The BBC reports.

The famous Muslim scholar developed his document last year as a response to the sudden increase in suicide bombings across Pakistan.

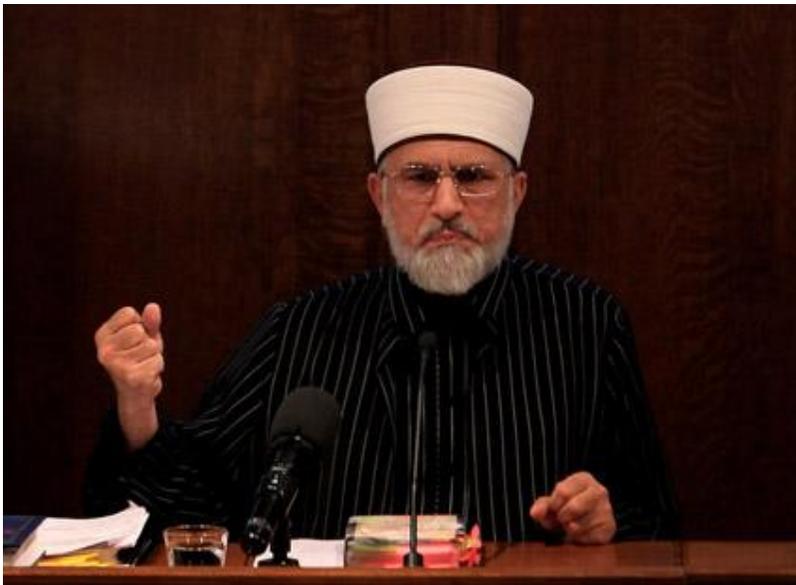
The fatwa, which would be promoted in Britain by Qadri's organisation, Minhaj ul-Quran International, would cover global issues in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in western nations.

Terming the fatwa as 'hard hitting', Minhaj ul-Quran International's spokesperson Shahid Mursaleen said the ruling would inject doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers.

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit the youth by brainwashing them that they will with certainty be rewarded in the next life. Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual actor from their minds," Mursaleen said.

<http://www.thefirstpost.co.uk/60373.news-comment.news-politics.uk-muslims-will-take-muhammad-tahir-ul-qadris-fatwa-against-terrorism-seriously>

UK Muslims will take fatwa against terrorism seriously



Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri's edict bans all attacks on civilians and comes from a popular Islamic movement

[By Jonathan Harwood](#)

LAST UPDATED 6:08 PM, MARCH 2, 2010

The fatwa against Islamic terrorists issued by a London-based Muslim organisation on Tuesday has been hailed as a significant step forward in the fight against fundamentalism, and one that will have repercussions in the UK and beyond.

The 600-page edict from Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, founder of the influential Sufi movement Minhaj-ul-Quran, mounts a "direct challenge to al-Qaeda's violent ideology" and declares "suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers".

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma [community], no, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are heading towards hellfire," he said.

Pakistan-born ul-Qadri, a former associate of Benazir Bhutto, proclaimed the fatwa at a news conference in London, where his popular Minhaj-ul-Quran organisation is based.

He says his edict, which is aimed at persuading young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism, goes further than any previous denunciation. "This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said ul-Qadri, who has authored more than 350 books on Islamic scholarship.

His Minhaj-ul-Quran organisation is growing in popularity and advises the Government on how to combat radicalisation among Muslim youth. It has followers around the globe and is said to be particularly popular among the Pakistani diaspora.

The bulk of Britain's Muslims have connections to Pakistan and nearly all major terrorism plots since 2001, including the 2005 London bombings which killed 52 people, have a Pakistani connection.

Communities Minister Shahid Malik, whose Dewsbury constituency was home to the 7/7 bomber Mohammad Siddique Khan, said: "It is incumbent on Muslims to stand up for their faith – when 7/7 occurred those four evil young men killed themselves and over 50 innocent people because they followed a twisted and perverted interpretation of Islam which told them by doing so they would go to heaven."

A spokesman for the counter-extremist think tank Quilliam said: "This fatwa has the potential to be a highly significant step towards eradicating Islamist terrorism."

"Groups such as al-Qaeda continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture. Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dustbin of history."

Tim Winter, an Islamic studies lecturer at Cambridge University told Sky News: "Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all but 'swing voters' - poorly-educated and angry Muslims who respect mainstream scholars - will probably take note."

Douglas Murray, Director of the Centre for Social Cohesion also described it as "significant" saying it removed "any religious justification for attacks".

"His ruling has the possibility of being respected by a far wider range of people than any of those individual non-scholarly Muslim voices who have also condemned terrorism without caveat," he added. ■

INTERNATIONAL
THE NEWS

http://www.thenews.com.pk/daily_detail.asp?id=226868

Tahir Qadri's Fatwa for terrorists: Hell waits for you

Wednesday, March 03, 2010
By Murtaza Ali Shah

LONDON: A highly influential Sufi Muslim scholar on Tuesday issued a historic Fatwa (religious edict) against acts of violence perpetrated in the name of Islam, calling perpetrators of violence and their mentors as destined for hellfire.

Dr Muhammad Tahir ul Qadri, the founder of formidable Minhajul Quran movement, used a lecture in London to unreservedly condemn terrorist attacks and suicide bombers and urged the Muslim world to take a firm stand against those who bring Islam in disrepute.

Dr Qadri was joined at the Fatwa launch event by government ministers Jim Fitzpatrick, Shahid Malik, Muhammad Sarwar, MP, Dominic Grieve, MP, representatives of various Muslim organisations, government departments and security think tanks. The 600-page Fatwa on Suicide Bombings and Terrorism has been extracted from Dr Qadri's latest research work titled *Dehshet Geri aur Fitna-e-Khawarij*, in a reference to those rebels who had taken up arms against Hazrat Ali (RA).

Speaking at length in English and Arabic, Dr Qadri frequently referred to Quran, Companions of the Prophet (peace be upon him), Hadith and leading Muslim Imams to prove his point that Islam doesn't allow individuals and non-state groups to launch attacks on civilians and opposition targets.

Islam absolutely condemns violence and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and it's our Islamic duty to condemn acts of terrorism without any ifs or buts, without any excuses, pretexts and selfish justifications. Those who perpetrate violent attacks and target humanity act outside the ambit of Islam, they are the enemies of Islam, he said, opening his speech.

The launch of Fatwa is being regarded by many circles as a significant and historic step, the first time that such an explicit and unequivocal decree against perpetrators of terror has been broadcast so widely.

The Fatwa is considered arguably the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism as demonstrated by Taliban, al-Qaeda and their like-minded sectarian groups. To those who laud suicide bombers and praise their acts, Dr Qadri said, they are in unison with "heroes of hellfire". "They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become heroes of the Muslim Ummah. No, they indeed become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire. Their actions have nothing to do with Jihad," Dr Qadri said, who has a large following in Europe and many young Muslims are increasingly taking to his message.

He made it clear a thousand good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good “Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teachings. Islam is a religion of peace. It promotes goodwill, beauty, betterment, goodness and negates all forms of mischief, strife and division. Dr Qadri told The News he wanted to connect with those Muslims who were confused about the actual message of Islam and those whose minds were brain washed by preachers with little knowledge of Islam. He said his clear and categorical injunction will dissuade impressionable young Muslims from falling prey to radical groups.

He agreed many religious edicts against terrorism have recently been issued in Pakistan and elsewhere but none of them comprehensively addressed the issue of terrorism. Dr Qadri said the latest Fatwa goes further than any previous denunciation. He lamented that many religious and political parties in Pakistan were providing succour to terrorist elements.

“I have been under threat for the last 20 years. I know I am a target for the terrorists and they would love to silence me but I am speaking out against them in the service of my Creator,” Dr Qadri, who is spending most of his time outside of Pakistan, told The News, when asked about the threat to his life.



http://www.themedialine.org/news/news_mideast_daily.asp?Date=03/02/2010&category_id=8

Anti-Terror 'Fatwa' to be Issued in London

A Pakistan-based Islamic scholar will issue a ruling prohibiting terrorism and suicide bombing. The BBC is reporting that Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri will issue the “fatwa”, which is intended to “dismantle Al-Qaeda’s violent ideology.” In his 600-page document, the killing of innocent citizens and the use of suicide bombings are singled out as being unacceptable to Muslims. It reportedly presents a point-by-point refutation of Al-Qaeda’s philosophy using theological arguments.

INTERNATIONAL THE NEWS

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/print1.asp?id=227291>

Experts see Qadri's Fatwa significant blow to terrorist recruiting

Friday, March 05, 2010

ISLAMABAD: A Fatwa (religious decree) issued by Chief Patron of Minhaj-ul-Quran International, Tahir-ul-Qadri, in London a few days back, is being highly appreciated by experts who consider it a significant blow to terrorists recruiting.

According to CNN, the anti-terrorism Fatwa by Muslim scholar Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri declared that terrorism was "Haram" (forbidden) by the Quran, and suicide bombers would not be rewarded by 72 virgins in heaven, as many terrorist recruiters promise, but with a suite in Hell.

Qadri, the founder of the Minhaj-ul-Quran International, an Islamic movement with centres in 90 countries, said his decree categorically condemns terrorism and suicide bombings in the name of Islam.

Qadri said his 600-page ruling left no room for interpretation. He added "I did not leave a single minor aspect that, in the mind of radicals or extremists, can take them to the direction of martyrdom."

The 59-year-old Pakistani scholar called his Fatwa an "absolute" condemnation, going as far as to label the terrorists them "Kafirs," a term in the Quran meaning "unbeliever". "This Fatwa has the potential to be a highly significant step towards eradicating Islamist terrorism," Quilliam, a counter-extremism think tank based in London, said in a statement.

Mannan Ahmad, assistant professor of Islam in South and Southeast Asia at the Institute for Islamic Studies in Berlin, agreed, calling the Fatwa "unprecedented". "This is a landmark theological study—a careful and systematic treatment of a thousand years of legal tradition dealing with armed resistance against the state, rules of engagement aspects. The Fatwa itself is categorically and comprehensively against terrorism in any form and for any cause," Ahmad said. Salman Ahmad, the leading singer of the Pakistani rock band "Junoon", said it were the young men in the West who could be influenced the most by Qadri's arguments.

Historical Launching of Fatwa Against Terrorism

5 March, 2010 - 12:02 —

Historical Launching of Fatwa Against Terrorism

Dated 02 March 2010



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Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, the founding leader and patron-in-chief of Minhaj-ul-Quran International, has issued his detailed edict (Fatwa) against terrorism which consists of more than 600 pages. The launching ceremony of the Fatwa was held on March 2, 2010 in London (UK). Minhaj-ul-Quran International UK arranged a press conference which was heavily attended by representatives of the international media besides Labour party minister Shahid Malik, members of EU and UK parliaments Sajjad Karim, Muhammad Sarwar, James Finter, ambassadors of Iraq, Germany and other countries, officials of the Home Office, Commonwealth Office and Metropolitan Police, Professors and Muslim and Christian community leaders.

Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri presented the anti-terror Fatwa in Urdu and English languages before the international media. It should be kept in mind that Shaykh-ul-Islam had declared to issue a detailed Fatwa against terrorism and suicide bombings in December 2009, which was originally thought to consist of 300 pages, whose volume later on increased to 600 pages due to scholarly dealing of the subject. This Fatwa is the only one of its kind in terms of its intellectual value, penetrating research and authentic allusions. Hence, it is a scholarly and historic document.



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Talking to the international media on the occasion, Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri said that ever increasing wave of extremism and terrorism has destroyed the world peace. It is a matter of great misfortune that these terrorist activities of the misguided elements have been bracketed with Islam though the reality is otherwise. He said that majority of the religious scholars condemn terrorism but the condemnation is merely rhetorical. No one has come forward with an authentic and intellectual response to terrorism in the form of a patent decree. Minhaj-ul-Quran International has told the world in no uncertain terms through issuance of this Fatwa that terrorists have nothing to do with Islam. It is a peaceful religion, which not only condemns but also prohibits every kind of terrorism at every level under any pretext.



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He said that the suicide bombers are out of the pale of Islam. He hoped that the youth would not become the fodder for the cannons of terrorist elements or extremist organizations after studying the Fatwa. The terrorist elements brainwash the youth by invoking wrong interpretations of the faith. The youth who advance the objectives of the terrorists should regard themselves out of the fold of Islam in accordance with the teachings of the Holy Prophet. He said that terrorism is terrorism and it cannot be justified under any pretext through allusion to any real or alleged instances of injustice and there is no space for terrorism in Islam.

He regretted the fact that the Islamic teachings, which are based on love, peace and welfare, are being manipulated and quoted out of contexts to serve the designs of the vested interests. He said that Islam spelled out a clear code of conduct during the course of war and gave complete

protection to the non-combatants including women, the old, and children etc., so much so that trading centres, schools, hospitals and worship places were also declared as safe.

Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri said that those who want to impose the Islamic order on others by means of force and naked power belong to the group of Khawarij who, during the Caliphate of Hazrat Ali (ra), took up arms and initiated rebellion against the Islamic state in the name of enforcing the Divine Order. The terrorists of today also belong to the same breed of Khawarij. They resemble one another in their appearances, body demeanors and even working. He said that Islam does not approve of the killing of innocent people under any excuse. There is a judicial system to indict the wrong-doers and bring them to book. It is the responsibility of the Islamic state to implement the system of justice and punishment through state-run mechanism and none can be allowed to take law in his hands.

He vehemently condemned those who perpetrate terrorism in the name of religion and branded them as the greatest enemies of Islam. He said that if at all these people have to wage Jihad, they could do so against ignorance, corruption, deamess, poverty and other social evils. He also blasted the opponents of democracy and said that the Holy Prophet is the champion of the democratic and consultative system. Shaykh-ul-Islam reminded the Islamic governments of the fact that it is their national and religious duty to eliminate terrorism and terrorist networks from their midst. They should continue the military action till the complete elimination of these groups.

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In reply to a question, he said that the Islamic governments should allow democracy to flourish and strengthen political system and processes. If the enemies of Islam and Khawarij are totally annihilated, the roots of terrorism would stand dismantled. He deplored that the Muslim youth happened to be the first casualty of terrorism, for they got trapped in the hands of the terrorist for the sake of religion. The major advantage of the Fatwa would be that the youth would be able to know the reality of their actions whether they are choosing the path to hell or heaven.

British cabinet minister, Shahid Malik, paid glowing tribute to Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri and said that he has always projected the real teachings of Islam. His Fatwa would have long-term positive and revolutionary impact on the Muslim community living in UK and elsewhere and would transform mindsets. He assured his full cooperation at the governmental level. The media men asked Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri a number questions, which he answered satisfactorily. The press conference continued well over three hours. Shaykh-ul-Islam also gave short interviews to different media outlets on the occasion.

<http://www.therevival.co.uk/forum/general/6418>

Shaykh Tahir ul Qadri issues terrorism fatwa

Shaykh Tahir ul Qadri issues terrorism fatwa



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Islamic scholar Tahir ul-Qadri to issue terrorism fatwa

An influential Muslim scholar is to issue in London a global ruling against terrorism and suicide bombing

Dr Tahir ul-Qadri, from Pakistan, says his 600-page judgement, known as a fatwa, completely dismantles al-Qaeda's violent ideology.

The scholar describes al-Qaeda as an "old evil with a new name" which has not been sufficiently challenged.

The scholar's movement is growing in the UK and has attracted the interest of policymakers and security chiefs.

In his religious ruling, Dr Qadri says that Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

Although many scholars have made similar rulings in the past, Dr Qadri's followers argue that the massive document being launched in London goes much further.

They say it sets out point-by-point theological arguments against the rhetoric used by al-Qaeda inspired recruiters.

The fatwa also challenges the religious motivations of would-be suicide bombers who are inspired by promises of an afterlife.

The populist scholar developed his document last year as a response to the increase in bombings across Pakistan by militants.

The basic text has been extended to 600 pages to cover global issues, in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in western nations. It will be promoted in the UK by Dr Qadri's organisation, Minhaj ul-Quran International.

Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran in the UK, said the fatwa was hard-hitting.

"This fatwa injects doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers," he said.

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit the youth by brain washing them that they will 'with certainty' be rewarded in the next life.

"Dr Qadri's fat wa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds."

Religious rulings

The document is not the first to condemn terrorism and suicide bombing to be launched in the UK.

Scholars from across the UK came together in the wake of the 7 July London attacks to denounce the bombers and urge communities to root out extremists.

But some scholarly rulings in the Middle East have argued that the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians is an exceptional situation where "martyrdom" attacks can be justified.

Although Dr Qadri has a large following in Pakistan, Minhaj ul-Quran International remained largely unknown in the UK until relatively recently.

It now has 10 mosques in the British cities with significant Muslim communities and says it is targeting younger generations it believes have been let down by traditional leaders.

The organisation is attracting the attention of policymakers and security chiefs who are continuing to look for allies in the fight against extremists.

The Department for Communities, which runs most of the government's "Preventing Violent Extremism" strategy, has tried building bridges with a variety of liberal-minded groups, but often found that they have limited actual influence at the grassroots.



<http://www.thestate.com/2010/03/02/1182333/muslim-leader-issues-anti-terror.html?RSS=untracked>

Tuesday, Mar. 02, 2010

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

The Associated Press

LONDON -- The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think tank and drew strong media attention.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.



<http://www.thisislondon.co.uk/standard/article-23811059-muslim-leader-suicide-bombers-are-destined-for-hell.do>

02.03.10

Muslim leader: Suicide bombers are 'destined for hell'

Suicide bombers were described today as the "heroes of hellfire" by a leading Muslim scholar in a fatwa condemning terrorists as the enemies of Islam.

[Pakistan](#)-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri said there were no "ifs or buts" about terrorism and such acts had no justification in the name of Islam.

In a news conference attended by MPs, representatives from the Metropolitan Police, charitable organisations, think-tanks and other groups, he called on Islamic leaders to convey the message that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma (the wider Muslim community), no, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire," he said.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered Jihad," he said.

Dr Qadri, who spoke at length in both English and Arabic before his audience, said his fatwa, a religious edict or ruling, was an "absolute" condemnation of terrorism without "any excuses or pretexts".

"Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good," he said.

"Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts."

He insisted that Islam was a religion of peace that promotes beauty, "betterment", goodness and "negates all form of mischief and strife".

The 600-page fatwa by Dr Qadri, founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, which has thousands of supporters across the world as well as in the UK, will be translated into English in the coming weeks.

His talk will also be made available online in an attempt to counter extremist versions of Islam available on the internet.

The fatwa has been billed as "arguably the most comprehensive" theological refutation of Islamic terrorism to date by counter-extremism think-tank the Quilliam Foundation.

The Minhaj-ul-Quran movement said it runs courses in combating religious extremism in educational centres throughout Britain including London, [Birmingham](#), [Manchester](#), Nelson, Walsall and [Glasgow](#). It currently has an office in [Dundee](#).

A fatwa, an edict issued by a learned Muslim scholar, may concern any aspect of Islamic life.

The term became famous in the Western world in 1989 after the author [Salman Rushdie](#) was forced into hiding following a "death fatwa" issued by Ayatollah Khomeini, then Supreme Leader of [Iran](#), on the grounds that his book, *The Satanic Verses*, had "insulted" Islam.



<http://www.tri-cityherald.com/2010/03/02/922452/muslim-leader-issues-anti-terror.html>

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

The Associated Press

Tuesday, Mar. 02, 2010

LONDON The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawyer, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think tank and drew strong media attention.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

<http://www.turkishweekly.net/news/98701/clinton-uk-muslim-leader-to-put-fatwa-on-jihad-sanctions-months-away.html>

Clinton: UK Muslim leader to put fatwa on Jihad Sanctions Months Away

Tuesday, 2 March 2010

LONDON – A revered mainstream Muslim scholar is set to announce in London on Tuesday a fatwa (Muslim ruling) against terrorism and suicide bombing in the name of Islam.

Sheikh Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri, a widely recognized and respected authority on Islamic jurisprudence, will issue a comprehensive fatwa prohibiting terrorism and suicide bombing at a press conference in Westminster, central London.

The Pakistani-born Dr. Qadri has authored an unprecedented, 600-page fatwa on why suicide bombings and terrorism are un-Islamic and scripturally forbidden. The ruling is the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism to date.

The fatwa will also be posted on the Internet and in English, making it readily accessible. It will also set an important precedent and allow other scholars to similarly condemn the ideas behind terrorism.

Dr. Qadri has used texts in the Koran and other Islamic writings to argue that suicide and other terrorist attacks are "absolutely against the teachings of Islam" and that "Islam does not permit such acts on any excuse, reason or pretext."

The fatwa condemns suicide bombers as destined for hell, refuting the claim used by Islamists that such terrorists will earn paradise after death.

"Today's tragedy is that terrorists, murderers, mischief-mongers and rioters try to prove their criminal, rebellious, tyrannous, brutal and blasphemous activities as a right and a justified reaction to foreign aggression under the garb of defense of Islam and national interests," he says about suicide bombing.

"It can in no way be permissible to keep foreign delegates under unlawful custody and murder them and other peaceful non-Muslim citizens in retaliation for interference, unjust activities and aggressive advances of their countries," Qadri said, asserting, "The one who does has no relation to Islam."

Dr. Qadri is the founder of the international Minhaj-ul-Quran movement. Supporters say his fatwa is significant because he is issuing it himself and his movement, a major grass-roots global organization, has hundreds of thousands of followers in South Asia and the UK.

The move has been welcomed by the Quilliam Foundation, a London-based anti-extremism think-tank led by former Islamists.

"This fatwa has the potential to be a highly significant step towards eradicating Islamist terrorism," a Quilliam spokesperson said. "Fatwas by Wahhabi-influenced clerics and Islamist ideologues initiated modern terrorism against civilians. Terrorist groups such as al-Qaida continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture.

"Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dustbin of history."

London's Centre for Social Cohesion think-tank has also welcomed the initiative.

CSC director Douglas Murray believes that in recent years, and since the July 2005 terrorist attack in London, Muslim leaders have failed to unequivocally condemn violence committed in the name of Islam.

"A sentence that may to many people seem clear, such as 'There can be no justification for the killing of innocent people' is filled with caveats – what is an 'innocent' person? Who decides who is or is not 'innocent'?"

"Too many Muslim religious figures sound as if they are condemning violence when in fact they are merely condemning violence in certain situations, against certain people," he said.

Murray said the fatwa takes away the caveats and will have far-reaching consequences. However he said it won't stop Islamic terrorism instantaneously.

"Dr. ul-Qadri is respected for his ability to cross some of the notable sectarian boundaries that abound in the Islamic faith as in all others. Even Muslims who might dislike him will not be able to dismiss him out of hand.

"Yet even if the contents of this fatwa are what people have long hoped for, it will not, of course, stop Islamic terrorism straight away. A single fatwa will not change the level of denial and lack of self-criticism inherent in so much of modern Islam. Nor will it stop every fevered young radical eager to kill and maim. But the trickle-down effect is important. The most violent interpretations of Islam have indeed trickled down to terrorists via learned scholars," he said.

<http://www.turkishweekly.net/other-news/837465/suicide-bombers-apos-heroes-of-hellfire-apos-muslim-scholar-the-press-association.html>

Tuesday, 9 March 2010

Suicide bombers 'heroes of hellfire': Muslim scholar - The Press Association

Times Online Suicide bombers 'heroes of hellfire': Muslim scholar The Press Association Suicide bombers have been described as the "heroes of hellfire" by a leading Muslim scholar in a fatwa issued in London which condemned terrorists as the enemies of Islam. Pakistan-bom Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri said there were no "ifs or buts" about ...Islamic scholar Tahir ul-Qadri issues terrorism fatwa BBC News Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa The Associated Press Islamic scholar says suicide bombers will 'go to hell' Independent The Guardian - CBC.ca



<http://www.wbay.com/Global/story.asp?S=12068093>

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

Posted: Mar 02, 2010 2:36 PM Updated: Mar 05, 2010 11:16 AM



LONDON (AP) - The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions." Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think tank and drew strong media attention.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.



Islâmi Davet

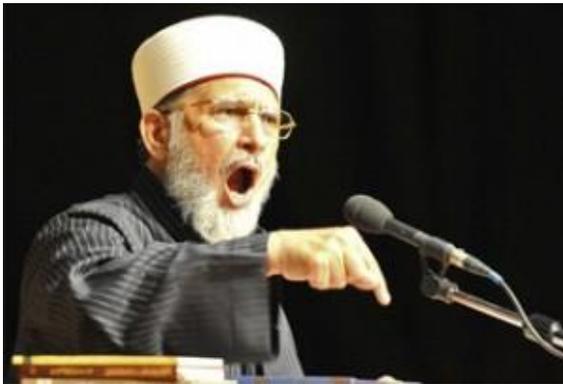
(Islamic Invitation)

...it is the party of Allah that must certainly triumph(Qur'an-5/56)

<http://www.islamicdavet.com/english/tag/minhaj-ul-quran-movement/>

London-based cleric issues anti-terror fatwa

Posted on 03 March 2010 by Islâmi Davet



An influential Muslim scholar in Britain has issued a fatwa banning terror attacks and bombings, insisting that there is no justification for terror acts in the name of Islam.

At a news conference attended by officers from London's Metropolitan Police, lawmakers, charitable organizations and think-tanks, Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri said that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Ummah. No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards the hellfire," he said.

In his 600-page decree, the founder of the internationally popular Minhaj-ul-Quran movement said there was no place for martyrdom through acts of terror and that such acts had nothing to do with jihad.

The scholar ruled out any excuses or pretexts for justifying acts of terror in supposed efforts to "convert an evil into good."

"Terrorism is terrorism," Qadri insisted. "Violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts." He reiterated that Islam is a religion of peace that promotes beauty, "betterment," goodness and "negates all form of mischief and strife."

The fatwa is not the first by a senior Muslim scholar against extremism, but Qadri's is expected to carry more weight as it will be one of the few available in English and online



<http://www.u.tv/articles/ArticlePrint.aspx?cat=news&guid=fd52d9d8-39d0-4979-b030-f8531a358413>

Fatwas can be a force for good

Ed Husain: Sadly, we all remember the death warrant on Salman Rushdie but next month a fatwa against terrorism will be delivered

Friday, 26 February 2010

Following the Salman Rushdie affair, the word fatwa became commonplace in our vernacular – it, lamentably, became associated with death, killing, and censorship. But to most Muslims, the word fatwa is not a political term, but an unbinding religious edict issued by erudite scholars who take into consideration the needs of the modern world. While most of us remember the Iranian cleric Ayatollah Khomeini's fatwa of death, how many remember the other scholar, Zaki Badawi, who offered refuge and solace to the then beleaguered Rushdie?

Sadly, fatwas with death warrants are still deemed necessary by some. Only this week, a leading Saudi Wahhabi cleric issued a fatwa suggesting death for Muslims who propagate free interaction with members of the opposite sex. This destructive cycle of judging Muslim's religious beliefs, then issuing excommunications or takfir, followed by calls for their deaths, lies behind the modern terrorism of al-Qaida and Taliban slaughter of Muslims in Iraq or Pakistan.

Rightly, then, many ask where are prominent Muslim voices who oppose extremism and terrorism?

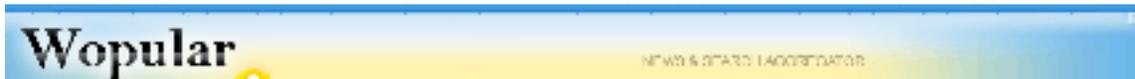
Next week, here in Britain, one such renowned Muslim opinion-former will deliver a hard-hitting fatwa against suicide bombings and terrorism. Founder of the vast Pakistani grassroots movement known as Minhaj ul Quran, Dr Tahir ul Qadri has authored an unprecedented 600-page fatwa on why suicide bombings and terrorism are un-Islamic and scripturally forbidden. This is likely to be a powerful, popular fatwa from a much loved, inspiring scholar of Islam.

Earlier this month, invitations to attend the launch of the fatwa went to most parliamentarians. A leading Labour MP friend wrote the following lines in an email to me: Is this helpful? Do we need a fatwa to say suicide bombing is wrong? Surely it should be just part of being a human being?

Well, yes and no. If our politicians and others ignore the value of moderate Muslim leaders coming out with fatwas against terrorism, not only do we close down an important and emerging public space, we also forget our own history of progress. After all, John Locke's works on tolerance were nothing more than Christian fatwas in the midst of 17th century European wars of religion. Locke wrote with references to the Bible. His arguments were rooted in theology. More importantly, however, a prominent Muslim fatwa against killing innocent people, citing religious texts, does three things.

First, it emboldens other Muslim thought leaders to amplify their voices against extremism. Secondly, it prevents activist Muslims from considering suicide bombers as "martyrs", and thus removes the hero status currently attached to murderers. And finally, a fatwa challenging perceived "martyrdom operations" will inject doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers. Where there is doubt, in Islamic religious behaviour, there is avoidance. Suicide bombers currently kill because they have certainty (yaqeen) of being rewarded in the next life (akhirah). Shaikh Tahir ul Qadri's fatwa removes this key intellectual ingredient from the minds of killers.

Finally, Shaikh Tahir is no ordinary scholar. He is the head of a global social movement of mainstream Muslims, a teacher to thousands, and a compassionate Muslim leader who has drawn millions to normative Islam. Doubt me? Take a look at preparations for the mass celebration of remembering the birthday of the prophet Mohammad in Pakistan. Those mainstream Muslims that believe in love, compassion, song, music, fireworks and birthdays don't tend to kill fellow human beings. Shaikh Tahir is a leader of that caravan of ordinary Muslims, trying to rescue our Islam from the Saudi clerics that issue fatwas of death, and leading the way for announcing fatwas against death. In this battle of the fatwas, we must not make the mistake of supporting our oil supplying allies.



<http://www.wopular.com/islamic-scholar-tahir-ul-qadri-issues-terrorism-fatwa-global-ruling>

Islamic Scholar Tahir Ul-qadri Issues Terrorism Fatwa (global Ruling)

Wed, 03/03/2010 - 6:47am — BBC

An influential Muslim scholar has issued a global ruling against terrorism and suicide bombing. Dr Tahir ul-Qadri, from Pakistan, says his 600-page judgement, known as a fatwa, completely dismantles al-Qaeda's violent ideology. The scholar describes al-Qaeda as an "old evil with a new name" that has not been sufficiently challenged. The scholar's movement is growing in the UK and has attracted the interest of policymakers and security chiefs.

http://www.upiasia.com/Top_News/US/2010/03/03/Cleric-condemns-terrorism/UPI-24021267595515/

Cleric condemns terrorism

LONDON, March 3 (UPI) – A Pakistani Muslim scholar, in a lengthy theological ruling against terrorism, rejected al-Qaida's philosophy, saying Islam forbids the massacre of innocents.

Appearing in London, Tahir ul-Qadri told a group of Muslims, clergy, political leaders and police officers his 600-page fatwa rejects violence and called al-Qaida an "old evil with a new name," the BBC reported.

Qadri's movement, called Minhaj ul-Quran International, is growing in Britain, drawing the interest of policymakers and law enforcement heads, the report said. Qadri said his study, resulting from the escalation of militant violence in Pakistan, is a detailed theological rebuttal of every point made by al-Qaida inspired recruiters.

"They (terrorists) can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma (global brotherhood)," he told his audience. "No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad."

Rejecting some scholarly rulings on martyrdom as it related to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, Qadri said there is no situation in which vengeful acts such as attacks on marketplaces or commuter trains can ever be considered a justifiable act of war.

The report said Qadri has many followers in Pakistan but his Minhaj ul-Quran International has become known in Britain only recently. The movement, which has 10 mosques in cities with significant Muslim communities, is targeting the younger generation, the BBC said.

http://news.guelphmercury.com/Wire/News_Wire/World/article/604425

Muslim leader issues 600-page anti-terror fatwa in London



March 02, 2010
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE CANADIAN PRESS, 2010

LONDON - A former Pakistani legislator who lives in Canada and leads a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

He is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Qur'an, a worldwide movement that promotes a non-political, tolerant Islam.

A spokesman for the group told The Canadian Press that Tahir-ul-Qadri has been living in southern Ontario for almost four years. The spokesman would not reveal the exact location.

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think-tank.

The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.



<http://www.doroja.com/smartdic.aspx?decode=1&url=aHR0cDovL3d3dy50aGVkYWlseXN0YXluYmV0L25ld0Rlc2lnb9uZXZLWRIldGFpbHMucGhwP25pZD0xMjg0MDM=B64Code>

Pak Islamic scholar to issue fatwa against suicide bombing

Wednesday, March 3, 2010

Describing al-Qaeda as an 'old evil with a new name', influential Pakistani scholar Dr Tahir ul-Qadri has said he would soon issue a 'fatwa' against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Qadri said the al-Qaeda has not been sufficiently challenged and that his global ruling against terrorism completely dismantles the banned terror organisation's violent ideology.

In his 600-page ruling, Qadri said Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

The fatwa also challenges the religious motivations of would-be suicide bombers who are inspired by promises of an afterlife, The BBC reports.

The famous Muslim scholar developed his document last year as a response to the sudden increase in suicide bombings across Pakistan.

The fatwa, which would be promoted in Britain by Qadri's organisation, Minhaj ul-Quran International, would cover global issues in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in western nations.

Terming the fatwa as 'hard hitting', Minhaj ul-Quran International's spokesperson Shahid Mursaleen said the ruling would inject doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers.

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit the youth by brainwashing them that they will with certainty be rewarded in the next life. Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual actor from their minds," Mursaleen said.

<http://www.wibw.com/nationalnews/headlines/86278707.html>

Posted: 5:19 PM Mar 3, 2010

Muslim Scholar Issues Fatwa against Terrorism

LONDON, England (CNN) -- A Muslim scholar has issued a fatwa, or religious ruling, that says suicide bombers are destined for hell.

Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri condemned terrorism and criticized Islamic extremists who cite their religion to justify violence.

Ul-Qadri's 600-page fatwa is "arguably the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism to date," according to the Quilliam Foundation, a London organization that describes itself as a counter-terrorism think tank.

"Terrorism is terrorism," ul-Qadri said at a news conference hosted by the foundation. "Violence is violence. It has no place in Islamic teaching, and no justification can be provided to it..."

Ul-Qadri is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, an organization with hundreds of thousands of followers in South Asia and the United Kingdom, according to the Quilliam Foundation.

The foundation refers to ul-Qadri as a mainstream Muslim scholar who is a "widely recognized and respected authority on Islamic jurisprudence."

He criticized Muslims who justify terrorism by saying it furthers the goal of correcting wrongs done to Muslims.

"No good intention -- even one thousand good intentions put together -- cannot justify a wrong and forbidden act," he said. "Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good."

Some extremists have interpreted the Quran to suggest that those who kill in the name of Allah will be rewarded after death with 72 virgins and a place in paradise.

Winnipeg Free Press

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/canada/breakingnews/muslim-leader-issues-600-page-anti-terror-fatwa-in-london-85995062.html>

Muslim leader issues 600-page anti-terror fatwa in London

By: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
2/03/2010 1:44 PM

LONDON - A former Pakistani legislator who lives in Canada and leads a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

He is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Qur'an, a worldwide movement that promotes a non-political, tolerant Islam.

A spokesman for the group told The Canadian Press that Tahir-ul-Qadri has been living in southern Ontario for almost four years. The spokesman would not reveal the exact location.

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<http://www.wistv.com/Global/story.asp?S=12068093>

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

Posted: Mar 02, 2010 2:36 PM Updated: Mar 05, 2010 11:16 AM

LONDON (AP) - The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.



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The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

TRAIL OF TERROR

Posted: March 03, 2010
10:50 p m Eastern

CAIR on violence? We opposed it *years ago*

Responds to question about 'fatwa' with 2005 statement decrying 'war between faiths'

The Washington-based Council on American-Islamic Relations, which has petitioned unsuccessfully to remove its name from a list of unindicted terrorist co-conspirators, today pointed to a nearly five-year-old statement to affirm it opposes terrorism and extremism.

CAIR, which also unsuccessfully sought to censor the book "Muslim Mafia" and the internal documents it uncovered, today responded to a WND request for its perspective on a new "fatwa," or Islamic religious ruling, in Britain that condemned terrorism by e-mailing a copy of its announcement from July 28, 2005.

In CAIR's statement, Executive Director Nihad Awad said, "United, we can confront the terrorists and frustrate their goal of sparking an apocalyptic war between faiths and civilizations.

"The presence here today of American Muslim leaders indicates the willingness of our community to strengthen national security and to work with policy-makers to gain victory over this international menace to humanity," he said at the time.

CAIR is regarded by U.S. counter-terrorism officials as a front group for the Egypt-based Muslim Brotherhood, the progenitor of most of the major Islamic terrorist groups including al-Qaida and Hamas.

Its 2005 statement declared support for a "fatwa" issued by the Fiqh Council of North America that was backed by dozens of U.S. Muslim leaders and groups.

It stated, "Islam strictly condemns religious extremism and the use of violence against innocent lives. There is no justification in Islam for extremism or terrorism. Targeting civilians' life and property through suicide bombings or any other method of attack is haram – or forbidden – and those who commit these barbaric acts are criminals, not 'martyrs.'"

The statement was e-mailed in response to a WND request for comment on a new report from the U.K. that a leader of a global Muslim movement had released a 600-page document condemning violence and purporting to "take back" Islam from al-Qaida and other groups engaged in violence. The new fatwa has the support of the British government.

[Get "Muslim Mafia," the book that exposed CAIR from the inside out, autographed, from WND's Superstore!](#)

The U.K. statement, released by Muslim scholar Muhammad Tahi-ul-Qadri, makes a case against Islamic extremism.

"Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence, and it has no place in Islamic teaching, and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts," Tahi-ul-Qadri told a London news conference. "Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into a good; they cannot convert an evil into good."

The Washington Times reported it was unclear how much impact his statement would carry, since he is a leader in the South Asian Muslim community and a Sufi Muslim, not a Quranic literalist, as are Wahhabi and Salafi divisions of the religion.

It is among those groups that support for al-Qaida is strongest, analysts said.

Timothy Furnish, a historian of Islam, said the other camp typically issues an antithetical ruling to confuse the issue.

The Washington Post reported in 2005 that the U.S. "fatwa" was a one-page decision that CAIR spokesman Ibrahim Hooper described as "another way to drive home the point that the American Muslim community rejects terrorism and extremism."

The U.S. ruling said in 2005 it was "haram," or forbidden, for terrorism to target civilians and for Muslims to cooperate with terrorism. It declared Muslims have a religious duty to cooperate with law enforcement authorities.

[WND reported yesterday](#) CAIR's Chicago branch is playing host to the first U.S. appearance of Tariq Ramadan, the grandson of the founder of the Muslim Brotherhood whose Bush administration ban for alleged terrorist ties recently was lifted by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

Ramadan, a Swiss citizen, is scheduled to speak at CAIR-Chicago's sixth annual banquet April 10. In a promo for the event, [first reported by the Atlas Shrugs blog](#), CAIR called his appearance a "milestone for the American Muslim community since he was banned from visiting the United States almost six years ago."

Ramadan's maternal grandfather, Hasan al-Banna, founded the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt in 1928. His father, Said Ramadan, was an Islamist leader who fled Egypt after a crackdown on the Brotherhood and ended up in Geneva in 1958. Tariq Ramadan was born in the Swiss capital in 1962.

In 2004, the Department of Homeland Security revoked Ramadan's work visa under a law that denies entry to aliens who have used a "position of prominence within any country to endorse or espouse terrorist activity."

The DHS did not release its evidence on Ramadan, but Middle East scholar and anti-terrorism specialist Daniel Pipes [listed at the time a number of likely reasons for him to be denied entry](#).

Ramadan had been banned from entering France in 1996 on suspicion of links with an Algerian Islamist who initiated a terrorist campaign in Paris. He also had contacts with Ahmed Brahim, an

Algerian indicted for al-Qaida activities, and Djamel Beghal, leader of a group accused of planning to attack the American embassy in Paris.

Ramadan also has denied that there was "any certain proof" Osama bin Laden was behind 9/11 and praised the brutal Islamist policies of the Sudanese politician Hassan Al-Turabi, who in turn called Ramadan the "future of Islam."

As [WND has reported](#), CAIR is suing a father-and-son team that conducted an undercover probe that came up with 12,000 pages of internal documents confirming the Islamic organization's role as a front for the Muslim Brotherhood and Hamas in the U.S.



http://www.democraticunderground.com/discuss/duboard.php?az=show_msg&forum=102&topic_id=4289749&msg_id=4289749

http://www.democraticunderground.com/discuss/duboard.php?az=view_all&address=102x4289749

Islamic scholar Tahir ul-Qadri to issue terrorism fatwa

Source: **BBC**

An influential Muslim scholar is to issue in London a global ruling against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Dr Tahir ul-Qadri, from Pakistan, says his 600-page judgement, known as a fatwa, completely dismantles al-Qaeda's violent ideology.

The scholar describes al-Qaeda as an "old evil with a new name" which has not been sufficiently challenged.

The scholar's movement is growing in the UK and has attracted the interest of policymakers and security chiefs.

Read more: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/8544531.stm



<http://www.wreg.com/news/nationworld/sns-ap-eu-britain-anti-terror-fatwa,0,4235062.story>

Pakistan-born Muslim leader issues 600-page anti-terror fatwa in London

By Associated Press 8:37 AM CST, March 2, 2010



Leading Muslim scholar Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri speaks at the UK launch of the Fatwa on suicide bombings and terrorism held by non-governmental organization Minhaj-ul-Quran International (MQI) in London, Tuesday, March 2, 2010. The fatwa is an Islamic decree that condemns suicide bombings and terrorist atrocities along with their perpetrators. (AP Photo/Akira Suemori) (Akira Suemori, AP / March 2, 2010)

LONDON (AP) — The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

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The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a

nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.



<http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3857044,00.html>

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

Published: 03.02.10, 23:31

Suicide bombers heading to hell, al-Qaeda evil, Pakistani-born scholar says

The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."



"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim nation," Qadri told a press conference in London. "No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are heading towards hellfire."

Qadri also slammed Osama Bin Laden's al-Qaeda network, referring to it as an "old evil with a new name" and saying it has not been challenged adequately thus far.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad," he said.

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think tank and drew strong media attention.

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<http://www.dailystar.co.uk/news/view/124586/Leading-Muslims-issue-fatwa-against-suicide-bombers/>

LEADING MUSLIMS ISSUE FATWA AGAINST SUICIDE BOMBERS

3rd March 2010

By Tom Savage

LEADING Muslims last night issued a fatwa against suicide bombers, warning them: "You are going to Hell."

Furious religious leaders made the ruling against twisted fanatics, like those who carried out the 7/7 bombings in London in 2005, who use Islam as an excuse to carry out terrorism.

The edict was delivered by Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, 59, the Pakistan-born leader of global Islamic movement Minhaj-ul-Quran.

He said there were no "ifs or buts" about terrorism, and such acts had no justification in the name of Islam.

The 600-page fatwa announces that "suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers". During a news conference, Dr Qadri said: "They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma (the wider Muslim community).

"No, they become heroes of Hellfire, and they are leading towards Hellfire."

Communities Minister Shahid Malik said: "I welcome the work of Dr Qadri in helping reinforce this crucial message."



<http://www.dailystar.co.uk/posts/view/124481/Suicide-bombers-enemies-of-Islam/>

SUICIDE BOMBERS 'ENEMIES OF ISLAM'

2nd March 2010

Suicide bombers have been described as the "heroes of hellfire" by a leading Muslim scholar in a fatwa condemning terrorists as the enemies of Islam.

Pakistan-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri said there were no "ifs or buts" about terrorism and such acts had no justification in the name of Islam.

In a news conference attended by MPs, representatives from the Metropolitan Police, charitable organisations, think-tanks and other groups, he called on Islamic leaders to convey the message that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma (the wider Muslim community), no, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire," he said.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered Jihad," he added.

Dr Qadri, who spoke at length in both English and Arabic before his audience, said his fatwa - a religious edict or ruling - was an "absolute" condemnation of terrorism without "any excuses or pretexts".

"Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good," he said. "Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts."

He insisted that Islam was a religion of peace that promotes beauty, "betterment", goodness and "negates all form of mischief and strife".

The 600-page fatwa by Dr Qadri, founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, which has thousands of supporters across the world as well as in the UK, will be translated into English in the coming weeks. His talk will also be made available online in an attempt to counter extremist versions of Islam available on the internet.

A fatwa, an edict issued by a learned Muslim scholar, may concern any aspect of Islamic life. The term became famous in the Western world in 1989 after the author Salman Rushdie was forced into hiding following a "death fatwa" issued by Ayatollah Khomeini, then Supreme Leader of Iran, on the grounds that his book, *The Satanic Verses*, had "insulted" Islam.

<http://www.dehavilland.co.uk/Verticals/userlogin2.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fVerticals%2fMonitor%2fMoStart.aspx%3fitems%3d17762797&items=17762797>

S3M-5854 - Anti-terrorism Fatwa (updated)

Scottish Motion Tabled *S3M-5854 Bill Kidd: Anti-terrorism Fatwa That the Parliament notes the issuing, on 2 March 2010, of a comprehensive fatwa (religious ruling) by the renowned mainstream scholar, Shaikh Dr Tahir ul-Qadri, prohibiting te...



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<http://www.daylife.com/article/0eM38qUbA49o1?q=Top+News>

Muslim scholar launches anti-terror fatwa



An influential Muslim scholar is to issue in [London](#) a global ruling against terrorism and suicide bombing. Dr Tahir ul-Qadri, from [Pakistan](#), says his 600-page judgement, known as a fatwa, completely dismantles [al-Qaeda's](#) violent ideology. The scholar describes... [Full Article at BBC News](#)

Deseret News

<http://www.deseretnews.com/article/700013296/Muslim-leader-issues-anti-terror-fatwa.html>

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

Associated Press

Published: Tuesday, March 2, 2010 7:18 a.m. MST



A kira Suemori, Associated Press

Leading Muslims scholar Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri holds his Fatwa on suicide bombings and terrorism, as he speaks at its UK launch held by non-governmental organization Minhaj-ul-Quran International (MQI) in London, Tuesday.

LONDON — The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London is being hosted by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded, anti-extremism think tank.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

The Columbus dispatch

http://www.dispatch.com/live/content/local_news/stories/2010/03/02/fatwa-terror.html?sid=101

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

Tuesday, March 2, 2010 8:25 AM

LONDON (AP) -- The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

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The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

EarthTimes

http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/312082_muslim-scholar-issues-fat-wa-condemning-al-qaeda-terrorism.html

London - A leading Muslim scholar with a large following in Britain Tuesday issued a fatwa - or Islamic religious ruling - condemning global terrorism and suicide bombings in a "direct challenge to al-Qaeda's violent ideology." Pakistan-born Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, the founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, made his formal proclamation of a fatwa, or religious edict, at a news conference in London.

The 600-page fatwa says that "suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers."

Qadri described the al-Qaeda movement as an "old devil with a new name" and said he believed that the overwhelming majority of young Muslims in Britain had not yet been radicalized and would "think again" on reading his proclamation.

Those who had already been "totally brainwashed" would not listen, said Qadri, but others would have "doubt" sewn in their minds.

"You don't become a terrorist overnight. It is a journey ... Many are already on that road but they have not yet arrived to become suicide bombers," Qadri told journalists.

He developed the document, which challenges the religious motivation of suicide bombers, in response to the rise in suicide bombings in Pakistan.

He said he hoped his arguments would attract the attention of politicians and security services in western nations.

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Read more: http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/312082_muslim-scholar-issues-fat-wa-condemning-al-qaeda-terrorism.html#ixzz0hceeVd2w

<http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/312128.muslim-scholar-issues-fatwa-against-al-qaeda-terrorism--summary.html>

London - An influential Muslim scholar with a large following in Britain Tuesday issued a fatwa - or Islamic religious ruling - which condemned global terrorism and branded suicide bombers as the "heroes of hellfire." The proclamation by Pakistan-born Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, the founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, was immediately welcomed by government leaders and followed closely by security organizations, parliamentarians and Muslim groups.

Qadri told a news conference in London that the fatwa should be seen as a "direct challenge to al-Qaeda's violent ideology" which had no justification in the name of Islam.

"Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts," said Qadri.

The 600-page fatwa says that "suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers."

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations ... they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire," he said.

Qadri described the al-Qaeda network as an "old evil with a new name" and said he believed that the overwhelming majority of young Muslims in Britain had not yet been radicalized and would "think again" on reading his proclamation.

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"You don't become a terrorist overnight. It is a journey ... Many are already on that road but they have not yet arrived to become suicide bombers," Qadri told journalists.

He developed the document, which challenges the religious motivation of suicide bombers, in response to the rise in suicide bombings in Pakistan, where Qadri has a large following.

His organization currently has 10 mosques in British cities with large Muslim communities and it hopes to target the younger generation who feel "let down by traditional leaders," said Qadri.

Members of parliament, security chiefs and Muslim representatives were present at the proclamation.

Qadri said he hoped his arguments would attract the attention of politicians and security services in western nations.

Britain's Communities Minister, Shahid Malik, welcomed the fatwa as a "crucial message to Muslims and non-Muslims alike" because it made clear that martyrs were "not going to heaven but somewhere very different indeed."

Fellow-Islamic scholar Shaikh Mohammed Hisham Kabbani, of the Centre for Spirituality and Cultural Advancement, said the fatwa would help British Muslims to "counter the radical Islamist rhetoric in the world"

"This scholarship is a landmark in enabling Muslims living in the UK to be able to silence the small minority of people who think it is OK to commit violent acts in the name of Islam," he said.

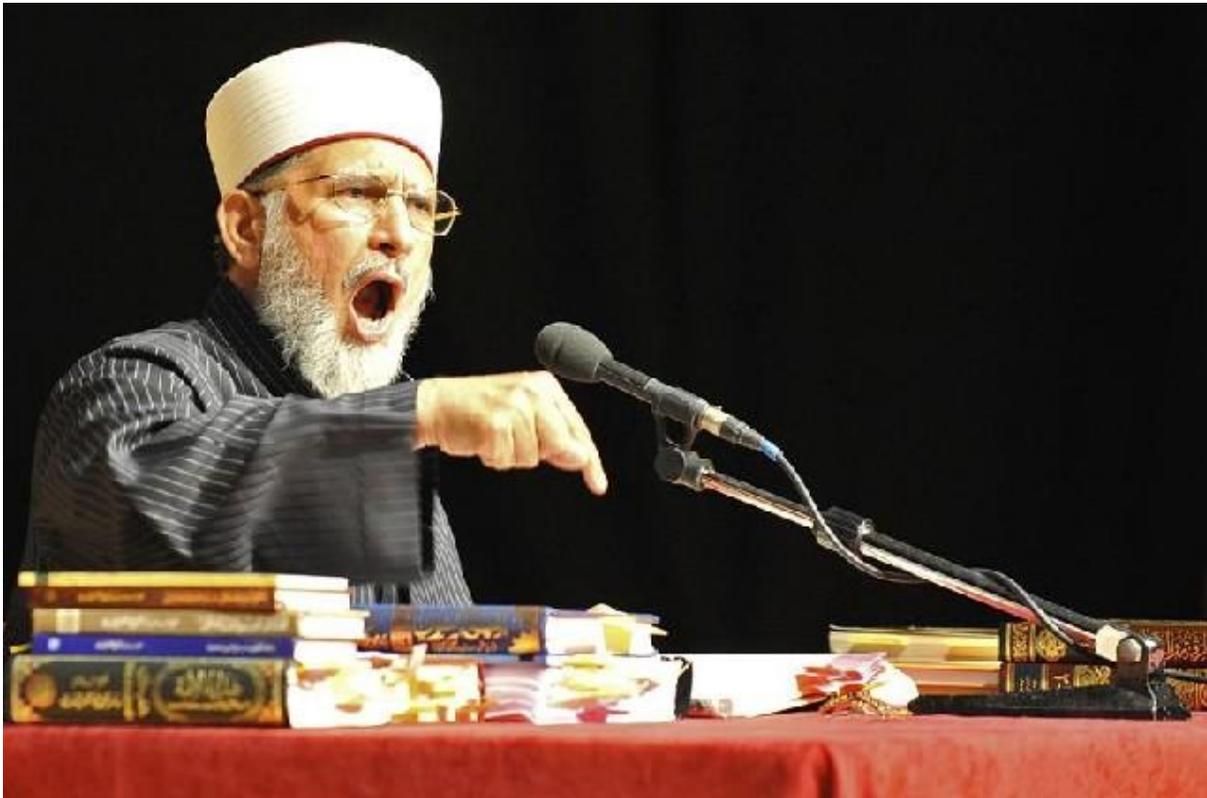
Read more: <http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/312128.muslim-scholar-issues-fatwa-against-al-qaeda-terrorism-->

Ethiopian Review

<http://www.ethiopianreview.com/news/11838>

Tahir ul-Qadri and the difficulty of reporting on fatwas

Tom Heneghan | March 2nd, 2010 at 2:27 pm



Muhammed Tahir ul-Qadri at a [youth camp](#) in Coventry, central England, August 9, 2009/Kieran [Doherty](#)

It never was and may never be easy to report about fatwas for a world audience. This point was driven home once again today when a prominent Islamic scholar presented to the media his new 600-page fatwa against terrorism and suicide bombing. [Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri](#) is a Pakistani-born Sufi scholar whose youth workshops fostering moderation and understanding in Britain [had already caught our attention](#). His effort to knock down any and

every argument in favour of violence is certainly welcome. But the back story to this event is so complicated that it's hard to report on the fatwa without simply ignoring many important parts of this back story.

Part of the problem was the PR drumroll leading up to ul-Qadri's news conference. [Minhaj-ul-Quran](#), his international network to spread his Sufi teachings, touted this fatwa in an email to journalists a week ago as a unique event "*because **at no time in history** has such an extensively researched and evidenced work been presented by such a prominent Islamic authority.*" Hype like this usually prompts journalists to throw an invitation straight into the trash can.

Two days later, on February 25, the pitch was changed to present this document as "*the first ever fatwa against terrorism which declares terrorists as disbelievers.*" Now, that's more likely to grab a busy journalist's attention. But once it has accomplished that, any hack with any experience covering Islam finds two big problems with this description.

First, it plays on a widely-held (and sometimes willful) misperception that Muslim leaders have not spoken out against Islamist violence. Large numbers of Muslim leaders have denounced violence, suicide bombs, 9/11, 7/7 and many other bloody attacks by Islamist radicals (check out [a long partial list here](#)). But since there is no real hierarchy in Islam, non-Muslims don't know who has the authority to speak out and Muslims often challenge the authority of those who do. Many of these statements end up unreported, like the trees nobody hears falling in the forest. But if a news story is written with the "*first ever*" tag in the lead, it gives the false impression that no other Muslim leader has ever done anything similar before.

Second, the clause "*which declares terrorists as disbelievers*" is difficult terrain. It's hard for a journalist to verify that this is the first such fatwa as no central directory of such edicts worldwide exists. Moreover, who has the authority in Islam to declare someone a non-Muslim? Al-Qaeda has been criticised for declaring its enemies non-Muslims (an act known as [takfir](#)) and either killing them or urging other Muslims to kill them.

In fact, an important group of mainstream Muslim scholars got together in 2004 to issue [the Amman Message](#) that denounces the use of *takfir*. On the website of the Amman Message is a list of scholars endorsing it. Among those listed under Pakistan is [none other than al-Qadri...](#)

Another problem is that ul-Qadri issued an earlier, 150-page Urdu version of his fatwa last December and got a tepid reception — Pakistan's Interior Minister Rehman Malik welcomed it as "[a positive development](#)" and Pakistani media — [see The News here](#) — seem to have given it only short routine coverage. Maybe they're suffering from a fatwa overload there.

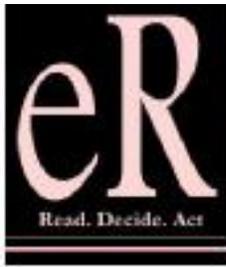
Assessing the fatwa's significance is also difficult when even Muslim views of it are quite divided. Check out these posts in the blogosphere — [Qadri's fatwa breaks no new ground](#) (with lots about what his critics think of him) ... [Shaikh Dr Tahir ul-Qadri – Anti-Terrorism Fatwa Without Teeth](#) ... [Fatwas can be a force](#)

[for good](#) ... plus this *Guardian* comment [Fatwa wars are not the solution.](#)

By this morning, the emails promoting the news conference took another angle: *"The launch of the fatwa is being regarded by many circles as a significant and historic step, the first time that such an explicit and unequivocal decree against the perpetrators of terror has been broadcast so widely."* The spin detectors go out when journalists read *"being regarded by many circles"* (and how many squares or triangles, one might ask). *"Historic"* is totally overused. But this statement at least makes sense by the end, because it talks about the first time such a fatwa *"has been broadcast so widely."*

Michael Holden, a correspondent in our London bureau, dealt with all this by interviewing ul-Qadri a day in advance ([click here for the story](#)) to focus on him and his fatwa rather than the hype around it. He added useful background comments from [Tim Winter](#), a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, who called the fatwa *"a helpful initiative"* and added: *"To declare the miscreants as unbelievers is unusual, because it is not really clear that the rules allow one simply to say that they are not Muslims... Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all. But 'swing voters' — poorly educated and angry Muslims, who respect mainstream scholars, will probably take note."*

This fatwa shouldn't become another unheard tree falling in the forest, but screening out all the surrounding noise about it is not easy. What do you think about ul-Qadri's fatwa and how the media covered it?



<http://www.eurasiareview.com/2010/03/32118-uk-muslim-leader-issues-fatwa.html>

U.K. Muslim Leader Issues Fatwa Condemning Terrorism

Tuesday, March 02, 2010

The leader of a Muslim movement with thousands of followers in the UK was Tuesday issuing a fatwa - or Islamic religious ruling - condemning terrorism and warning suicide bombers that they are "destined for hell".

Pakistan-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, founder of the global "Minhaj-ul-Quran" movement, was making the formal UK proclamation of a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism and suicide bombing at a news conference in London, a spokesman for the group said.

The 600-page fatwa announces that "suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers".

According to Sky News, Tahir-ul-Qadri said "he felt compelled to issue the fatwa because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars."

Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran UK, said, "He has hit hard on the terrorists as it prevents Islamists from considering suicide bombers as 'martyrs'."

This fatwa aims to injects doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers.

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit youth by brainwashing them that they will 'with certainty' be rewarded in the next life and Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds."

The fatwa has been billed as "arguably the most comprehensive" theological

refutation of Islamic terrorism to date by counter extremism think tank the Quilliam foundation.

A Quilliam spokesman said, "Terrorist groups such as al-Qaeda continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture. "Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dustbin of history."

The Minhaj-ul-Quran movement runs courses in combating religious extremism in educational centres throughout Britain including London, Birmingham, Manchester, Glasgow and Dundee in Scotland. There are around 1.6 million Muslims in the UK, the majority from the Indian sub-continent.

Source: KUNA reporting included in this report.



http://www.seattlepi.com/national/1103ap_eu_britain_anti_terror_fatwa.html

Last updated March 2, 2010 6:36 a.m. PT

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON -- The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think tank and drew strong media attention.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

<http://74.125.153.132/search?q=cache:UKAiEhf4t4J:www.sunnewsonline.com/webpages/news/national/2010/mar/03/national-03-03-2010-14.htm+qadri+edict&cd=137&hl=en&ct=ch&gl=pk>

‘Suicide bombers are enemies of Islam’

From Tony Osauzo, Benin
Wednesday, March 3, 2010

Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, launches a fatwa or Islamic religious ruling that condemns suicide bombings yesterday

The leader of a worldwide Muslim movement yesterday issued a fatwa condemning terrorists and suicide bombers as the enemies of Islam. Pakistan-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri said there were no ‘ifs or buts’ about terrorism and such acts had no justification in the name of Islam. In a news conference yesterday he called on Islamic leaders to convey the message that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

‘They can’t claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma (the wider Muslim community), no, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire,’ he said.

‘There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered Jihad,’ he said. Dr Qadri, who spoke at length in both English and Arabic before his audience, said his fatwa, a religious edict or ruling, was an ‘absolute’ condemnation of terrorism without ‘any excuses or pretexts’. ‘Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good,’ he said. ‘Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts.’

He insisted that Islam was a religion of peace that promotes beauty, ‘betterment’, goodness and ‘negates all form of mischief and strife’. The 600-page fatwa by Dr Qadri, founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, which has thousands of supporters across the world as well as in the UK, will be translated into English in the coming weeks.

His talk will also be made available online in an attempt to counter extremist versions of Islam available on the internet. The fatwa has been billed as ‘arguably the most comprehensive’ theological refutation of Islamic terrorism to date by counter-extremism think-tank the Quilliam foundation.

The Minhaj-ul-Quran movement said it runs courses in combating religious extremism in educational centres throughout Britain including London, Birmingham, Manchester, Nelson, Walsall and Glasgow. It currently has an office in Dundee.

A fatwa, an edict issued by a learned Muslim scholar, may concern any aspect of Islamic life. The term became famous in the Western world in 1989 after the author Salman Rushdie was forced into hiding following a ‘death fatwa’ issued by Ayatollah Khomeini, then Supreme Leader of Iran, on the grounds that his book, *The Satanic Verses*, had ‘insulted’ Islam.

http://www.eveningsun.com/ci_14497322

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

The Associated Press

Posted: 03/02/2010 08:20:08 AM EST

LONDON—The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think tank and drew strong media attention.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.



<http://www.forth2.com/Article.asp?id=1717246&spid=25211>

Islamic Scholar Issues Anti-Terrorism Fatwa

A prominent Islamic scholar will use a speech in London to issue a 600-page religious edict, denouncing terrorists and suicide bombers as "unbelievers".

Muhammad Tahir ul Qadri is a leading figure who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years.

He said he felt compelled to issue the fatwa because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

Ul Qadri says his fatwa, which is aimed at persuading young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said ul Qadri, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship.

He is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam which is widely seen as focusing on peace, tolerance and moderation.

Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdul Mutallab, accused of trying to bomb a US-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008.

Government officials in Yemen, where Mutallab began his journey, have said he was radicalised while in Britain.

However, the British Government claims his introduction to hardcore extremists happened after he left the UK.

Government officials will be among those joining ul Qadri for the launch of the fatwa in central London. The Muslim Council of Britain, an umbrella organisation representing some 500 Islamic groups, has welcomed the fatwa.

Ul Qadri will tell his audience: "The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire."

The 59-year-old was born in Pakistan and is head of the global Minhaj ul Quran

religious and educational organisation which spreads his Sufi ideas.

A former Pakistani minister and associate of assassinated prime minister Benazir Bhutto, he delivers lectures worldwide promoting his message of harmony and was one of the first Muslim leaders to condemn the 9/11 attacks in the US.

While ul Qadri has followers around the globe, it is in Pakistan where he has millions of followers and in the diaspora that his impact is likely to be greatest.

Britain has about 1.7 million Muslims, mainly of Pakistani descent.

The UK's security services say nearly all major terrorism plots since 2001, including the 2005 London bombings which killed 52 people, have been linked to Pakistan.

Ul Qadri said he is confident his edict will have a significant impact because he has drawn on classical teachings and authorities acceptable to all sects of Islam.

"I will say more than 50% will change their way, they will be influenced," he said.

"Of the remaining 50% at least some of them, half of them, will become doubtful about their life, their terrorist activity," he said.

Tim Winter, a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, said while there had been similar fatwas in the past, ul Qadri did appear to have gone further than most.

"To declare the miscreants as unbelievers is unusual because it is not really clear that the rules allow one simply to say that they are not Muslims."

He added: "Those who are already hard liners will pay no attention at all but 'swing voters' - poorly-educated and angry Muslims who respect mainstream scholars - will probably take note.

"Certainly it is a helpful initiative."

Ul Qadri's pronouncement will be welcomed by authorities in the UK and by other Western governments seeking to stamp out extremism - but the respected scholar said their backing is irrelevant to his views.



<http://www.forzion.com/full-article.php?news=8614>

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

03.03.2010.10:06

The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.



The image cannot be displayed. Your computer may not have enough memory to open the image, or the image may have been corrupted. Restart your computer, and then open the file again. If the red x still appears, you may have to delete the image and then insert it again.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim nation," Qadri told a press conference in London. "No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are heading towards

hellfire."

Qadri also slammed Osama Bin Laden's al-Qaeda network, referring to it as an "old evil with a new name" and saying it has not been challenged adequately thus far.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad," he said.

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think tank and drew strong media attention.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

[Ynet](#)

The latest in The White House and U.S. Politics

<http://www.fromthewesting.com/article/Muslim%20scholar%20in%20Britain%20condemns%20terrorism/?k=j83s12y12h94s27k02>

Muslim scholar in Britain condemns terrorism

AFP European Edition | 2010-03-02 18:10:35

A leading Muslim scholar in [Britain](#) issued a fatwa Tuesday condemning terrorists and suicide bombers, saying they had no justification in the name of Islam.

[Pakistan](#)-born [Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri](#) said there were no "ifs or buts" about terrorism, in a news conference attended by officers from [London's Metropolitan Police](#), lawmakers, charitable organisations and think-tanks.

He said he wanted to convey the message that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma (the wider Muslim community). No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad," he added.

Qadri said his 600-page fatwa, or religious ruling, was an "absolute" condemnation of terrorism without "any excuses or pretexts".

"Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good," he said.

"Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts."

He said Islam was a religion of peace that promotes beauty, "betterment", goodness and "negates all form of mischief and strife".

The fatwa will be translated into English in the coming weeks and made available online in an attempt to counter extremist versions of Islam available on the Internet.

Qadri founded the Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, which has thousands of supporters in Britain and across the world. In Britain, it says it runs courses in combating religious extremism in educational centres in [London](#), [Manchester](#) and [Birmingham](#).

Editing by Charles Dick



<http://www.futureconscience.com/anti-terrorism-fatwa-to-be-issued-by-prominent-muslim-leader/>

Anti-terrorism fatwa to be issued by prominent Muslim leader

Written on March 1, 2010 by [RAGordon](#) in Lifestyle & Society, Religion & Spirituality



Moving away from the usual technology focus that we have here at Future Conscience, news has been going around that a prominent Islamic leader is going to issue a detailed [fatwa tomorrow in London that denounces terrorism and suicide bombing](#) in the name of Islam.

Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, a leading Sufi scholar and founder of [Minhaj-ul-Qur'an International](#), will issue the 600-page fatwa in an attempt to provide a thorough and powerful edict against terrorist activity – even going so far as to argue that those who engage in such activity must be seen as unbelievers.

The monumental work seeks to discredit, in great detail, the many justifications used to persuade disaffected Muslims around the world to commit acts of violence in the name of Islam.

Dr. Qadri has stated that the fatwa is a response to the growing levels of extremist education and persuasion, particularly amongst British Muslim communities, and is hoping that the detailed work will help inspire Muslims around the world to continue to work against violent extremism in all of its forms.

Pacifist voices such as Dr. Qadri's are pivotal in the fight against Islamic extremism, as they help demonstrate that the teachings of Islam are not in-line with the violent and destructive tactics used by many terrorists and suicide bombers in the name of their religion. Hopefully this message won't just reach Muslim communities around the world, but will also have a great impact upon those who wish to blame Islam as a religion for the actions of a small minority of its adherents.

The current 'clash of civilisations' has had a very long time in the making, and stems from deep-seated and long-running political turmoil and conflict that goes back over 1,000 years. However, unlike any other point in history, we are now at a time where a unifying outlook and philosophy can begin to emerge – this is a fact that cannot be overlooked nor undermined by the actions of a few despicable murderers or violent criminals.

Understanding and co-existence will hopefully be the marker of the future global community, and efforts such as this from Dr. Qadri are vital in helping achieve such a goal. The unifying capabilities of modern communication and social networks (and not just of the online kind) means that this work could well have arrived at the perfect time to have maximum impact well into the future.

I'll make sure to keep an eye on the reception of the fatwa when it is presented tomorrow, as it is sure to bring out a lot of opinion and debate – discourse which should be welcomed with open arms and embraced for the insight that it can bring to all parties involved. A future society based on massive technological and medical advancement means little if we cannot move towards solving the social and political turmoil of our day; and any step forwards is something to be cherished and received with enthusiasm.



<http://www.geo.tv/12-5-2009/54142.htm>

GEO Pakistan Tahir-ul-Qadri declares suicide attacks ‘un-Islamic’

Updated at: 1708 PST, Saturday, December 05, 2009



LAHORE: Suicide attacks and bomb blasts are not allowed in Islam; these acts are ‘un-Islamic’.

Head of Minhaj-ul-Quran International Tahir-ul-Qadri said this during a video conference held with reference to his 150-page ‘Fatwa’. “This Fatwa will be released in three languages across the world,” he said.

The Fatwa describes viewpoint on Islam and terrorism in the light of the holy Qur’an and Sunnah.

“Any armed struggle against an Islamic state falls in the domain of rebellion,” he explained.

He lashed at the military aggression in Kashmir, Palestine, Iraq and Afghanistan. “The butchering of human beings belonging to any religion or country, and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations are totally in clash with the teachings of Islam”.

Tahir-ul-Qadri said the terrorist elements are playing in the hands of Pakistan’s enemies.



<http://www.globalgoodnews.com/world-peace-a.html?art=126746489730589902>

Prominent Muslim to issue anti-terrorism fatwa

by Michael Holden

Reuters

1 March 2010

LONDON (Reuters) - A prominent Islamic scholar is to issue a 600-page religious edict denouncing terrorism in London on Tuesday in what he says is a bid to persuade young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism.

The fatwa from Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, a leading figure who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years, echoes edicts condemning extremism issued by a number of Islamic groups since the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States.

But Qadri says his fatwa, which declares terrorists and suicide bombers to be unbelievers, goes further than any previous denunciation.

'This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written,' said Qadri, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship and is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam that focuses on peace, tolerance and moderation.

'I have tried to leave not a single stone unturned on this particular subject and I have tried to address every single question relevant to this subject,' he told Reuters in a telephone interview.

Qadri, 59, who was born in Pakistan, is head of the global Minhaj ul-Quran religious and educational organisation which spreads his Sufi ideas.

A former Pakistani minister and associate of assassinated Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, he delivers lectures worldwide promoting his message of harmony and was one of the first Muslim leaders to condemn the Sept. 11 attacks.

Tim Winter, a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, said while there had been similar fatwas in the past, Qadri did appear to have gone further than most.

'To declare the miscreants as unbelievers is unusual, because it is not really clear that

the rules allow one simply to say that they are not Muslims,' he told Reuters.

'Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all. But 'swing voters'—poorly educated and angry Muslims, who respect mainstream scholars, will probably take note.

'Certainly it is a helpful initiative,' he said.

HELLFIRE

Qadri said he felt compelled to issue the edict because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, accused of trying to bomb a U.S.-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008. Yemen, where Abdulmutallab began his journey, has said he was radicalised while in Britain.

'The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire,' Qadri said.

He is confident that the edict will have a significant impact, saying he had drawn on classical teachings and authorities acceptable to all sects of Islam.

'I will say more than 50 percent will change their way, they will be influenced. Of the remaining 50 percent at least some of them, half of them, will become doubtful about their life, their terrorist activity,' he said.

While Qadri has followers across the globe, it is in Pakistan, where he has millions of followers, and in the diaspora that his impact would be greatest, Winter said.

Britain has about 1.7 million Muslims, mainly of Pakistani descent, and the security services say that nearly all major terrorism plots since 2001, including the 2005 London bombings which killed 52 people, were linked to Pakistan.

Government officials will be among those joining Qadri for the launch of the fatwa in central London. The Muslim Council of Britain, an umbrella organisation representing some 500 Islamic groups, said the fatwa was welcome.

'It is entirely laudable for scholars such as Tahir ul-Qadri to speak out against terrorism,' it said in a statement.

Although his pronouncement will be good news for the authorities in Britain and other Western governments seeking to win Muslim support to stamp out extremism, Qadri said their backing is irrelevant to his views.

(Editing by Charles Dick)

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/canadianpress/article/ALeqM5iyNdfikPudYxyoibk176fnE732Dg>

Muslim leader issues 600-page anti-terror fatwa in London

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS (CP)



LONDON—A former Pakistani legislator who lives in Canada and leads a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

He is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Qur'an, a worldwide movement that promotes a non-political, tolerant Islam.

A spokesman for the group told The Canadian Press that Tahir-ul-Qadri has been living in southern Ontario for almost four years. The spokesman would not reveal the exact location.

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think-tank.

The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistani living in other countries.



<http://www.sandiego6.com/news/world/story/Muslim-leader-issues-anti-terror-fatwa/HTuCO&eOMke6fmW2Z1XI7g.csp.x>

Last Update 3/02 5:56 am

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa



Islamic Scholar and spiritual leader Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul Qadri delivers a terrorism Fatwa at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers on March 2, 2010 in London, England. (Dan Kitwood, Getty Images)

LONDON (AP) — The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London is being hosted by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded, anti-extremism think tank.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a non-political, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

Muslim leader to declare fatwa condemning terrorism

Wed, 03 Mar 2010

LONDON: The leader of a reportedly worldwide Muslim movement with thousands of followers in the UK was Tuesday issuing a fatwa - or Islamic religious ruling - condemning terrorism and warning suicide bombers that they are "destined for hell." Pakistan-born Dr. Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, founder of the global "Minhaj-ul-Quran" movement, was making the formal UK proclamation of a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism and suicide bombing at a news conference in London, a spokesman for the group said. The 600-page fatwa announces that "suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers."

Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran UK, said: "He has hit hard on the terrorists as it prevents Islamists from considering suicide bombers as 'martyrs'. This fatwa injects doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers.

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit youth by brainwashing them that they will 'with certainty' be rewarded in the next life and Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds."

The fatwa has been billed as "arguably the most comprehensive" theological refutation of Islamic terrorism to date by counter extremism think tank the Quilliam Foundation.

A Quilliam spokesman said: "Terrorist groups such as Al-Qaeda continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture.

"Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dustbin of history."

The Minhaj-ul-Quran movement runs courses in combating religious extremism in educational centers throughout Britain including London, Birmingham, Manchester, Glasgow and Dundee in Scotland. There are around 1.6 million Muslims in the UK, the majority from the Indian sub-co



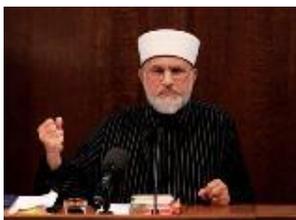
http://www.breakingchristiannews.com/articles/display_art_pf.html?ID=7646

UK Muslim Group Issues Fatwa Against...Islamic Terrorists

by Teresa Neumann : Mar 5, 2010 : Jonathan Harwood - First Post News

<http://www.thefirstpost.co.uk/60373,news-comment,news-politics,uk-muslims-will-take-muhammad-tahir-ul-qadris-fatwa-against-terrorism-seriously>

"This fatwa has the potential to be a highly significant step towards eradicating Islamist terrorism. Groups such as al-Qaeda continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture. Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dustbin of history."



(United Kingdom)—A London-based Muslim organization led by Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, founder of the increasingly popular Sufi movement Minhaj-ul-Quran, has issued a fatwa against...Islamic terrorists. The move, according to a *First Post* news report, is being "hailed as a significant step forward in the fight against fundamentalism, and one that will have repercussions in the UK and beyond." (Photo: *FirstPost.co.uk*)

As noted in the report the 600-page edict mounts a "direct challenge to al-Qaeda's violent ideology" and declares "suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers."

Ul-Qadri was quoted as saying the edict, which is aimed at persuading young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism, goes further than any previous denunciation. "This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," he said.

A spokesman for the counter-extremist think tank Quilliam said: "This fatwa has the potential to be a highly significant step towards eradicating Islamist terrorism. Groups such as al-Qaeda continue to justify their mass killings with

self-serving readings of religious scripture. Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dustbin of history."



http://www.dailystar.com.lb/article.asp?edition_id=10&categ_id=5&article_id=112962#

A Pakistani scholar's fatwa against terrorism just might help

By Muqtedar Khan

Commentary by

Saturday, March 20, 2010

Tahir ul-Qadri, a Pakistani Islamic scholar visiting the United Kingdom, recently released a 600-page fatwa, or non-binding opinion in Islamic law, against terrorism. This fatwa might actually have an impact. It is comprehensive, direct and does not dodge any of the issues. It has come at a time when there is strong abhorrence for terrorism, especially in Pakistan, and it will strip terrorists of what little legitimacy they might be still enjoying in the eyes of Muslims who fear that Islam is under attack by Western powers.

Qadri is a prominent imam who founded Minhaj ul-Quran International, an organization with the stated aim of creating understanding between communities. He is also someone who enjoys a large popular following and happens to be well ensconced in the traditional Islamic heritage. But those who are engaged in extremist violence and those who sympathize with them belong to a more recent trend within Salafism – an ideology that aims for the emulation of the practice of Islam in its early days and a rejection of centuries' worth of Islamic thought and doctrine in favor of literal interpretation.

Salafism is a recent transplant in South Asia and fortunately does not have deep roots in the region. Qadri and his large following constitute mainstream Muslims in Pakistan and in the Pakistani diaspora. In principle, they should be able to prevail easily over the extremist voices now causing such turmoil in that land.

Qadri's 600-page fatwa is essentially an encyclopedic compilation of Islamic jurisprudence on the use of force. It gathers the various jurisprudential positions advanced by Muslim scholars and jurists of different schools of thought and provides a comprehensive overview of the various normative and ethical limitations that derivations from Islamic sources – ethical and legal pronouncements that Muslims have accumulated over centuries – have placed on the legitimate use of force.

There is nothing new in Qadri's tome and that is a good thing. He is not advancing new interpretations of Islamic sources, nor is he trying to reinvent the wheel. His contribution is in showing that not only does Islam prohibit terrorism, it condemns the terrorist to hell. He also shows how Muslims have long considered suicide a forbidden act and that Islam has held this stance from the beginning. The collection of the various opinions of classical scholars, too, demonstrates the extent and depth of Islam's prohibition of the use of force against civilians, against women and against children.

The extremists and their sympathetic scholars will not be able to produce a document that could trump Q adri's fatwa. The extremists in the Muslim world have relied basically on two elements to advance their radical agenda: First, they have exploited the widespread theological illiteracy of Muslims to advance out-of-context and unprecedented new interpretations and justifications for the principle of jihad (a spiritual and religious effort) to legitimize their crusade against the West and its allies. And second, they have benefitted from the anger that Muslims have been feeling against the various military attacks and occupations by Western armies of Muslim lands in the past two centuries.

Add to this the suffering of Palestinian, Iraqi, Afghan and Pakistani civilians at the hands of Western military forces and you begin to comprehend why some Muslim youth embrace the un-Islamic interpretations of Islamic sources by extremist clerics.

Is Q adri's fatwa a magic bullet that will erode all anger, frustration and resentment? Certainly not. Will it engender a widespread loathing for the use of terrorism as a tactic? Most certainly yes, if the fatwa is given sustained attention in media. Unfortunately, other fatwas against suicide bombing, such as those issued by the Shiite Grand Ayatollah Youssef al-Sanei and Saudi scholar Al-Habib Ali al-Jifri, have gone comparatively unnoticed by mainstream media. In Pakistan, Q adri's reputation and the growing anger against terrorists for their indiscriminate violence against mosques and against Muslims will combine to give the fatwa a better chance to marginalize extremists. Hopefully supporters of extremist groups will either rethink their politics or at least abstain from openly and actively supporting a culture of violence. Qadri and his institution also hope that the perception held by some in the West that Islam is the cause of terrorism will be corrected. I am, however, less sanguine about this. Those in the West who argue that mainstream Muslims are not opposing terrorism or those who insist that terrorism is a consequence of Islamic values are motivated by political interests and are clearly "Islamophobic" in their outlook. They will not change their mind.

However, those who are still unaware that most Muslims condemn terrorists and that there is nothing in Islam that supports terrorism may perhaps be enlightened as a result of this fatwa. Muqtedar Khan is an associate professor in the Department of Political Science and International Relations at the University of Delaware. THE DAILY STAR publishes this commentary, which appeared at the Washington Post-Newsweek's On Faith blog, in collaboration with the Common Ground News Service (commongroundnews.org) by permission from the author.

Read more:

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(The Daily Star :: Lebanon News :: <http://www.dailystar.com.lb>)

Muslim leader to declare fatwa condemning terrorism

02/03/2010 - 08:45:01

The leader of a worldwide Muslim movement will today issue a fatwa – or Islamic religious ruling – condemning terrorism and warning suicide bombers that they are “destined for hell”.

Pakistan-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, will make the formal UK proclamation of a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism and suicide bombing at a news conference in London.

The 600-page fatwa announces that “suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers”.

The fatwa has been billed as “arguably the most comprehensive” theological refutation of Islamic terrorism to date by counter extremism think tank the Quilliam foundation.

A Quilliam spokesman said: “Terrorist groups such as al-Qaeda continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture.

“Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dustbin of history.”

The Minhaj-ul-Quran movement runs courses in combating religious extremism in educational centres throughout Britain including London, Birmingham, Manchester, Nelson, Walsall, Glasgow and Dundee.

A fatwa, an edict issued by a learned Muslim scholar, may concern any aspect of Islamic life.

The term became famous in the western world in 1989 after the author Salman Rushdie was forced into hiding following a “death fatwa” issued by Ayatollah Khomeini, then Supreme Leader of Iran, on the grounds that his book, the Satanic Verses had “insulted” Islam.

<http://news.oneindia.in/2010/03/02/pakistaniislamic-scholar-to-issue-600-page-fatwaaga.html>

Pakistani Islamic scholar to issue 600-page fatwa against terrorism, suicide bombing

Tuesday, March 2, 2010, 9:11 [IST]

London, Mar.2 (ANI): Describing Al-Qaeda as an 'old evil with a new name', influential Pakistani scholar Dr Tahir ul-Qadri has said he would soon issue a 'fatwa' against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Qadri said the Al-Qaeda has not been sufficiently challenged and that his global ruling against terrorism completely dismantles the banned terror organisation's violent ideology.

In his 600-page ruling, Qadri said Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

The fatwa also challenges the religious motivations of would-be suicide bombers who are inspired by promises of an afterlife, The BBC reports.

The famous Muslim scholar developed his document last year as a response to the sudden increase in suicide bombings across Pakistan.

The fatwa, which would be promoted in Britain by Qadri's organisation, Minhaj ul-Quran International, would cover global issues in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in western nations.

Terming the fatwa as 'hard hitting', Minhaj ul-Quran International's spokesperson Shahid Mursaleen said the ruling would inject doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers.

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit the youth by brainwashing them that they will with certainty be rewarded in the next life. Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual actor from their minds," Mursaleen said. (ANI)

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

Wednesday, March 03, 2010, 00:35 IST

London: The leader of a global Muslim movement on Tuesday issued a fatwa against acts of violence and terror in the name of Islam, calling the perpetrators of violence and their mentors as "heroes of hellfire".

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani diplomat who is the founder of formidable Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, unreservedly condemned terrorist attacks and suicide bombers and urged the Muslim world to take a firm stand against those who bring Islam to disrepute.

"Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching. Islam is a religion of peace. It promotes goodwill, beauty, betterment, goodness and negates all forms of mischief, strife and division," he said.

Delivering a lecture here, Qadri frequently referred to the holy book of Quran, Companions of the Prophet, Hadith and leading Muslim imams to prove his point that Islam did not allow individuals and non-state groups to launch attacks on civilians and opposition targets.

"Islam absolutely condemns violence and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and it is our Islamic duty to condemn acts of terrorism without any ifs or buts, without any excuses, pretexts and selfish justifications.

Those who perpetrate violent attacks and target humanity act outside of the ambit of Islam, they are the enemies of Islam," he said.

Qadri was joined at the fatwa launch event by government ministers Jim Fitzpatrick, Shahid Malik, Muhammad Sarwar MP, Dominic Grieve MP, representatives of various Muslims organisations, government departments and security think-tanks.

The 600-page 'Fatwa on Suicide Bombings and Terrorism' has been extracted from Qadri's latest research work titled 'Dehshet Geri aur Fitna-e-Khawarij', in a reference to those rebels who had taken up arms against Imam Ali (AS).

The launch of the fatwa is being regarded by many circles as a significant and historic step, the first time that such an explicit and unequivocal decree against the perpetrators of terror has been broadcast widely.

The fatwa is considered arguably the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism as demonstrated by Taliban, Al-Qaeda and their like-minded

sectarian groups.

To those who laud suicide bombers and praise their acts, Qadri said they are in unison with "heroes of hellfire".

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma.

"No, they indeed become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire. Their actions have nothing to do with Jihad," Qadri, who has a sizable following in Europe said.

PTI

Pal Talk News Ntwork

<http://paltalknewsnetwork.com/node/2446>

Muslim Scholar Issues Fatwa Against Terrorism

Tue, 03/02/2010 - 19:23

People who argue that the majority of Muslims aren't terrorists are often met by a counter-argument that, if this is the case, why don't more Islamic leaders speak out against it? Well now, a leading Muslim scholar is. And he's spreading the word to the West.

Dr. Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, has taken his message of non-violence from Pakistan to the UK - a nation where too many young people of Pakistani origin have been involved in terrorism.

Qadri has - on British soil - issued a 600 page fatwa - condemning suicide bombing - and declaring that those who have blown themselves up are not martyrs - but have been sent to hellfire.

Qadri says too many impressionable young Muslim men have been brainwashed about the true teachings of Islam.

Qadri is the founder of Minhaj ul Qur'an International, a non-governmental organization active in some 100 countries that promotes peace, understanding and human rights.

<http://www.newstrackindia.com/newsdetails/151571>

Pakistani Islamic scholar to issue 600-page fatwa against terrorism, suicide bombing

London, Tue, 02 Mar 2010 ANI

London, Mar.2 (ANI): Describing Al-Qaeda as an 'old evil with a new name', influential Pakistani scholar Dr Tahir ul-Qadri has said he would soon issue a 'fatwa' against terrorism and suicide bombing.

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The fatwa also challenges the religious motivations of would-be suicide bombers who are inspired by promises of an afterlife, The BBC reports.

The famous Muslim scholar developed his document last year as a response to the sudden increase in suicide bombings across Pakistan.

The fatwa, which would be promoted in Britain by Qadri's organisation, Minhaj ul-Quran International, would cover global issues in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in western nations.

Terming the fatwa as 'hard hitting', Minhaj ul-Quran International's spokesperson Shahid Mursaleen said the ruling would inject doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers.

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit the youth by brainwashing them that they will with certainty be rewarded in the next life. Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual actor from their minds," Mursaleen said. (ANI)

Muslim leader to condemn terrorists

The leader of a worldwide Muslim movement with thousands of followers in the UK is due to



issue a fatwa - or Islamic religious ruling - condemning terrorism and warning suicide bombers that they are "destined for hell".

Pakistan-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, will make the formal UK proclamation of a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism and suicide bombing at a news conference in London.

The 600-page fatwa announces that "suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers".

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A Quilliam spokesman said: "Terrorist groups such as al Qaida continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture.

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LittleAbout

<http://www.littleabout.com/news/75963.pakistani-islamic-scholar-issue-600-page-fatwa-terrorism-suicide-bombing.html>

Pakistani Islamic scholar to issue 600-page fatwa against terrorism, suicide bombing

Tuesday 02 Mar 2010

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<http://www.allvoices.com/contributed-news/5329855-leading-british-scholar-issues-antiterrorism-fatwa>

Muslim Leader issues Anti-terrorism Fatwa

By [Adla Massoud](#)

A leading British Islamic scholar issued a fatwa condemning "terrorists" as the enemies of Islam, in a bid to deter young Muslims from extremism.

In his religious ruling, delivered this morning in London, Pakistan-born Dr Tahir ul-Qadri, 59, said he felt compelled to issue the edict because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

In his 600-page judgement, known as a fatwa, Dr Qadri said Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings, and is not in line with Islam.

He told reporters: "They [terrorists] can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma [global brotherhood]. No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire," he said.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad."

Dr Qadri has written about 350 books on Islam, and is a scholar of Sufism, a Muslim branch that focuses on peace, tolerance, and moderation. He is the founder of the vast Pakistani grassroots movement known as Minhaj ul Quran.

The Minhaj-ul-Quran movement which was founded in Pakistan in 1980, works around the globe to promote peace and interfaith dialogue.

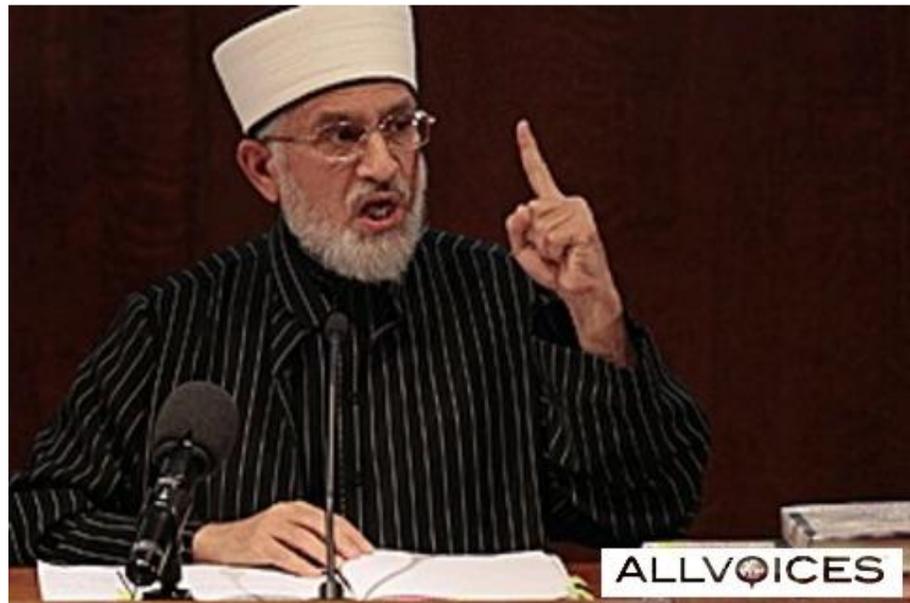
The Quilliam Foundation, a UK counter-extremism think-tank, said Fatwas "by Wahhabi-influenced clerics and Islamist ideologues initiated modern terrorism against civilians, are arguably the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamic extremism."

And this fatwa has the potential to eradicate "Islamist terrorism".

[Salmán Ahmad](#), the lead singer of Pakistan rock band [Junoon](#) and author of "Rock & Roll Jihad: A Muslim Rock Star's Revolution" told the New York based SAJA forum: "The fatwa against suicide bombing, terrorism is long overdue and should be widely highlighted by both the Muslim

community and the global media. It's about time that the terrorists are (religiously) held accountable for their unholy deeds and made clear that islam condemns their violence in letter and spirit."

A leading Islamic scholar has issued an anti-terror fatwa, it keeps getting better!



Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, head of the Minhaj ul-Quran religious and educational organization, said suicide bombers were destined for hell as he released his 600-page edict in London on Tuesday. He is a Pakistani born well read and written Islamic scholar. He will have great influence, I am psyched!

Fatwa's against violence and extremism have been issued before but never on this scale and by such an authority. He rightly said they can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma "the wider Muslim community" they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire," he said. Hmmm no virgins?

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered Jihad," he said. I am really psyched because the true Islam the Islam of peace is stepping up all around the world. Hardline extremists will not be swayed but the regular people will be and I have hope. [Cleric issues anti terror fatwa](#)

I know that in every instance not just the stock market that things go up and down they ebb and flow until it becomes obvious which way things are going to go. This so called war on terror is no different. I use to believe that this would be another 100 years war as there is no way proper Islam was going to be able to contain the militants because bottom line it has to come from them.

Bottom line, they are stepping up! I use to view Al Qaeda, militants, terrorism, Islamist extremists, whatever you want to call them, as the head of the hydra and whenever you killed one even more sprang up to take their place. Of late I seem to be saying everyday that this is getting better and better. We see progress by our hard fighting NATO military in Afghanistan but bottom line all this progress is because Pakistan has stepped up.

If you have been following me you know I write often about the great inroads being made by Pakistan. It just keeps getting better as at least half of Afghanistan's Taliban leadership has now been captured and the Taliban and Al Qaeda stronghold of Damadola has now been captured along with the 156 cave complex the once sheltered [Ayman al-Zawahiri](#), the second-in-command to [Osama bin Laden](#).

I was watching the civilian Lashkar dancing in the streets and waving their guns in the air saying the Taliban are gone and will never come back. I really am impressed. This is a great victory for Pakistan's military and the civilian warriors who won their region back let alone the American effort in Afghanistan. [Pakistan's Army takes control of al-Qaeda cave network on Afghan border](#)

So far as we know now seven of the insurgent group's 15-member leadership council, thought to be based in Quetta, Pakistan, including the head of military operations, have been apprehended in the past week. Pakistani authorities had netted Mullah [Abdul Ghani](#) Baradar, the movement's second in command, as well as Maulavi Abdul Kabir, a prominent commander in charge of insurgent operations in eastern Afghanistan, and Mullah Muhammad Younis.

Pakistan has also captured several other Afghan members of the leadership council called the Quetta Shura. These include: Mullah Abdul Qayoum Zakir, who oversees the movement's military affairs, Mullah Muhammad Hassan, Mullah Ahmed Jan Akhonzada, and Mullah Abdul Raouf. At least two Taliban shadow provincial governors, who are part of the movement's parallel government in Afghanistan, have also been captured. [Half of Afghanistan Taliban leadership arrested in Pakistan](#)

We can do this and the leaders in the fight will be Islam and they are stepping up. I have hope!



<http://www.altmuslim.com/a/a/li>

altmuslim this week - march 1, 2010

BY ZAHED AMANULLAH

LONDON, ENGLAND Assalamu aleikum and welcome back. Spring is in the air, which means its time for a new fatwa or two. The issue of Islamic justification for terrorism - specifically suicide bombing - has been a hotly debated one since 9/11, particularly since the Osama bin Ladens have been defending their tactics in explicitly Islamic terms. This week, one prominent Pakistani cleric issued a fatwa **denouncing terrorism** at a London press conference. But it wasn't just a simple statement. Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, the founder of the Minhaj-ul-Quran International, an Islamic movement with centers in 90 countries, introduced a 600-page analysis which goes as far as to call proponents of terrorism "kafirs" (unbelievers) destined for hellfire. "Until now scholars who were condemning terrorism were conditional and qualified what they said" said Qadri to CNN's Kiran Khalid. "I didn't leave a single, minor aspect that, in the mind of radicals or extremists, can take them to the direction of martyrdom." Of course, many will note that other imams and scholars have **condemned** terrorism and suicide bombing in particular in scores since 2001 (and earlier). But many fatwas get dismissed for a number of political, sectarian, or plain Islamophobic reasons. It's also important to note that Qadri's analysis, though probably the most comprehensive against terrorism, is but one opinion in a sea of clerics around the world. As Islam has no clerical hierarchy, Qadri's opinion rests on the strength of his analysis alone. One example of the varying opinions on this can be seen **here**, where British activist Dr. Azzam Tamimi dismisses the ruling against suicide bombing by Palestinians, as prominent sheikh Yusuf Qaradawi has **also done**. With the strength of Islamic influence resting on the consensus of scholars, it remains to be seen how Qadri's analysis can extend to a better understanding of such a consensus, despite the nuances, caveats, and emphases that various opinions tend to have.

Also since 9/11, Western countries have been urging their Muslim populations to integrate into society and participate in all aspects of civic life. Central to this is political participation, where Muslims vote for public officials and join political parties. Strange, then, that a recent documentary in Britain accuses one group, the **Islamic Forum Europe** (IFE) of "infiltrating" Britain's Labour party in London's east end neighbourhood of Tower Hamlets (where approximately 35% of local residents are Muslim). The documentary, titled "**Dispatches: Britain's Islamic Republic**," went undercover into the East London Mosque, where the group meets, to uncover alarming rhetoric from IFE members and guests. The "**takeover**" of the local council seems in no way disproportionate to the natural tendency of British Muslims to gravitate to the Labour party, despite the Iraq war led by Tony Blair's Labour-led government. And to dismiss the **political participation** of Muslims (despite the IFE's demonstrated conservatism) seems counterproductive. The issue mirrors a similar one in the US, where undercover reporters claimed that America's Council on Islamic-American Relations (CAIR) was "**infiltrating**" Congress, as outlined in a book endorsed by several US Congressmen and women. What has not been explained is how the mere presence of Muslims in Western political establishments could help impose *sharia* on a non-Muslim majority. Until that question is answered, reports like this will go nowhere. The Dispatches reporter, Andrew Gilligan, returning to visit the mosque after his documentary aired, found one of the show's antagonists, Azad Ali, inviting him **out for a curry** and found it strange that even though he "did

get the odd double-take, no-one was even slightly hostile."

Finally, a major fast food chain in France has angered some of its potential customers by offering **halal meats** and removing pork from the menus of a number of their franchises in November of last year. The **Quick** chain, which has over 400 restaurants in France, Belgium, Spain, Russia, and the Middle East, has insisted that the conversions are taking place in only a **handful** of its stores (eight at the moment) where large Muslim populations provide a ready market. "I'm happy, as I can come with my Muslim friends," said one Muslim customer, Farid, 17. Managers at the Roubaix branch of Quick noted a slight increase in business after the conversion to halal menus and that no complaints from customers had been received. But that wasn't enough for some to express alarm at what they felt was discrimination against non-Muslims. "I'm not bothered by the fact that there is a halal menu," said Rene Vandieren donck, mayor of Roubaix, who has filed a complaint for discrimination against Quick. "But this is going too far because it is the only menu on offer and it has become discrimination." Al-Kanz, a French Muslim consumers' group, said the reasons were "**purely economic**", and added that there were no "dark Muslim forces in France putting pressure" on Quick to convert its stores. Though halal restaurants have been prevalent in Europe for much of the past decade, the catering to Muslims by Western restaurants and multinationals has alarmed those fearful of "Islamisation" of European society, despite the fact that the menu changes have not come under duress, but in search of the Muslim Euro. In the UK, the Subway sandwich chain began a successful campaign in 2008 of **halal-only** stores, expanding to **several dozen** serving similar Muslim areas of Britain. KFC soon followed with a trial of eight stores (similar to Quick) in London last year. Despite similar protests of "Islamisation", the trial was so successful that the American multinational increased the number to **73** by February 2010. In both cases, halal-only stores have been located near conventional alternatives, so that those who desire pork or non-halal products have a choice. Strangely enough, KFC stores in France - all 70+ of them - have been **certified halal** since 2009. But as a French owned chain, Quick hits a bit closer to home, albeit a home that includes, at over 4 million, the largest Muslim minority in Europe.

<http://www.amherstdaily.com/Canada--World/Society/2010-03-02/article-851005/Muslim-leader-issues-600-page-anti-terror-fatwa-in-London/1>

Muslim leader issues 600-page anti-terror fatwa in London



Leading Muslim scholar Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri holds his Fatwa on suicide bombings and terrorism, as he speaks at its UK launch held by non-governmental organization Minhaj-ul-Quran International (MQI) in London, Tuesday, March 2, 2010. The fatwa is an Islamic decree that condemns suicide bombings and terrorist atrocities along with their perpetrators (THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/Akira Suemori)

Minhaj-ul-Qur , Canadian Press , Quilliam Foundation , London , Canada , Southern Ontario

LONDON - A former Pakistani legislator who lives in Canada and leads a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

He is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Qur'an, a worldwide movement that promotes a non-political, tolerant Islam.

A spokesman for the group told The Canadian Press that Tahir-ul-Qadri has been living in southern Ontario for almost four years. The spokesman would not reveal the exact location.

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think-tank.

The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

Islam leader condemns terrorists in fatwa

Amsterdam News.Net

Tuesday 2nd March, 2010

A Muslim leader in the UK has announced a special religious ruling, otherwise known as a fatwa, against terrorism in the name of Islam.

The widely respected authority on Islamic law, Dr Tahir Qadri, has issued the fatwa, which condemns terrorism and suicide bombing.

Dr Qadri has addressed a press conference in Westminster, central London, to talk about why suicide bombings and terrorism are un-Islamic and scripturally forbidden.

His theological refutation of Islamist terrorism is likely to be discussed widely amongst the world's Muslim population and will be posted on the Internet in English and Arabic, making it readily accessible.

Dr Qadri has used texts from the Koran to argue that Islam does not permit such acts "on any excuse, reason or pretext" referring to a passage in the Quran in which the death of one innocent is aligned with the death of all humanity.

His fatwa condemns suicide bombers as destined for hell, refuting the claim used by extremists that such terrorists will earn paradise after death.

In his posting on terrorism he says: "Today's tragedy is that terrorists, murderers, mischief-mongers and rioters try to prove their criminal, rebellious, tyrannous, brutal and blasphemous activities as a right and a justified reaction to foreign aggression under the garb of defense of Islam and national interests. It can in no way be permissible to keep foreign delegates under unlawful custody and murder them and other peaceful non-Muslim citizens in retaliation for interference, unjust activities and aggressive advances of their countries. The one who does has no relation to Islam."

Dr Qadri's international organisation, the Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, has many supporters throughout the world.

Cleric condemns terrorism

LONDON (UPI) -- A Pakistani Muslim scholar, in a lengthy theological ruling against terrorism, rejected al-Qaida's philosophy, saying Islam forbids the massacre of innocents.

Appearing in London, Tahir ul-Qadri told a group of Muslims, clergy, political leaders and police officers his 600-page fatwa rejects violence and called al-Qaida an "old evil with a new name," the BBC reported.

Qadri's movement, called Minhaj ul-Quran International, is growing in Britain, drawing the interest of policymakers and law enforcement heads, the report said. Qadri said his study, resulting from the escalation of militant violence in Pakistan, is a detailed theological rebuttal of every point made by al-Qaida inspired recruiters.

"They (terrorists) can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma (global brotherhood)," he told his audience. "No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad."

Rejecting some scholarly rulings on martyrdom as it related to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, Qadri said there is no situation in which vengeful acts such as attacks on marketplaces or commuter trains can ever be considered a justifiable act of war.

The report said Qadri has many followers in Pakistan but his Minhaj ul-Quran International has become known in Britain only recently. The movement, which has 10 mosques in cities with significant Muslim communities, is targeting the younger generation, the BBC said.

This news arrived on: 03/03/2010

THE ASIAN AGE

http://www.asianage.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=4132:uk-scholar-issues-600-page-anti-terror-fatwa&catid=36:international&Itemid=61f

UK scholar issues 600-page anti-terror fatwa

Tuesday, 02 March 2010 19:14

London ,March 2: An Islamic scholar in London on Tuesday morning issued a comprehensive and written fatwa against terrorism and extremism.

Dr Mohammed Tahir-ul-Qadri, a spiritual and religious leader from Jhang in Pakistan, issued a 600-page edict against terrorists and terrorism to counter any theological justifications for terrorism.

The fatwa will be translated into English and Arabic in the coming weeks, he said, adding that he had written it in Urdu primarily to reach the hearts and minds of Pakistanis, Indians and Bangladeshis affected by the scourge of terrorism.

The Canada-based scholar, who was a friend of former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, also warned suicide bombers that they should stop dreaming of glory in heaven as they are "destined for hell."

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma (the Muslim community), no, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire," he said.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered Jihad," said Dr Mohammed Tahir-ul-Qadri, giving examples from the Holy Quran, Hadiths and Sunnah in both Arabic and in English to give support to his fatwa. "The suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers," added Dr Qadri, 59, who is the founding leader of Minhaj ul Quran International, a worldwide organisation. "Terrorism is not only an act of haram, it is also an act of kufr (disbelief) and this takes terrorists out of the ambit of Islam," he said, and described terrorists as "dogs of hell."

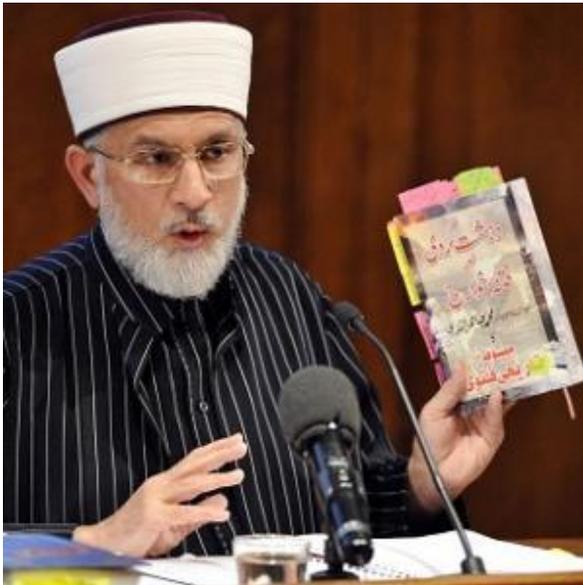
Dr Qadri also said that the Prophet Mohammed had condemned terrorists and revealed that a group of violent renegades, known as the Khawarij, had emerged in the name of Islamic rule.

Calling the modern terrorists as Khawarites, Dr Qadri said: "Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good. Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts."

He also made it clear that nowhere in the Holy Quran or the Hadiths is it said anywhere that the Prophet Mohammed wanted a Caliphate around the world.

Suicide bombers 'enemies of Islam', says scholar

3:30pm Tuesday 2nd March 2010



Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri launches a fatwa condemning terrorist atrocities

Suicide bombers have been described as the "heroes of hellfire" by a leading Muslim scholar in a fatwa condemning terrorists as the enemies of Islam.

Pakistan-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri said there were no "ifs or buts" about terrorism and such acts had no justification in the name of Islam.

In a news conference attended by MPs, representatives from the Metropolitan Police, charitable organisations, think-tanks and other groups, he called on Islamic leaders to convey the message that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma (the wider Muslim community), no, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire," he said.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered Jihad," he added.

Dr Qadri, who spoke at length in both English and Arabic before his audience, said his fatwa - a religious edict or ruling - was an "absolute" condemnation of terrorism without "any excuses or pretexts".

"Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good," he said. "Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts."

He insisted that Islam was a religion of peace that promotes beauty, "betterment", goodness and "negates all form of mischief and strife".

The 600-page fatwa by Dr Qadri, founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, which has thousands of supporters across the world as well as in the UK, will be translated into English in the coming weeks. His talk will also be made available online in an attempt to counter extremist versions of Islam available on the internet.

A fatwa, an edict issued by a learned Muslim scholar, may concern any aspect of Islamic life.

The term became famous in the Western world in 1989 after the author Salman Rushdie was forced into hiding following a "death fatwa" issued by Ayatollah Khomeini, then Supreme Leader of Iran, on the grounds that his book, *The Satanic Verses*, had "insulted" Islam.



<http://www.middle-east-online.com/english/?id=37894>

First Published 2010-03-17

A Fatwa Against Terrorism that Might Work

There is nothing new in Qadri's tome and that is a good thing. He is not advancing new interpretations of Islamic sources, nor is he trying to reinvent the wheel. His contribution is in showing that not only does Islam prohibit terrorism, it condemns the terrorist to hell, notes Muqtedar Khan.

Newark, Delaware - Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri, a Pakistani Islamic scholar visiting the United Kingdom, recently released a 600-page fatwa, or non-binding opinion in Islamic law, against terrorism. This fatwa might actually have an impact. It is comprehensive, direct and does not dodge any of the issues. It has come at a time when there is very strong abhorrence for terrorism, especially in Pakistan, and it will strip terrorists of what little legitimacy they might be still enjoying in the eyes of Muslims who fear that Islam is under attack by Western powers.

Qadri is a prominent imam who founded Minhaj ul Qur'an International, an organisation with the stated aim of creating understanding between communities, and who enjoys a large popular following. He also happens to be well ensconced in the traditional Islamic heritage. But those who are engaged in extremist violence and those who sympathise with them belong to a more recent trend within Salafism, an ideology that aims for the emulation of the practice of Islam in its early days and a rejection of centuries' worth of Islamic thought and doctrine in favour of literal interpretation.

Salafism is a recent transplant in South Asia and fortunately does not have deep roots in the region. Qadri and his large following constitute mainstream Muslims in Pakistan and in the Pakistani diaspora. In principle, they should be able to prevail easily over the extremist voices now causing such turmoil in that land.

Qadri's 600-page fatwa is essentially an encyclopedic compilation of Islamic jurisprudence on the use of force. It gathers the various jurisprudential positions advanced by Muslim scholars and jurists of different schools of thought and provides a comprehensive overview of the various normative and ethical limitations that derivations from Islamic sources – ethical and legal pronouncements that Muslims have accumulated over centuries – have placed on the legitimate use of force.

There is nothing new in Qadri's tome and that is a good thing. He is not advancing new interpretations of Islamic sources, nor is he trying to reinvent the wheel. His contribution is in showing that not only does Islam prohibit terrorism, it condemns the terrorist to hell. He also shows how Muslims have long considered suicide a forbidden act and that Islam has held this stance from the beginning. The collection of the various opinions of classical scholars too demonstrates the extent and depth of Islam's prohibition of the use of force against civilians, against women and against children.

The extremists and their sympathetic scholars will not be able to produce a document that could trump Qadri's fatwa.

The extremists in the Muslim world have relied basically on two elements to advance their radical agenda: one, they have exploited the widespread theological illiteracy of Muslims to advance out-of-context and unprecedented new interpretations and justifications for the principle of jihad (a spiritual and religious effort) to legitimise their crusade against the West and its allies. Two, they have benefitted from the anger that Muslims have been feeling against the various military attacks and occupations by Western armies of Muslim lands in the past two centuries.

Add to this the suffering of the Palestinians, Iraqis, Afghan and Pakistani civilians at the hands of Western forces and you begin to comprehend why some Muslim youth embrace the un-Islamic interpretations of Islamic sources by extremist clerics.

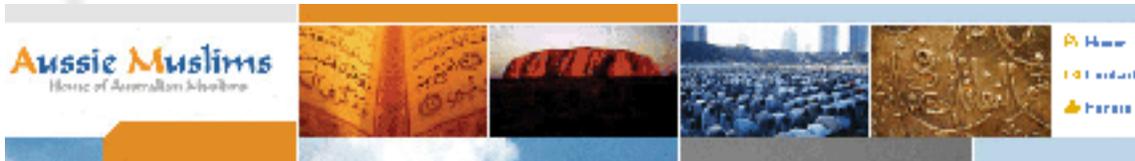
Is Qadri's fatwa a magic bullet that will erode all anger, frustration and resentment? Certainly not. Will it engender a widespread loathing for the use of terrorism as a tactic? Most certainly, yes, if it is given sustained attention by the media. Unfortunately, other fatwas against suicide bombing, such as those issued by Shi'ite cleric Ayatollah al-Udhma Yusuf al-Sanei and Saudi scholar Al-Habib Ali Al-Jifri, have gone comparatively unnoticed by mainstream media.

In Pakistan, Qadri's reputation and the growing anger against terrorists for their indiscriminate violence against mosques and against Muslims will combine to give the fatwa a chance to marginalise extremists. Hopefully supporters of extremist groups will either rethink their politics or at least abstain from openly and actively supporting a culture of violence.

Qadri and his institution also hope that the perception held by some in the West that Islam is the cause of terrorism will be corrected. I am, however, less sanguine about this. Those in the West who argue that mainstream Muslims are not opposing terrorism or those who insist that terrorism is a consequence of Islamic values are motivated by political interests and are clearly "Islamophobic". They will not change their mind.

However, those who are still unaware that most Muslims condemn terrorists and that there is nothing in Islam that supports terrorism may perhaps be enlightened as a result of this fatwa.

Dr. Muqtedar Khan is Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science and International Relations at the University of Delaware. This article is distributed by the Common Ground News Service (CG News). It appeared in newsweek.washingtonpost.com/onfaith.



Islamic scholar Tahir ul-Qadri to issue terrorism fatwa

- 02-Mar-2010, 10:48 PM

<http://www.aussiemuslims.com/forums/showthread.php?t=35615>

By Dominic Casciani
BBC News

An influential Muslim scholar is to issue in London a global ruling against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Dr Tahir ul-Qadri, from Pakistan, says his 600-page judgement, known as a fatwa, completely dismantles al-Qaeda's violent ideology.

The scholar describes al-Qaeda as an "old evil with a new name" which has not been sufficiently challenged.

The scholar's movement is growing in the UK and has attracted the interest of policymakers and security chiefs.

In his religious ruling, Dr Qadri says that Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

Although many scholars have made similar rulings in the past, Dr Qadri's followers argue that the massive document being launched in London goes much further.

They say it sets out point-by-point theological arguments against the rhetoric used by al-Qaeda inspired recruiters.

The fatwa also challenges the religious motivations of would-be suicide bombers who are inspired by promises of an afterlife.

The populist scholar developed his document last year as a response to the increase in bombings across Pakistan by militants.

The basic text has been extended to 600 pages to cover global issues, in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in western nations. It will be promoted in the UK by Dr Qadri's organisation, Minhaj ul-Quran International.

Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran in the UK, said the fatwa was hard-hitting.

"This fatwa injects doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers," he said.

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit the youth by brainwashing them that they will 'with certainty' be rewarded in the next life.

"Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds."

The document is not the first to condemn terrorism and suicide bombing to be launched in the UK.

Scholars from across the UK came together in the wake of the 7 July London attacks to denounce the bombers and urge communities to root out extremists.

But some scholarly rulings in the Middle East have argued that the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians is an exceptional situation where "martyrdom" attacks can be justified.

Although Dr Qadri has a large following in Pakistan, Minhaj ul-Quran International remained largely unknown in the UK until relatively recently.

It now has 10 mosques in the British cities with significant Muslim communities and says it is targeting younger generations it believes have been let down by traditional leaders.

The organisation is attracting the attention of policymakers and security chiefs who are continuing to look for allies in the fight against extremists.

The Department for Communities, which runs most of the government's "Preventing Violent Extremism" strategy, has tried building bridges with a variety of liberal-minded groups, but often found that they have limited actual influence at the grassroots.



<http://www.realradioyorkshire.co.uk/news-sport-showbiz/national-news/islamic-scholar-issues-antiterrorism-fatwa/dxvdaq6/>

Islamic Scholar Issues Anti-Terrorism Fatwa

Muhammad Tahir ul Qadri is a leading figure who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years.

He said he felt compelled to issue the fatwa because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

Ul Qadri says his fatwa, which is aimed at persuading young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said ul Qadri, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship.

He is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam which is widely seen as focusing on peace, tolerance and moderation.

Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdul Mutallab, accused of trying to bomb a US-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008.

Government officials in Yemen, where Mutallab began his journey, have said he was radicalised while in Britain.

However, the British Government claims his introduction to hardcore extremists happened after he left the UK.

Government officials will be among those joining ul Qadri for the launch of the fatwa in central London.

The Muslim Council of Britain, an umbrella organisation representing some 500 Islamic groups, has welcomed the fatwa.

Ul Qadri will tell his audience: "The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire."

The 59-year-old was born in Pakistan and is head of the global Minhaj ul Quran religious and educational organisation which spreads his Sufi ideas.

A former Pakistani minister and associate of assassinated prime minister Benazir Bhutto, he delivers lectures worldwide promoting his message of harmony and was one of the first Muslim leaders to condemn the 9/11 attacks in the US.

While ul Qadri has followers around the globe, it is in Pakistan where he has millions of followers and in the diaspora that his impact is likely to be greatest.

Britain has about 1.7 million Muslims, mainly of Pakistani descent.

The UK's security services say nearly all major terrorism plots since 2001, including the 2005 London bombings which killed 52 people, have been linked to Pakistan.

Ul Qadri said he is confident his edict will have a significant impact because he has drawn on classical teachings and authorities acceptable to all sects of Islam.

"I will say more than 50% will change their way, they will be influenced," he said.

"Of the remaining 50% at least some of them, half of them, will become doubtful about their life, their terrorist activity," he said.

Tim Winter, a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, said while there had been similar fatwas in the past, ul Qadri did appear to have gone further than most.

"To declare the miscreants as unbelievers is unusual because it is not really clear that the rules allow one simply to say that they are not Muslims."

He added: "Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all but 'swing voters' - poorly-educated and angry Muslims who respect mainstream scholars - will probably take note.

"Certainly it is a helpful initiative."

Ul Qadri's pronouncement will be welcomed by authorities in the UK and by other Western governments seeking to stamp out extremism - but the respected scholar said their backing is irrelevant to his views.

Islam does not allow suicide attacks at all: Allama Tahir ul Qadri

LAHORE: Chairman of the Pakistan Awami Tehreek (PAT) Allama Tahir ul Qadri has said that Islam does not allow bomb blasts and suicide attacks on mosques, public places and trade centers and killings of the innocent people, adding that the perpetrators of these attacks are deviating from the Islamic teachings.

He said this in his detailed fatwa while addressing a crowded press conference from Toronto, Canada through a video conference. He said that the ongoing wave of terrorism had maligned the Muslim Ummah particularly Pakistan. It was doubtless to say that we as a Muslim nation condemn terrorism and oppose it in its every form and manifestation but there are certain elements, who are seen extending tacit support to it, he added.

The perpetrators of suicide attacks link their brutal acts to Jihad and confuse the concept of Jihad, he remarked. This is making minds of Muslim youth's skeptic, he added.

On the other hand, the western media was highlighting only incidents of terrorism with reference to Muslim world and does not project the positive aspects of Islam, he regretted. The Islamic view point on terrorism in the light of Quran and Sunnah be made clear on the world in Arabic, English and other languages, he stressed. Raising the arms and waging armed struggle against any Muslim government was not permissible in Islamic teachings, he added. This is a civil war and it has been described as Fasad Fil Arz in Shariah, he said. The heinous acts being perpetrated by the terrorists are a conspiracy to destabilize the country besides providing others pretext to declare Pakistan a failed state, he said. —Agencies



REUTERS

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSLDE62025B>

Prominent Muslim to issue anti-terrorism fatwa

Mon Mar 1, 2010 11:21am EST

Fatwa to declare terrorists to be unbelievers

* Qadri seeks to persuade young Muslims to shun terrorism

By [Michael Holden](#)

LONDON, March 1 (Reuters) - A prominent Islamic scholar is to issue a 600-page religious edict denouncing terrorism in London on Tuesday in what he says is a bid to persuade young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism.

The fatwa from Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, a leading figure who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years, echoes edicts condemning extremism issued by a number of Islamic groups since the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States.

But Qadri says his fatwa, which declares terrorists and suicide bombers to be unbelievers, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said Qadri, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship and is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam that focuses on peace, tolerance and moderation.

"I have tried to leave not a single stone unturned on this particular subject and I have tried to address every single question relevant to this subject," he told Reuters in a telephone interview.

Qadri, 59, who was born in Pakistan, is head of the global Minhaj ul-Quran religious and educational organisation which spreads his Sufi ideas.

A former Pakistani minister and associate of assassinated Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, he delivers lectures worldwide promoting his message of harmony and was one of the first Muslim leaders to condemn the Sept. 11 attacks.

Tim Winter, a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, said while there had been similar fatwas in the past, Qadri did appear to have gone further than most.

"To declare the miscreants as unbelievers is unusual, because it is not really clear that the rules allow one simply to say that they are not Muslims," he told Reuters.

"Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all. But 'swing voters' – poorly educated and angry Muslims, who respect mainstream scholars, will probably take note.

"Certainly it is a helpful initiative," he said.

HEI TIDE

Qadri said he felt compelled to issue the edict because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, accused of trying to bomb a U.S.-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008. Yemen, where Abdulmutallab began his journey, has said he was radicalised while in Britain.

"The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire," Qadri said.

He is confident that the edict will have a significant impact, saying he had drawn on classical teachings and authorities acceptable to all sects of Islam.

"I will say more than 50 percent will change their way, they will be influenced. Of the remaining 50 percent at least some of them, half of them, will become doubtful about their life, their terrorist activity," he said.

While Qadri has followers across the globe, it is in Pakistan, where he has millions of followers, and in the diaspora that his impact would be greatest, Winter said.

Britain has about 1.7 million Muslims, mainly of Pakistani descent, and the security services say that nearly all major terrorism plots since 2001, including the 2005 London bombings which killed 52 people, were linked to Pakistan.

Government officials will be among those joining Qadri for the launch of the fatwa in central London. The Muslim Council of Britain, an umbrella organisation representing some 500 Islamic groups, said the fatwa was welcome.

"It is entirely laudable for scholars such as Tahir ul-Qadri to speak out against terrorism," it said in a statement.

Although his pronouncement will be good news for the authorities in Britain and other Western governments seeking to win Muslim support to stamp out extremism, Qadri said their backing is irrelevant to his views. (Editing by)



RADIO
NETHERLANDS
WORLDWIDE

<http://www.rnw.nl/english/article/fatwa-condemns-terrorists-un-islamic>



Fatwa condemns terrorists as 'un-Islamic'

Published on : 2 March 2010 - 4:33pm | By) [Marijke Peters](http://www.minhaj.org) (<http://www.minhaj.org>)

One of the world's leading Islamic scholars has issued a religious edict denouncing terrorism. Pakistani Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri claims his fatwa is the "most comprehensive" of its kind ever written.

The word *'fatwa'* became synonymous with death threats in the 1980s after the publication of Salman Rushdie's book *The Satanic Verses* prompted a *fatwa* that forced him into hiding for several years. But the religious ruling read out in London on Tuesday proves that this—incorrect - interpretation couldn't be further from the truth.

'Un-Islamic'

The 600-page document is aimed primarily at Muslim Pakistanis. It denounces terrorists and suicide bombers as 'unbelievers' and focuses on the Sufi traditions of tolerance and moderation. "The act of terrorism is the act of disbelief," ul-Qadri told Radio Netherlands Worldwide. "They [terrorists] go outside of the ambit of Islam and they will go to hell. This act of terrorism is enmity, it is against humanity. The Koran condemns them and these people who commit acts of terrorism are not to be considered Muslims. This is the *fatwa* I have given."

Preaching harmony

Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri is the founder of Minhaj ul-Quran, a religious and educational organisation set up to promote his ideas. He is a former Pakistani minister and advised assassinated politician (and vice Prime Minister) Benazir Bhutto, and travels the world preaching his message of harmony.

Other leading Islamists have commended ul-Qudri for his bravery in issuing such a wide-ranging and well-researched edict, including Dr Mohammed Ghaly, a theologian at the university of Leiden in the Netherlands: "One of the religious scholars who gave a *fatwa* against attacks on civilians has been killed... It's courageous to do something like this, because since the killing of this theologian you have very little voices who speak about this very clearly as Tahir ul-Qadri has done."

Dr Ghaly says the *fatwa* may have a worldwide impact but admits it's unlikely to prevent the spread of Islamic terrorism: "I don't think the *fatwa* will make such a difference for the terrorists but it can make a difference for the public who don't know where is the right and where is the wrong opinion about this [subject]. Here's the breakthrough."

Bartlesville live

<http://www.bartlesvillelive.com/news/world/story/Muslim-leader-issues-anti-terror-fatwa/HTuC08eOMke6fmW2Z1XI7g.csp>

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

March 2, 2010

LONDON (AP) — The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

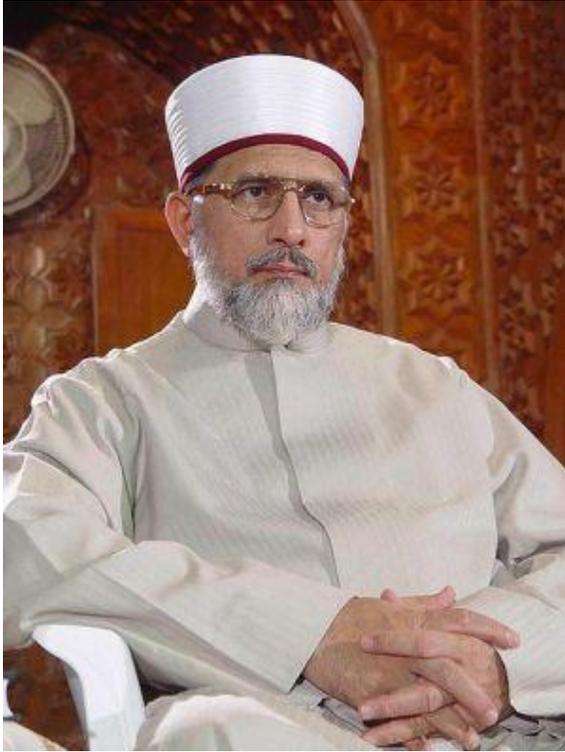
Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London is being hosted by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded, anti-extremism think tank.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a non-political, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

PRINTWORDS

<http://printwords.co.uk/muslim-leader-condemns-terrorism/>

Muslim Leader Condemns Terrorism



LONDON, MARCH 2, (PRINTWORDS NEWS)

A few words of wisdom comes from a Muslim leader, Tahir-ul-Qadri. He is the founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement. He has a number of followers in the United Kingdom. He is on his way to issue a fatwa. He is against terrorism and said all the suicide bombers are “destined for hell.” The fatwa declares, “suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers.”

In today's world where there is no certainty of life, due to increasing number of bomb blasts and terrorist attacks, the words of Tahir-ul-Qadri were necessary. According to Shahid Mursaleen, the spokesperson of Tahir-ul-Qadri, “He has hit hard on the terrorists as it prevents Islamists from considering suicide bombers as ‘martyrs’. This fatwa injects doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers.” Shahid Mursaleen further added, “Extremist groups based in Britain recruit youth by brain washing them that they will ‘with certainty’ be rewarded in the next life and Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds.”

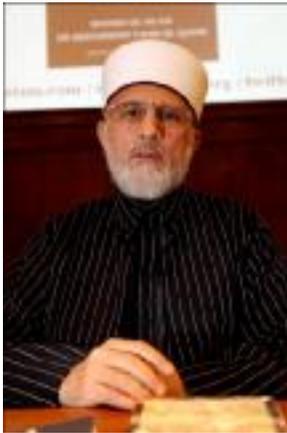
The movement by Tahir-ul-Qadri has attracted lots of people. He described al-Qaeda as an “old evil with a new name” which needs to be challenged. Many scholars had earlier tried to preach the same message, however, according to Tahir-ul-Qadri in his documents there is no scope for “ifs and buts.” It is a straight forward “no” if the lives of innocent citizens are put at stake. According to

reports, the 600 page document was prepared by Tahir-ul-Qadi last year as a mark of protest against increasing number of blasts and terrorism across the world. The words from the scholar is receiving lots of positive responses. This document might play a crucial role in preaching peace by fighting against terrorism.

inform

<http://inform.com/world/leading-muslim-scholar-issues-fatwa-terrorism-2165675p>

A Leading Muslim Scholar Issues A Fatwa On Terrorism



Dated: 02 March 2010

LO NDON, ENGLAND - MARCH 02: Islamic Scholar and spiritual leader Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri delivers a terrorism Fatwa at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers on March 2, 2010 in London, England. The comprehensive 600 page Fatwa, or religious ruling, is set to send a clear message to the Muslim world condemning extremism, suicide bombing and terrorism.

Rock Radio

<http://www.rockradio.co.uk/scotland/>

ISLAMIC SCHOLAR ISSUES ANTI-TERRORISM FATWA



Muhammad Tahir ul Qadri is a leading figure who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years.

He said he felt compelled to issue the fatwa because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

Ul Qadri says his fatwa, which is aimed at persuading young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said ul Qadri, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship.

He is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam which is widely seen as focusing on peace, tolerance and moderation.

Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdul Mutallab, accused of trying to bomb a US-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008.

Government officials in Yemen, where Mutallab began his journey, have said he was radicalised while in Britain.

However, the British Government claims his introduction to hardcore extremists happened after he left the UK.

Government officials will be among those joining ul Qadri for the launch of the fatwa in central London.

The Muslim Council of Britain, an umbrella organisation representing some 500 Islamic groups, has welcomed the fatwa.

Ul Qadri will tell his audience: "The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire."

The 59-year-old was born in Pakistan and is head of the global Minhaj ul Quran religious and educational organisation which spreads his Sufi ideas .

A former Pakistani minister and associate of assassinated prime minister Benazir Bhutto, he delivers lectures worldwide promoting his message of harmony and was one of the first Muslim leaders to condemn the 9/11 attacks in the US.

While ul Qadri has followers around the globe, it is in Pakistan where he has millions of followers and in the diaspora that his impact is likely to be greatest.

Britain has about 1.7 million Muslims, mainly of Pakistani descent.

The UK's security services say nearly all major terrorism plots since 2001, including the 2005 London bombings which killed 52 people, have been linked to Pakistan.

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"Of the remaining 50% at least some of them, half of them, will become doubtful about their life, their terrorist activity," he said .

Tim Winter, a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, said while there had been similar fatwas in the past, ul Qadri did appear to have gone further than most.

"To declare the miscreants as unbelievers is unusual because it is not really clear that the rules allow one simply to say that they are not Muslims."

He added: "Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all but 'swing voters' - poorly-educated and angry Muslims who respect mainstream scholars - will probably take note.

"Certainly it is a helpful initiative."

Ul Qadri's pronouncement will be welcomed by authorities in the UK and by other Western governments seeking to stamp out extremism - but the respected scholar said their backing is irrelevant to his views.



<http://www.rttnews.com/Content/GeneralNews.aspx?Node=B1&Id=1226922>

Islamic Scholar To Issue "Fatwa" Against Terrorism

3/2/2010 6:30 AM ET



(RTTNews) - A much respected Islamic scholar is to issue a "Fatwa" (edict) Tuesday against terrorism and suicide bombings carried out in the name of Islam.

Pakistan-born Tahir ul-Qadri, an authority on "Shariat law" (Islamic jurisprudence), will pronounce the ruling condemning the violence at a news conference in Westminster, central London.

Comprising 600 pages, this is a strong theological refutation of Islamist terrorism. Qadri who uses texts from the holy Koran to buttress his claims said the orgy of violence was "absolutely against the teachings of Islam" and that "Islam does not permit such acts on any excuse, reason or pretext."

He has argued that the perpetrators of suicide attacks were destined for hell, which directly contradicted "Jihad" (Holy War) supporters' claim that suicide bombers would be rewarded in afterlife.

Qadri who stated that suicide bombings and terrorism had become a convenient guise for criminals, mischief-mongers and rioters was scathing in his attack.



http://www.securityoracle.com/news/Influentail-Scholar-To-Issue-Terrorism-Fatwa_16587.html

Influentail Scholar To Issue Terrorism Fatwa

Date: Tuesday, March 02, 2010

Source: BBC News

An influential Muslim scholar is to issue in London a global ruling against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Dr Tahir ul-Qadri, from Pakistan, says his 600-page judgement, known as a fatwa, completely dismantles al-Qaeda's violent ideology.

The scholar describes al-Qaeda as an "old evil with a new name" which has not been sufficiently challenged.

The scholar's movement is growing in the UK and has attracted the interest of policymakers and security chiefs.

In his religious ruling, Dr Qadri says that Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

Although many scholars have made similar rulings in the past, Dr Qadri's followers argue that the massive document being launched in London goes much further.

They say it sets out point-by-point theological arguments against the rhetoric used by al-Qaeda inspired recruiters.

The fatwa also challenges the religious motivations of would-be suicide bombers who are inspired by promises of an afterlife.

The populist scholar developed his document last year as a response to the increase in bombings across Pakistan by militants.

The basic text has been extended to 600 pages to cover global issues, in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in western nations. It will be promoted in the UK by Dr Qadri's organisation, Minhaj ul-Quran International.

Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran in the UK, said the fatwa was hard-hitting.

"This fatwa injects doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers," he said.

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit the youth by brainwashing them that they will 'with certainty' be rewarded in the next life

"Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds."

Religious rulings

The document is not the first to condemn terrorism and suicide bombing to be launched in the UK.

Scholars from across the UK came together in the wake of the 7 July London attacks to denounce the bombers and urge communities to root out extremists.

But some scholarly rulings in the Middle East have argued that the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians is an exceptional situation where "martyrdom" attacks can be justified.

Although Dr Qadri has a large following in Pakistan, Minhaj ul-Quran International remained largely unknown in the UK until relatively recently.

It now has 10 mosques in the British cities with significant Muslim communities and says it is targeting younger generations it believes have been let down by traditional leaders.

The organisation is attracting the attention of policymakers and security chiefs who are continuing to look for allies in the fight against extremists.

The Department for Communities, which runs most of the government's "Preventing Violent Extremism" strategy, has tried building bridges with a variety of liberal-minded groups, but often found that they have limited actual influence at the grassroots.

To see the article please click on the link below.

SFGate

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2010/03/02/international/i051949S68.DTL&tsp=1>

AP Associated Press

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

(03-02) 06:36 PST LONDON, United Kingdom (AP) --

The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think tank and drew strong media attention.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2010/mar/02/muslim-leader-issues-anti-terror-fatwa/>

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

By The Associated Press

Tuesday, March 2, 2010 at 5:19 a.m.

LONDON — The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

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The Associated Press

Smooth Radio

<http://www.smoothradioeastmidlands.co.uk/news-sport-showbiz/national-news/islamic-scholar-issues-anti-terrorism-fatwa/w3h5ck9w/>

Islamic Scholar Issues Anti-Terrorism Fatwa



Muhammad Tahir ul Qadri is a leading figure who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years.

He said he felt compelled to issue the fatwa because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

Ul Qadri says his fatwa, which is aimed at persuading young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said ul Qadri, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship.

He is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam which is widely seen as focusing on peace, tolerance and moderation.

Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdul Mutallab, accused of trying to bomb a US-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008.

Government officials in Yemen, where Mutallab began his journey, have said he was radicalised while in Britain.

However, the British Government claims his introduction to hardcore extremists happened after he left the UK.

Government officials will be among those joining ul Qadri for the launch of the fatwa in central London.

The Muslim Council of Britain, an umbrella organisation representing some 500 Islamic groups, has welcomed the fatwa.

Ul Qadri will tell his audience: "The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire."

The 59-year-old was born in Pakistan and is head of the global Minhaj ul Quran religious and educational organisation which spreads his Sufi ideas.

A former Pakistani minister and associate of assassinated prime minister Benazir Bhutto, he delivers lectures worldwide promoting his message of harmony and was one of the first Muslim leaders to condemn the 9/11 attacks in the US.

While ul Qadri has followers around the globe, it is in Pakistan where he has millions of followers and in the diaspora that his impact is likely to be greatest.

Britain has about 1.7 million Muslims, mainly of Pakistani descent.

The UK's security services say nearly all major terrorism plots since 2001, including the 2005 London bombings which killed 52 people, have been linked to Pakistan.

Ul Qadri said he is confident his edict will have a significant impact because he has drawn on classical teachings and authorities acceptable to all sects of Islam.

"I will say more than 50% will change their way, they will be influenced," he said.

"Of the remaining 50% at least some of them, half of them, will become doubtful about their life, their terrorist activity," he said.

Tim Winter, a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, said while there had been similar fatwas in the past, ul Qadri did appear to have gone further than most.

"To declare the miscreants as unbelievers is unusual because it is not really clear that the rules allow one simply to say that they are not Muslims."

He added: "Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all but 'swing voters' - poorly-educated and angry Muslims who respect mainstream scholars - will probably take note."

"Certainly it is a helpful initiative."

Ul Qadri's pronouncement will be welcomed by authorities in the UK and by other Western governments seeking to stamp out extremism - but the respected scholar said their backing is irrelevant to his views.

Somalia24

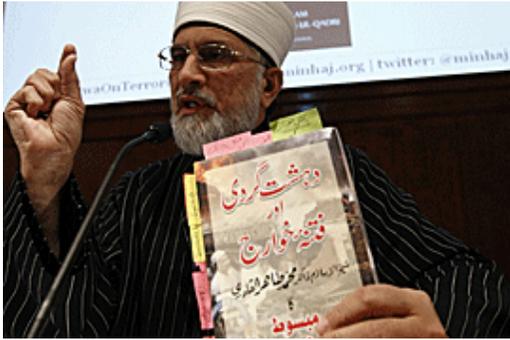
<http://www.somalia24.com/?p=25730>

Europe

March 2, 2010 – 7:14 pm

Cleric issues UK anti-terror fatwa

By Somalia24 Associated Press Writer



A leading Islamic scholar has issued a fatwa in Britain condemning "terrorists" as the enemies of Islam, in a bid to deter young Muslims from extremism.

Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, head of the Minhaj ul-Quran religious and educational organisation, said suicide bombers were destined for hell as he released his 600-page edict in London on Tuesday.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma [the wider Muslim community], no, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire," he said.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered Jihad," he said.

'No place in Islam'

At a news conference, ul-Qadri said Islam was a religion of peace that promotes beauty, "betterment", goodness and "negates all form of mischief and strife".

"Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts," he said.

A number of edicts condemning extremism have been made by Islamic groups since the September 11 attacks on the United States, but ul-Qadri insists his is the most wide-reaching.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," he told the Reuters news agency.

"I have tried to leave not a single stone unturned on this particular subject and I have tried to address every single question relevant to this subject."

Pakistan-born ul-Qadri, 59, has written about 350 books on Islam, and is a scholar of Sufism, a Muslim branch that focuses on peace, tolerance, and moderation.

The Quilliam Foundation, a UK counter-extremism think-tank, said the fatwa was "arguably the most comprehensive" theological refutation of Islamic extremism.

Tim Winter, a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, said while ul-Qadri's step of declaring "miscreants as unbelievers" was unusual, it was unlikely extremists would take notice of his edict.

"Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all. But 'swing voters' - poorly educated and angry Muslims, who respect mainstream scholars, will probably take note," he told Reuters.

Ul-Qadri said he felt compelled to issue the edict because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

The Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, founded in Pakistan in 1980, works around the globe to promote peace and interfaith dialogue.

Agencies



<http://pda.euronews.net/index.php?lang=en&article=726173>

Terrorism

Prominent cleric launches fatwa on terrorism

02/03 17:57 CET

A prominent Islamic scholar has issued a religious edict declaring that suicide bombers are unbelievers rather than martyrs.

Dr. Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri's is an advisor to the British government on ways of combatting the radicalisation of young Muslims.

He said at the launch of his fatwa:

“I will say total condemnation of every act of terrorism in every form, in every manifestation of radicalism and terrorism which is being committed, or which has been committed for the last one or two decades, wrongly in the name of Islam.”

There have been similar fatwas in the past but analysts say ul-Qadri's goes further by denouncing extremists as unbelievers.

While it may hold no sway with hardliners, his influence is such that it may well dissuade younger more impressionable Muslims from acts of terror.



<http://rantburg.com/poparticle.php?D=2010-03-04&ID=291915>

2010-03-04 Britain

London-based cleric issues anti-terror fatwa

An influential Muslim scholar in Britain has issued a fatwa banning terror attacks and bombings, insisting that there is no justification for terror acts in the name of Islam.

At a news conference attended by officers from London's Metropolitan Police, lawmakers, charitable organizations and think-tanks, Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri said that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Ummah. No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards the hellfire," he said.

In his 600-page decree, the founder of the internationally popular Minhaj-ul-Quran movement said there was no place for martyrdom through acts of terror and that such acts had nothing to do with jihad.

The scholar ruled out any excuses or pretexts for justifying acts of terror in supposed efforts to "convert an evil into good."

"Terrorism is terrorism," Qadri insisted. "Violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts."

He reiterated that Islam is a religion of peace that promotes beauty, "betterment," goodness and "negates all form of mischief and strife."

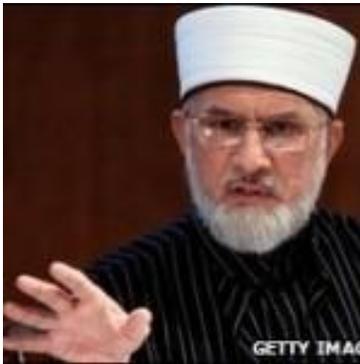
The fatwa is not the first by a senior Muslim scholar against extremism, but Qadri's is expected to carry more weight as it will be one of the few available in English and online. Posted by Fred 2010-03-04 00:00



<http://rain.org.za/islamic-scholar-tahir-ul-qadri-issues-terrorism-fatwa/>

Islamic scholar Tahir ul-Qadri issues terrorism fatwa

■ By Dominic Casciani
BBC News - 2 March 2010



An influential Muslim scholar has issued a global ruling against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Dr Tahir ul-Qadri, from Pakistan, says his 600-page judgement, known as a fatwa, completely dismantles al-Qaeda's violent ideology.

The scholar describes al-Qaeda as an "old evil with a new name" that has not been sufficiently challenged.

The scholar's movement is growing in the UK and has attracted the interest of policymakers and security chiefs.

In his religious ruling, delivered in London, Dr Qadri says that Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

Although many scholars have made similar rulings in the past, Dr Qadri argued that his massive document goes much further by omitting "ifs and buts" added by other thinkers.

He said that it set out a point-by-point theological rebuttal of every argument used by al-Qaeda inspired recruiters.

The populist scholar developed his document last year as a response to the increase in bombings across Pakistan by militants.

'Heroes of hellfire'

The basic text has been extended to 600 pages to cover global issues, in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in Western nations. It will be

promoted in the UK by Dr Qadri's organisation, Minhaj ul-Quran International.

Dr Qadri spoke for more than an hour to an audience of Muslims, clergy, MPs, police officers and other security officials.

"They [terrorists] can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma [global brotherhood]. No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire," he said.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad."

Acts of vengeance

The document is not the first to condemn terrorism and suicide bombing to be launched in the UK.

Scholars from across the UK came together in the wake of the 7 July London attacks to denounce the bombers and urge communities to root out extremists.

But some scholarly rulings in the Middle East have argued that the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians is an exceptional situation where "martyrdom" attacks can be justified.

Dr Qadri said he rejected that view saying there were no situations under which acts of vengeance, such as attacks on market places or commuter trains, could ever be considered a justifiable act of war.

Although Dr Qadri has many followers in Pakistan, Minhaj ul-Quran International remained largely unknown in the UK until relatively recently.

It now has 10 mosques in cities with significant Muslim communities and says it is targeting younger generations it believes have been let down by traditional leaders.

The organisation is attracting the attention of policy makers and security chiefs who are continuing to look for allies in the fight against extremists.

The Department for Communities, which runs most of the government's Preventing Violent Extremism strategy, has tried building bridges with a variety of liberal-minded groups, but often found that they have limited actual influence at the grassroots.

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/8544531.stm



<http://richarddawkins.net/articles/5179>

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Islamic scholar Tahir ul-Qadri issues terrorism fatwa

by Dominic Casciani - BBC News

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Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

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The Associated Press

LONDON —

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The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

SOMALIATODAY

<http://somaliatoday.livejournal.com/1193392.html>

Posted on Mar .2nd, 2010 at 09:18 pm

Muslim Leader Issues Anti-Terrorism Fatwa



LONDON — The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism. Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions." Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think tank and drew strong media attention



<http://story.argentinastar.com/index.php/ct/9/cid/c08dd24cec417021/id/607422/cs/1/>

Revered Muslim leader condemns terrorists

Argentina Star

Tuesday 2nd March, 2010

A Muslim leader in the UK has announced a special religious ruling, otherwise known as a fatwa, against terrorism in the name of Islam.

The widely respected authority on Islamic law, Dr Tahir Qadri, has issued the fatwa, which condemns terrorism and suicide bombing.

Dr Qadri has addressed a press conference in Westminster, central London, to talk about why suicide bombings and terrorism are un-Islamic and scripturally forbidden.

His theological refutation of Islamist terrorism is likely to be discussed widely amongst the world's Muslim population and will be posted on the Internet in English and Arabic, making it readily accessible.

Dr Qadri has used texts from the Koran to argue that Islam does not permit such acts "on any excuse, reason or pretext" referring to a passage in the Quran in which the death of one innocent is aligned with the death of all humanity.

His fatwa condemns suicide bombers as destined for hell, refuting the claim used by extremists that such terrorists will earn paradise after death.

In his posting on terrorism he says: "Today's tragedy is that terrorists, murderers, mischief-mongers and rioters try to prove their criminal, rebellious, tyrannous, brutal and blasphemous activities as a right and a justified reaction to foreign aggression under the garb of defense of Islam and national interests. It can in no way be permissible to keep foreign delegates under unlawful custody and murder them and other peaceful non-Muslim citizens in retaliation for interference, unjust activities and aggressive advances of their countries. The one who does has no relation to Islam."

Dr Qadri's international organisation, the Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, has many supporters throughout the world.

<http://story.irishsun.com/index.php/ct/9/cid/2411cd3571b4f088/id/607422/cs/1/>

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Irish Sun

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<http://story.mexicostar.com/index.php/ct/9/cid/bf7bedafac502d48/id/607422/cs/1/>

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Mexico Star
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<http://story.newzealandstar.com/index.php/ct/9/cid/bf7bedafac502d48/id/607422/cs/1/>

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<http://story.singaporestar.com/index.php/ct/9/cid/303b19022816233b/id/607461/cs/1/>

Pakistani Islamic scholar to issue 600-page fatwa against terrorism, suicide bombing

Singapore Star
Tuesday 2nd March, 2010
(ANI)

Describing Al-Qaeda as an 'old evil with a new name', influential Pakistani scholar Dr Tahir ul-Qadri has said he would soon issue a 'fatwa' against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Qadri said the Al-Qaeda has not been sufficiently challenged and that his global ruling against terrorism completely dismantles the banned terror organisation's violent ideology.

In his 600-page ruling, Qadri said Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

The fatwa also challenges the religious motivations of would-be suicide bombers who are inspired by promises of an afterlife, The BBC reports.

The famous Muslim scholar developed his document last year as a response to the sudden increase in suicide bombings across Pakistan.

The fatwa, which would be promoted in Britain by Qadri's organisation, Minhaj ul-Quran International, would cover global issues in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in western nations.

Terming the fatwa as 'hard hitting', Minhaj ul-Quran International's spokesperson Shahid Mursaleen said the ruling would inject doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers.

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit the youth by brainwashing them that they will with certainty be rewarded in the next life. Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual actor from their minds," Mursaleen said. (ANI)

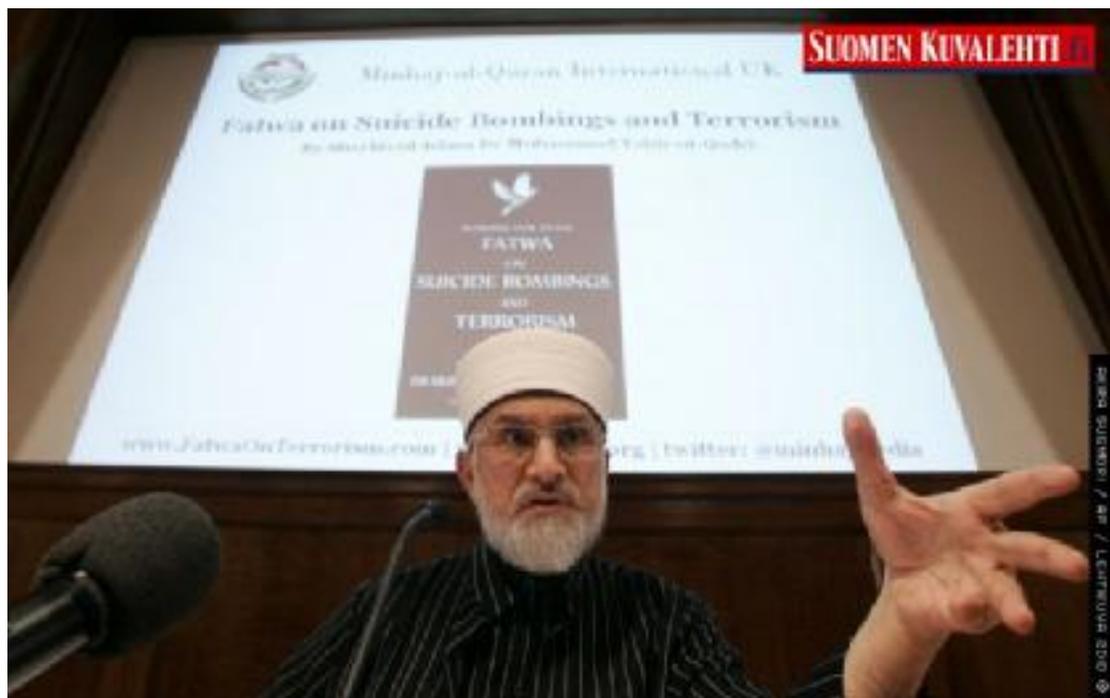
<http://suomenkuvalehti.fi/kuvat/2010/03/02/britain-anti-terror-fatwa>

Britain Anti Terror Fatwa

Kuvaaja: Akira Suemori

Lähde: AP / Lehtikuva

Päivämäärä: 2.3.2010 klo 14:59



Leading Muslims scholar Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri speaks at the UK launch of the Fatwa on suicide bombings and terrorism held by non-governmental organization Minhaj-ul-Quran International (MQI) in London, Tuesday, March 2, 2010. The fatwa is an Islamic decree that condemns suicide bombings and terrorist atrocities along with their perpetrators.

<http://sweetsilence.vox.com/library/post/islamic-scholar-dr-tahir-ul-qadri-issued-terrorism-fatwa.html>

Mar 5, 2010 at 8:28 PM

Islamic Scholar Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri issued Terrorism Fatwa

-- Historical Launching of Fatwa Against Terrorism --

LONDON. In the wake of the massacre of innocent citizens, and explosions, and suicide bombing on the streets and markets of Pakistan and Afghanistan at mosques and other public places by the terrorists and radicals, the timing of a religious verdict Fatwa couldn't be more pertinent.

A staggering 600-page Fatwa (religious edict) by one of the leading Muslim authorities Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri which declares suicide bombing and terrorism as totally un-Islamic will be launch on Tuesday 2 March 2010 in Westminster. The Fatwa is a comprehensive analysis of the issue of terrorism has been published, and provides robust religious evidence, based on Quranic verses and Prophetic traditions, to clarify the Islamic viewpoint on the atrocities committed by terrorists.

While the Muslims as a collective entity condemn, resist and fight terrorism, and are not ready to accept its remotest possible link with Islam; there are some extremists who are also seen supporting it. Instead of opposing and condemning it openly and downrightly, they confuse it.

This religious ruling is particularly important for the UK where the majority of Muslims are of South Asia origin - we have seen examples of extremist groups targeting vulnerable young people from these communities to carry out their acts of violence, from training them as suicide bombers in London or elsewhere to brainwash students across British universities.

The spokesman of Minhaj-ul-Quaran International UK, Shahid Mursaleen said that this religious edict will provide the theological reassurance and give confidence to vulnerable young British Muslims, enabling them to take a stand against those perpetrating extremist views. Britain has large Muslim communities of South Asian heritage, and their confusion about religious teaching, coupled with close family members suffering as a result of fighting in Afghanistan and Pakistan, has been exploited by extremists seeking to recruit suicide bombers in the UK.

In Britain, there is a widely held misunderstanding that a fatwa is a violent call to

arms, but their real purpose is to provide a religious decree giving the legal Islamic viewpoint and religious guidance on a contentious issue. The decree is based on rigorous analysis of religious texts, and can only issue by those who have the right to do so, based on a complex chain of authority, determined by experience and knowledge of Islamic literature.

It explains through religious reference - that killing Muslims and non-Muslims through terrorist activities, and using violent aggression to impose their mistaken and misplaced ideology, is a fundamental rejection of faith and is out of the fold of Islam and what it stands for. When the forbidden element of suicide is added, the severity and gravity is even greater, and is forbidden in Islamic law.

Dr Tahir-ul-Qadri, whose official scholar title is Shayk-ul-Islam, is a professor and contemporary thinker and the figurehead of the international organisation, Minhaj-ul-Quran. He said in his Fatwa book:

A negligible minority amongst [Muslims] seems to give terrorism tacit approval. Instead of openly opposing and condemning terrorism, these people confuse the entire subject by resorting to misleading and perplexing discussions. [p.24]

The killing of Muslims and the perpetration of terrorism are not only unlawful and forbidden in Islam but also represent the rejection of faith. [p.28]

By undertaking a comprehensive analysis of the signs, beliefs and ideologies of the Khawarij through the Quralic verses, Prophetic traditions and jurisprudential opinions of jurists, we have established that the terrorists are the Khawarij of contemporary times. [p.30]

It can in no way be permissible to keep foreign delegates under unlawful custody and murder them and other peaceful non-Muslim citizens in retaliation for the interference, unjust activities and aggressive advances of their countries. The one who does has no relation to Islam. [p.37]

Terrorism, carnage and mass destruction can never be justified in the name of any intention of enforcing Islamic commands and its judicial system. Nor can these reprehensible activities be any exception to the rule, or be overlooked, or forgiven.

[p.49]

<http://www.minhaj.org/english/tid/995...>

<http://sweetsilence.vox.com/library/post/islamic-scholar-dr-tahir-ul-qadri-issued-terrorism-fatwa.html?c=feed-atom>

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<http://www.minhaj.org/english/tid/995...>



<http://tajzia.wordpress.com/2010/03/05/realising-the-terrorist-threat/>

Realising the Terrorist Threat

2010 March 5

by tajzia

By: *Syed Aal-e-Imran*

Realising the Terrorist Threat

Professor Dr. Tahir ul Qadri, who has also started using the prefix “Sheikh ul Islam” over the last few years, has been a prolific writer with 1000 books to his credit according to his [website](#) at the age of 59. This amounts to 17 books a year and roughly 1.5 books for every month of his life. Hence the stress on ‘600’ in the recently released fatwa against terrorism is entirely understandable.

The homework has been done and already, [Amazon.com](#) is sporting a pre-order page for the 88-page introduction to this work.

A spokesman of the counter-extremist think-tank, Quillam, said “Fat was by Wahhabi-influenced clerics and Islamist ideologues initiated modern terrorism against civilians”

Yet again, this is completely understandable: Dr. Tahir ul Qadri, whose ‘[Chains of Authority](#)’ are not matched by any other Muslim, has a hat-trick of chains linking him to Imam al-Hind ash-Shah Ahmad Rida Khan (also known as Aala Hazrat and Ahmad Raza Bareilvi), a personality revered by one of the mystical sects of the subcontinent.

Indeed, Ahmad Raza Khan set a precedent to counter Wahhabism that can only be matched by Dr. Qadri, who like his hero, declared “Muslim terrorists” [disbelievers](#).

And as a true successor to Ahmad Raza Khan and his critically acclaimed anti-Wahhabi fatwa that won universal applause from the British, Dr. Qadri chose to launch the fatwa internationally in England.

The work is indeed a monumental one and has received positive reviews from many authorities on Islam.

[Salman Ahmad](#), the Rock ‘n Roll Mujahid superstar and himself an expert on [Islamic Jurisprudence](#) to which he himself testifies has noted that “the young men in the West... could be influenced the most by Qadri’s arguments”.

[Udham Singh](#), another prominent author, said “We can learn a lot from the fatwa written by Dr.

Qadri and Minhaj-ul-Quran to support the UK Muslims in countering the radical Islamist rhetoric in the world”

Other such authorities include News Channels such as [CNN](#), [CNN again](#), [Washington Times](#), [BBC](#), [more BBC](#), [CNN yet again](#) etc. Other such references can be found at the noble Doctor's [own website](#).

Several questions remain though; it would be interesting to see the evolution that follows in the approach that the Noble Doctor has mastered over the years. How will he, for example, deal with the extremist 'Fatwa of Death' against Salman Rushdie issued by the late Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran whom he reveres.



<http://theimpudentobserver.com/world-news/suicide-bombers-virgins-or-digging-coal/>

Suicide Bombers—Virgins Or Digging Coal?

March 4th, 2010 by Fred Stopsky

A Muslim scholar currently residing in London will shortly issue a [fatwa](#) that unequivocally condemns terrorism and warns anyone who wants to place bombs around his tummy and blow himself up that his destination will not be the warm heaven of dozens of gorgeous women, but the dark damp hot climate of Hell where one spends days shoveling coal for the Devil. Pakistani born Shaikh Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri will send out the fatwa for English speaking Muslims as part of his effort to demolish terrorist arguments that one must die in the name of Allah. The good doctor is well known within the British Pakistani community and it is doubtful if any terrorist will be stripping off a chest load of bombs because someone in London says to kill is against the teaching of Allah.

His fatwa will state, "it can in no way be permissible to keep foreign delegates under unlawful custody and murder them and other peaceful non-Muslim citizens in retaliation for interference, unjust activities, and aggressive advances of their countries."

His comments are merely one shot in the fatwa wars of circulating statements to justify or not justify behavior.



http://thestar.com.my/lifestyle/story.asp?file=/2010/3/2/worldupdates/2010-03-01T221645Z_01_NOOTR_RTRMDNC_0_-465661-1&sec=Worldupdates

Monday March 1, 2010

Prominent Muslim to issue anti-terrorism fatwa

By Michael Holden

LONDON (Reuters) - A prominent Islamic scholar is to issue a 600-page religious edict denouncing terrorism in London on Tuesday in what he says is a bid to persuade young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism.

The fatwa from Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, a leading figure who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years, echoes edicts condemning extremism issued by a number of Islamic groups since the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States.

But Qadri says his fatwa, which declares terrorists and suicide bombers to be unbelievers, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said Qadri, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship and is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam that focuses on peace, tolerance and moderation.

"I have tried to leave not a single stone unturned on this particular subject and I have tried to address every single question relevant to this subject," he told Reuters in a telephone interview.

Qadri, 59, who was born in Pakistan, is head of the global Minhaj ul-Quran religious and educational organisation which spreads his Sufi ideas.

A former Pakistani minister and associate of assassinated Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, he delivers lectures worldwide promoting his message of harmony and was one of the first Muslim leaders to condemn the Sept. 11 attacks.

Tim Winter, a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, said while there had been similar fatwas in the past, Qadri did appear to have gone further than most.

"To declare the miscreants as unbelievers is unusual, because it is not really clear that the rules allow one simply to say that they are not Muslims," he told Reuters.

"Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all. But 'swing voters' -- poorly educated and angry Muslims, who respect mainstream scholars, will probably

take note.

"Certainly it is a helpful initiative," he said.

HELLFIRE

Qadri said he felt compelled to issue the edict because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, accused of trying to bomb a U.S.-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008. Yemen, where Abdulmutallab began his journey, has said he was radicalised while in Britain.

"The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire," Qadri said.

He is confident that the edict will have a significant impact, saying he had drawn on classical teachings and authorities acceptable to all sects of Islam.

"I will say more than 50 percent will change their way, they will be influenced. Of the remaining 50 percent at least some of them, half of them, will become doubtful about their life, their terrorist activity," he said.

While Qadri has followers across the globe, it is in Pakistan, where he has millions of followers, and in the diaspora that his impact would be greatest, Winter said.

Britain has about 1.7 million Muslims, mainly of Pakistani descent, and the security services say that nearly all major terrorism plots since 2001, including the 2005 London bombings which killed 52 people, were linked to Pakistan.

Government officials will be among those joining Qadri for the launch of the fatwa in central London. The Muslim Council of Britain, an umbrella organisation representing some 500 Islamic groups, said the fatwa was welcome.

"It is entirely laudable for scholars such as Tahir ul-Qadri to speak out against terrorism," it said in a statement.

Although his pronouncement will be good news for the authorities in Britain and other Western governments seeking to win Muslim support to stamp out extremism, Qadri said their backing is irrelevant to his views.

(Editing by Charles Dick)



<http://topics.abcnews.go.com/photo/0dMa9tB1dH2nk>



LONDON, ENGLAND - MARCH 02: Islamic Scholar and spiritual leader Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul Qadri delivers a terrorism Fatwa at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers on March 2, 2010 in [London](#), England. The comprehensive 600 page Fatwa, or religious ruling, is set to send a clear message to the Muslim world condemning extremism, suicide bombing and terrorism.

The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think tank and drew strong media attention.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

http://toronto.ctv.ca/servlet/an/local/CTVNews/20100302/canadan_fatwa_100302/20100302/?hub=TorontoNewHome

Muslim leader issues 600-page anti-terror fatwa in U.K.

Mar. 02 2010 4:02:09 PM

Leading Muslim scholar Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri speaks at the UK launch of the Fatwa on suicide bombings and terrorism held by non-governmental organization Minhaj-ul-Quran International (MQI) in London, Tuesday, March 2, 2010. (AP / Akira Suemori)



Updated: Tue Mar 02 2010 4:02:09 PM

TheAssociatedPress

LONDON — A former Pakistani legislator who lives in Canada and leads a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

He is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Qur'an, a worldwide movement that promotes a non-political, tolerant Islam.

A spokesman for the group told The Canadian Press that Tahir-ul-Qadri has been living in southern Ontario for almost four years. The spokesman would not reveal the exact location.

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TRUE / SLANT

<http://trueslant.com/davidknowles/2010/03/02/muslim-leader-issues-fatwa-against-terrorism/>

Mar. 2 2010 - 12:25 pm

Muslim leader issues fatwa... against terrorism

By DAVID KNOWLES



Can somebody give me a hallelujah? Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri (pictured), the leader of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a global Muslim group that is said to have hundreds of thousands of followers, [issued a fatwa](#) on Tuesday. By now, we've come to expect that such religious edicts will call for the killing of some novelist or cartoonist who has supposedly besmirched the Koran, but Tahir-ul-Qadri has quite a different target in mind: terrorism.

Specifically, he wants to put an end to suicide bombings:

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page *fatwa* bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

While one applauds his stand against violence, the use of a *fatwa* to achieve one's social and political aims leaves a lot to be desired. After all, with so many conflicting *fatwas* flying around—one that commands killing versus one that forbids it—how is the layperson supposed to figure out which carries the true moral authority of Koranic wisdom?



<http://www.military.com/news/article/muslim-scholars-fatwa-condemns-alqaida.html>

Muslim Scholar's Fatwa Condemns Al-Qaida

March 02, 2010
Deutsche Presse-Agentur

LONDON --- A leading Muslim scholar with a large following in Britain Tuesday issued a fatwa -- or Islamic religious ruling --- condemning global terrorism and suicide bombings in a "direct challenge to al-Qaida's violent ideology."

Pakistan-born Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, the founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, made his formal proclamation of a fatwa, or religious edict, at a news conference in London.

The 600-page fatwa says that "suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers."

Qadri described the al-Qaida movement as an "old evil with a new name" and said he believed that the overwhelming majority of young Muslims in Britain had not yet been radicalized and would "think again" on reading his proclamation.

Those who had already been "totally brainwashed" would not listen, said Qadri, but others would have "doubt" sewn in their minds.

"You don't become a terrorist overnight. It is a journey ... Many are already on that road but they have not yet arrived to become suicide bombers," Qadri told journalists.

He developed the document, which challenges the religious motivation of suicide bombers, in response to the rise in suicide bombings in Pakistan.

He said he hoped his arguments would attract the attention of politicians and security services in western nations.

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

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San Antonio's Home Page

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<http://in.news.yahoo.com/137/20100301/760/twl-prominent-muslim-to-issue-anti-terro.html>

Mon, Mar 1 09:55 PM

Prominent Muslim to issue anti-terrorism fatwa

A prominent Islamic scholar is to issue a 600-page religious edict denouncing terrorism in London on Tuesday in what he says is a bid to persuade young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism.

The fatwa from Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, a leading figure who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years, echoes edicts condemning extremism issued by a number of Islamic groups since the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States.

But Qadri says his fatwa, which declares terrorists and suicide bombers to be unbelievers, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said Qadri, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship and is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam that focuses on peace, tolerance and moderation.

"I have tried to leave not a single stone unturned on this particular subject and I have tried to address every single question relevant to this subject," he told Reuters in a telephone interview.

Qadri, 59, who was born in Pakistan, is head of the global Minhaj ul-Quran religious and educational organisation which spreads his Sufi ideas.

A former Pakistani minister and associate of assassinated Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, he delivers lectures worldwide promoting his message of harmony and was one of the first Muslim leaders to condemn the Sept. 11 attacks.

Tim Winter, a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, said while there had been similar fatwas in the past, Qadri did appear to have gone further than most.

"To declare the miscreants as unbelievers is unusual, because it is not really clear that the rules allow one simply to say that they are not Muslims," he told Reuters.

"Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all. But 'swing voters' – poorly educated and angry Muslims, who respect mainstream scholars, will probably take note.

"Certainly it is a helpful initiative," he said.

HELLFIRE

Qadri said he felt compelled to issue the edict because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, accused of trying to bomb a U.S.-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008. Yemen, where Abdulmutallab began his journey, has said he was radicalised while in Britain.

"The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire," Qadri said.

He is confident that the edict will have a significant impact, saying he had drawn on classical teachings and authorities acceptable to all sects of Islam.

"I will say more than 50 percent will change their way, they will be influenced. Of the remaining 50 percent at least some of them, half of them, will become doubtful about their life, their terrorist activity," he said.

While Qadri has followers across the globe, it is in Pakistan, where he has millions of followers, and in the diaspora that his impact would be greatest, Winter said.

Britain has about 1.7 million Muslims, mainly of Pakistani descent, and the security services say that nearly all major terrorism plots since 2001, including the 2005 London bombings which killed 52 people, were linked to Pakistan.

Government officials will be among those joining Qadri for the launch of the fatwa in central London. The Muslim Council of Britain, an umbrella organisation representing some 500 Islamic groups, said the fatwa was welcome.

"It is entirely laudable for scholars such as Tahir ul-Qadri to speak out against terrorism," it said in a statement.

Although his pronouncement will be good news for the authorities in Britain and other Western governments seeking to win Muslim support to stamp out extremism, Qadri said their backing is irrelevant to his views.

(Editing by Charles Dick)



<http://in.quote.com/news/story.action?id=RTT003020630000439>

March 02, 2010

Islamic Scholar To Issue "Fatwa" Against Terrorism

(RTT News) - A much respected Islamic scholar is to issue a "Fatwa" (edict) Tuesday against terrorism and suicide bombings carried out in the name of Islam.

Pakistan-born Tahir ul-Qadri, an authority on "Shariat law" (Islamic jurisprudence), will pronounce the ruling condemning the violence at a news conference in Westminster, central London.

Comprising 600 pages, this is a strong theological refutation of Islamist terrorism. Qadri who uses texts from the holy Koran to buttress his claims said the orgy of violence was "absolutely against the teachings of Islam" and that "Islam does not permit such acts on any excuse, reason or pretext."

He has argued that the perpetrators of suicide attacks were destined for hell, which directly contradicted "Jihad" (Holy War) supporters' claim that suicide bombers would be rewarded in afterlife.

Qadri who stated that suicide bombings and terrorism had become a convenient guise for criminals, mischief-mongers and rioters was scathing in his attack.

"It can in no way be permissible to keep foreign delegates under unlawful custody and murder them and other peaceful non-Muslim citizens in retaliation for interference, unjust activities and aggressive advances of their countries. The one who does has no relation to Islam," he asserted.

Supporters of Qadri, the founder of the international Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, said the fatwa was significant since he himself was issuing it and the organization commanded a large following both in South Asia and Britain.

It was also pointed out that although many similar fatwas were issued against terrorism earlier, the one by Qadri went much further.

The fatwa will be posted on the Internet and could well "turn the tide" in the fight against religious extremism worldwide.



REUTERS INDIA

<http://in.reuters.com/article/worldNews/india-46566120100301>

Mon Mar 1, 2010

Prominent Muslim to issue anti-terrorism fatwa

By Michael Holden

LONDON (Reuters) - A prominent Islamic scholar is to issue a 600-page religious edict denouncing terrorism in London on Tuesday in what he says is a bid to persuade young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism.

The fatwa from Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, a leading figure who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years, echoes edicts condemning extremism issued by a number of Islamic groups since the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States.

But Qadri says his fatwa, which declares terrorists and suicide bombers to be unbelievers, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said Qadri, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship and is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam that focuses on peace, tolerance and moderation.

"I have tried to leave not a single stone unturned on this particular subject and I have tried to address every single question relevant to this subject," he told Reuters in a telephone interview.

Qadri, 59, who was born in Pakistan, is head of the global Minhaj ul-Quran religious and educational organisation which spreads his Sufi ideas.

A former Pakistani minister and associate of assassinated Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, he delivers lectures worldwide promoting his message of harmony and was one of the first Muslim leaders to condemn the Sept. 11 attacks.

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HELLFIRE

Qadri said he felt compelled to issue the edict because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, accused of trying to bomb a U.S.-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008. Yemen, where Abdulmutallab began his journey, has said he was radicalised while in Britain.

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(Editing by Charles Dick)

<http://insideislam.wisc.edu/index.php/archives/4581>

Mar 1st, 2010

There are more to fatwas than Rushdie

How come we don't hear moderate Muslim scholars condemning terrorism? This question arises repeatedly with regard to Islam's stance on violence and terrorism. Of course [Muslims as individuals and communities have spoken out against terrorism repeatedly](#) and many scholars have come out against this kind of violence, but their voices do not seem to be heard



Another [Muslim scholar is joining the many who have condemned terrorism](#). [Dr. Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri](#), the head of [Minhaj ul Quran](#), will deliver a [fatwa](#) in Britain in the next weeks condemning terrorism and outlining in a 600-page document why actions like suicide bombings are against Islam.

The term "fatwa" elicits a negative response in the minds of many who remember the late [Ayatollah Khomeini's](#) fatwa against [Salman Rushdie](#) for his novel [The Satanic Verses](#). However, most people do not realize that fatwas are non-binding religious rulings and not mandatory commandments from on high. In other words, the general assumption is that when a scholar issues a fatwa, Muslims worldwide act on it. This is certainly not the case. Scholars around the world issue fatwas about numerous topics all the time, sometimes opposing other scholars' fatwas. Not everyone agreed with Khomeini's fatwa against Rushdie.

Dr. Tahir-ul-Qadri's document will represent a positive connotation for the term "fatwa" since it is calling for a stop to terrorism based on an Islamic argument. Moreover, it reiterates the message that violence and terrorism are contrary to [the core values of Islam](#). While it may not completely stop terrorism, it will add to a constructive dialogue on how to prevent more violence.

Islam in Ukraine

http://islam.in.ua/2/eng/full_news2/2656/visibletype/1/index.html

20.01.2010



UK: Fatwa against suicide bombings

A leading Muslim organisation in Britain has issued a fatwa against suicide bombings and terrorism, declaring them un-Islamic.

Minhaj-ul-Quran, a Sufi organisation based in East London which advises the Government on how to combat radicalisation of Muslim youth, launches the 600-page religious verdict. It condemns the perpetrators of terrorist explosions and suicide bombings.

The document, written by Dr Muhammed Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former minister of Pakistan and friend of Benazir Bhutto, declares suicide bombings and terrorism as "totally un-Islamic". It is one of the most detailed and comprehensive documents of its kind to be published in Britain.

The fatwa, which was released in Pakistan last month, uses texts from the Koran and other Islamic writings to argue that attacks against innocent citizens are "absolutely against the teachings of Islam and that Islam does not permit such acts on any excuse, reason or pretext".

The fatwa will be welcomed by many Muslims from the large community of South Asian heritage in Britain, among whom confusion about religious teaching is exploited by extremists seeking to recruit suicide bombers.

"Extremist groups start brainwashing the young students from British universities and eventually convince them to oppose integration in British society," said Shahid Mursaleen, a spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran.

The fatwa would help fight extremist recruitment of young Muslims and was "one of the most comprehensive verdicts on this topic in the history of Islam", he added.

Inayat Bunglawala, former spokesman of the Muslim Council of Britain and founder of the new group Muslims4UK, set up to counter the radical message of the newly banned Islam 4UK and other extremist groups, welcomed the fatwa.

"This adds to the view of many Islamic scholars internationally that terrorism and suicide bombings are unacceptable in Islam," he said. "It is a positive initiative. Anything that helps move young people away from violence and from those who promote violence must be welcomed."

By [TimesOnline](#)

<http://jagonews.com/2010/03/03/qadri-anti-terror-fatwa-in-london/>



Qadri anti-Terror Fatwa in London

An influential Muslim scholar in Britain has issued a fatwa banning terror attacks and bombings, insisting that there is no justification for terror acts in the name of Islam.

At a news conference attended by officers from London's Metropolitan Police, lawmakers, charitable organizations and think-tanks, Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri said that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Ummah. No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards the hellfire," he said.

In his 600-page decree, the founder of the internationally popular Minhaj-ul-Quran movement said there was no place for martyrdom through acts of terror and that such acts had nothing to do with jihad.

The scholar ruled out any excuses or pretexts for justifying acts of terror in supposed efforts to "convert an evil into good."

"Terrorism is terrorism," Qadri insisted. "Violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts."

He reiterated that Islam is a religion of peace that promotes beauty, "betterment," goodness and "negates all form of mischief and strife."

The fatwa is not the first by a senior Muslim scholar against extremism, but Qadri's is expected to carry more weight as it will be one of the few available in English and online.

<http://journals democraticunderground.com/kpete/12473>

Mar 02nd 2010

[Muslim Leader Issues Anti-Terrorism Fatwa](#)

Posted by [kpete](#) in [Latest Breaking News](#)

Tue Mar 02nd 2010, 02:40 PM

Source: **Huffington Post**

Muslim Leader Issues Anti-Terrorism Fatwa

| 03/ 2/10 09:36 AM | AP

Action is my duty Reward is not my concern

LONDON — The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

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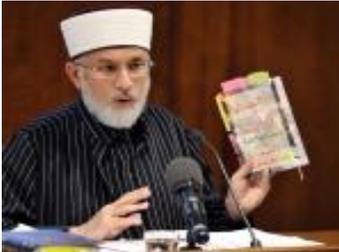
Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think tank and drew strong media attention.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.



http://latestnews.virginmedia.com/news/uk/2010/03/02/muslim_leader_to_condemn_terrorists?vmsrc=pamread

2 March 2010



Suicide bombers 'enemies of Islam'

Suicide bombers have been described as the "heroes of hellfire" by a leading Muslim scholar in a fatwa condemning terrorists as the enemies of Islam.

Pakistan-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri said there were no "ifs or buts" about terrorism and such acts had no justification in the name of Islam.

In a news conference attended by MPs, representatives from the Metropolitan Police, charitable organisations, think-tanks and other groups, he called on Islamic leaders to convey the message that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma (the wider Muslim community), no, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire," he said.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered Jihad," he added.

Dr Qadri, who spoke at length in both English and Arabic before his audience, said his fatwa - a religious edict or ruling - was an "absolute" condemnation of terrorism without "any excuses or pretexts".

"Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good," he said. "Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts."

He insisted that Islam was a religion of peace that promotes beauty, "betterment", goodness and "negates all form of mischief and strife".

The 600-page fatwa by Dr Qadri, founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, which has thousands of supporters across the world as well as in the UK, will be translated into English in the coming weeks. His talk will also be made available online in an attempt to counter extremist versions of Islam available on the internet.

A fatwa, an edict issued by a learned Muslim scholar, may concern any aspect of Islamic life. The term became famous in the Western world in 1989 after the author Salman Rushdie was forced into hiding following a "death fatwa" issued by Ayatollah Khomeini, then Supreme Leader of Iran, on the grounds that his book, *The Satanic Verses*, had "insulted" Islam.

The logo for boston.com, featuring the word "boston" in a blue, lowercase, sans-serif font, followed by ".com" in a smaller, blue, lowercase, sans-serif font.

http://www.boston.com/news/world/europe/articles/2010/03/02/muslim_leader_issues_anti_terror_fatwa/

March 2, 2010

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<http://m.news.com.au/BreakingNews/fi476980.htm>

March 3, 2010

Scholar issues anti-terrorism fatwa

A PROMINENT Islamic scholar will use a speech in London to issue a 600-page religious edict denouncing terrorists and suicide bombers as unbelievers.

Muhammad Tahir ul Qadri is a leading figure who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years, Sky News reports.

He said he felt compelled to issue the fatwa because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

Ul Qadri says his fatwa, which is aimed at persuading young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said ul Qadri, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship.

He is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam which is widely seen as focusing on peace, tolerance and moderation.

Nigerian-born Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, accused of trying to bomb a US-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008.

Government officials in Yemen, where Mutallab began his journey, said he was radicalised while in Britain.

However, the British Government claims his introduction to hardcore extremists happened after he left the UK.

Government officials will be among those joining ul Qadri for the launch of the fatwa in central London.

The Muslim Council of Britain, an umbrella organisation representing some 500 Islamic groups, welcomed the new position.

Ul Qadri will tell his audience, "The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire."

The 59-year-old was born in Pakistan and is head of the global Minhaj ul Quran religious and educational organisation, which spreads his Sufi ideas.

A former Pakistani minister and associate of assassinated prime minister Benazir Bhutto, he delivers lectures worldwide promoting his message of harmony and was one of the first Muslim leaders to condemn the 9/11 attacks in the US.

The logo for Boston.com, featuring the word "boston" in a blue, lowercase, sans-serif font, followed by ".com" in a smaller, blue, lowercase, sans-serif font. A thin horizontal line is positioned above the text.

http://mobile.boston.com/art/26/news/world/europe/articles/2010/03/02/muslim_leader_issues_anti_terror_fatwa/

Mar 2, 2010

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http://mobile.southwalesguardian.co.uk/uk_national_news/5035346.Muslim_leader_to_condemn_terrorists/

2nd March 2010



Muslim leader to condemn terrorists

The leader of a worldwide Muslim movement with thousands of followers in the UK is due to issue a fatwa - or Islamic religious ruling - condemning terrorism and warning suicide bombers that they are "destined for hell".

Pakistan-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, will make the formal UK proclamation of a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism and suicide bombing at a news conference in London.

The 600-page fatwa announces that "suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers".

Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran UK, said: "He has hit hard on the terrorists as it prevents Islamists from considering suicide bombers as 'martyrs'. This fatwa injects doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers. Extremist groups based in Britain recruit youth by brainwashing them that they will 'with certainty' be rewarded in the next life and Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds."

The fatwa has been billed as "arguably the most comprehensive" theological refutation of Islamic terrorism to date by counter extremism think tank the Quilliam foundation.

A Quilliam spokesman said: "Terrorist groups such as alQaida continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture. Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dustbin of history."

Communities Minister Shahid Malik, whose Dewsbury constituency was home to 7/7 bomber Mohammad Siddique Khan, welcomed the fatwa. "It is incumbent on Muslims to stand up for their faith - when 7/7 occurred those four evil young men killed themselves and over 50 innocent people because they followed a twisted and perverted interpretation of Islam which told them by doing so they would go to heaven," he said.

"A clear and unequivocal message must go out that Islam teaches that these four are not martyrs going to heaven but sinners going somewhere very different indeed. Hence, I very much welcome the work of Dr Qadri in helping reinforce this most crucial of message to Muslims and non-Muslims alike."

The Minhaj-ul-Quaran movement runs courses in combating religious extremism in educational centres throughout Britain including London, Birmingham, Manchester, Nelson, Walsall, Glasgow and Dundee.

A fatwa, an edict issued by a learned Muslim scholar, may concern any aspect of Islamic life. The term became famous in the western world in 1989 after the author Salman Rushdie was forced into hiding following a "death fatwa" issued by Ayatollah Khomeini, then Supreme Leader of Iran, on the grounds that his book, the Satanic Verses had "insulted" Islam.

Anti-terrorism fatwa launch in London

On 1st March 2010, Quilliam issued the following press release:

Anti-terrorism fatwa launch in London tomorrow



Tomorrow morning, on 2nd March, the renowned, mainstream Muslim scholar [Shaikh Dr Tahir ul-Qadri](#) will issue a comprehensive fatwa (religious ruling) prohibiting terrorism and suicide bombing at a press conference in Westminster, London.

Founder of the international [Minhaj-ul-Quran](#) movement, his fatwa is significant because:

- Minhaj-ul-Quran is a major grass-roots organisation with hundreds of thousands of followers in South Asia and the UK.
- Shaikh Dr Tahir ul-Qadri is a widely recognised and respected authority on Islamic jurisprudence.
- The fatwa condemns suicide bombers as destined for hell, which helps remove extremists' certainty of earning paradise after death.
- The 600-page fatwa is arguably the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism to date.
- Dr Tahir ul-Qadri's fatwa will set an important precedent and will allow other scholars to similarly condemn the ideas behind terrorism.

A Quilliam spokesperson said:

“This fatwa has the potential to be a highly significant step towards eradicating Islamist terrorism. Fatwas by Wahhabi-influenced clerics and Islamist ideologues initiated modern terrorism against civilians. Terrorist groups such as al-Qaeda continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture. Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dustbin of history.”

STANDPOINT.

<http://standpointmag.co.uk/node/2789>

Wednesday 3rd March 2010

Fatwa Against Suicide Bombing

ALEXANDER MELEAGROU-HITCHENS

Yesterday, I attended the launch of a fatwa condemning suicide bombings and terrorism. The document was compiled by Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, the head of Pakistani based Sufi organisation, Minhajul-Quran. Reproduced below is a short analysis of it which I co-authored with my colleague Houriya Ahmed for today's *Independent*.

This is not the first time that such a condemnation has been issued by a senior Islamic authority. Yet there are two aspects to this one which set it apart from the rest.

It is an unequivocal denunciation of suicide bombings and terrorism. Dr Qadri criticises others who condemn acts of terror, while at the same time providing a catalogue of excuses for it. Addressing the audience at the fatwa launch in Westminster he said: "A total condemnation should come from the Muslim world without playing with ifs or buts. No pretext, no foreign policy, no talk of occupation."

Previous condemnations have often referred to terrorism as *haram* (forbidden). Dr Qadri takes this a step further by comparing today's terrorists to the 7th century Kharijites, who were excommunicated because they permitted the killing of anyone deemed to be an obstacle to 'the rule of God'. Dr Qadri insists that terrorism is not just a forbidden act, but one that leads to expulsion from Islam: "it is an act of *kufr* (disbelief)".

Dr Qadri's message is expressly non-political. He recognises that terrorism feeds on the politicisation of religion, and he made this clear in his presentation. It is also important to note that Dr Qadri's fatwa is not the product of his own *ijtihad* (interpretation of religious texts); rather he is relaying previous edicts taken from orthodox and classical Islamic texts - the authenticity of which no Muslim can dispute.

Minhajul-Quran is based in Pakistan, and its decision to launch this fatwa in the UK was clearly a symbolic one. Britain is the European hub of international terror, with the majority of British terrorists being of Pakistani descent. This country sees high levels of extremist traffic—British citizens travel to Pakistan to strengthen their ideology as well as receive terror training. They then return to Britain seeking to commit or facilitate acts of terror.

Whether or not this fatwa will be effective remains to be seen, however, this is an important document and its real value lies in whether its intellectual capital is able to find popular purchase



[HTTP://NEWS.CA.MSN.COM/TOP-STORIES/CBC-ARTICLE.ASPX?CP-DOCUMENTID=23559634](http://news.ca.msn.com/top-stories/cbc-article.aspx?cp-documentid=23559634)

March 2, 2010

Islamic scholar issues fatwa against terrorism

A prominent Islamic scholar issued a religious ruling against terrorism and suicide bombings at a speech in London Tuesday.

Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, a leading scholar of Sufism, the tradition within Islam that focuses on peace and tolerance, isn't the first Islamic teacher to denounce acts of terrorism.

But Qadri's 600-page judgment, or fatwa, is among the harshest denunciations of the theological arguments used by militant groups like al-Qaeda.

"Whatever these terrorists are doing, it's not martyrdom," said Qadri on Tuesday.

U.K.-based anti-extremism think-tank the [Quilliam Foundation](#), which sponsored the speech, called the [Pakistani-born Qadri's](#) fatwa "arguably the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism to date"

Suicide bombers destined for hell, Qadri says

Qadri condemned suicide bombers as destined for hell, a counter to the extremist promise of eternal paradise after death. Qadri said the fatwa outlaws suicide bombings "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

He said he was compelled to issue the fatwa because of concerns about the radicalization of [British Muslims](#) at university campuses, most of whom are of Pakistani descent.

Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdul Mutalab, accused of trying to bomb a Detroit-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008.

Qadri is the founder of the international Minhaj-ul-Qur'an movement, which is mostly based in Pakistan, where he once served as an elected member of the national assembly and was a close associate of assassinated prime minister Benazir Bhutto.



[HTTP://MYPETJAWA.MU.NU/ARCHIVES/201311.PHP](http://mypetjawa.mu.nu/archives/201311.php)

al-Qaeda - "Old Evil With A New Name"

March 02, 2010

The boys at Ansar al-Mujahideen are all bent out of shape about Dr Tahir ul-Qadri. He is a Muslim scholar with a large following in Britain, born in Pakistan, and founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement.

So the good Dr issued a fatwa condemning global terrorism and suicide bombings.

The 600 page fatwa says that "suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers."

And [Xinhuanet](#) has this :

Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran in the UK, said the fatwa was hard-hitting and would "inject doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers."

Of course, the misguided youths at the forums, I'm looking at you Censored31, remind the cult followers that martyrdom is not suicide and those who are killed in a martyrdom operation are not innocent. Oh ya, also, it isn't the brave mujahideen that blow up market places, it's the CIA and Blackwater. Riiiiight.



[HTTP://MYSTATELINE.COM/CONTENT/FULLTEXT/?CID=141712](http://mystateline.com/content/fulltext/?CID=141712)

Leading Islamic Scholar Calls Terrorists "Unbelievers"

Monday, Mar 1, 2010 @ 02:47pm CST

(London) -- A leading Islamic scholar plans to release his 600-page fatwa or decree against terrorism on Tuesday in London.

Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri labels terrorists and suicide bombers as "unbelievers" in his religious ruling.

The 59-year-old former Pakistani minister says he wants it to persuade young Muslims to turn away from becoming terrorists.

As Qadri says, quote, "The reality is whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom.

All these activities are taking them to hellfire."

His motivation for issuing the edict stems from concerns about British Muslim college students who are becoming terrorists.

Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, the man accused of the failed Christmas Day bombing of a U.S.-bound airliner, apparently was radicalized while studying in London before 200.

<http://nation.ittefaq.com/issues/2010/03/04/news0156.htm>

Fatwa against terrorism

Staff Reporter
04.03.2010

Maulana Dr Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued a global ruling against terrorism and suicide bombing, BBC reports on Tuesday.

Dr Qadri, an influential Pakistani scholar, said his 600-page judgement, known as a fatwa, completely dismantles Al-Qaeda's violent ideology.

The scholar describes Al-Qaeda as an 'old evil with a new name' that has not been sufficiently challenged. The scholar's movement is growing in the UK and has attracted the interest of policymakers and security chiefs.

In his religious ruling, delivered in London, Dr Qadri says that Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

Although many scholars have made similar rulings in the past, Dr Qadri argued that his massive document goes much further by omitting "ifs and buts" added by other thinkers. He said that it set out a point-by-point theological rebuttal of every argument used by Qaeda-inspired recruiters.

The populist scholar developed his document last year as a response to the increase in bombings across Pakistan by militants. The basic text has been extended to 600 pages to cover global issues, in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in Western nations. It will be promoted in the UK by Dr Qadri's organisation, Minhajul Quran International.

Dr Qadri spoke for more than an hour to an audience of Muslims, clergy, MPs, police officers and other security officials.

"They (terrorists) can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Ummah (global brotherhood).



http://newageislam.com/NewAgeIslamRadicalIslamismAndJihad_1.aspx?ArticleID=2514

Radical Islamism & Jihad

27 Feb 2010, NewAgeIslam.Com

Is this a triumph for the Islamic peacemakers?

Allegra Mostyn-Owen
26.02.10

On Tuesday in London, a revered Muslim scholar will announce a fatwa against suicide bombing in the name of Islam. Here, Allegra Mostyn-Owen talks exclusively to Dr Tahir ul-Qadri as he outlines his historic vision...

I meet Dr Tahir ul-Qadri in a neat, terraced house in Barking where he emerges from his studies resplendent in an elegant silk striped grey and white juba and a black woollen hat.

I am honoured to be in his presence because he is considered a living saint by his followers. All Sunni and mainly Pakistani, they celebrate his birthday and his photograph adorns all the mosques which are part of Minhaj-ul-Quran, the movement which he has spent years raising into an international organisation. It now operates in 33 countries and advises the British Government on how to combat youth radicalisation.

Minhaj-ul-Quran welcomed, for example, the news last month that plans to build Europe's biggest mosque close to the Olympic site had been blocked. Weeks earlier, the group urged police to prevent Islamic extremists marching through Wootton Bassett. "These kind of extremists do not represent the British Muslims," they said. Dr Tahir ul-Qadri is impressively ecumenical in his relations with other faiths such as Shia and Christian. He gets a lot of flak for this from those who do not agree with his views.

On Tuesday, in central London, Dr Tahir ul-Qadri friend of former prime minister of Pakistan Benazir Bhutto who was assassinated in 2007, will declare suicide bombings and terrorism un-Islamic. Taken from a 600-page document published in Pakistan last month, Dr Tahir ul-Qadri will use texts in the Koran and other Islamic writings to argue that suicide and terrorist attacks are "absolutely against the teachings of Islam and that Islam does not permit such acts on any excuse, reason or pretext".

I first met Dr Tahir ul-Qadri five years ago at his headquarters in Lahore, where I was for a wedding. I was recently married myself for the second time — as the former wife of Mayor Boris Johnson I'd wed again in secret to my 23-year-old Muslim lover, himself from Lahore. His parents knew nothing about it. Since 2005, I have been giving art classes for women and children at the Minhaj-ul-Quran mosque in Forest Gate.

Today, in Bark in g Dr Tahir ul-Qadri is focusing on the problems of how many young British Pakistanis are being radicalised. Although the Government is working hard, says Dr Tahir ul-Qadri they are working on the wrong lines. In other words, he believes, that the Government has not kept abreast of the multi-culturalism of its own people. "England is the hub of the Western world. There is a big community here of around two million with a Pakistani background. The communities are in great numbers." As Dr Tahir ul-Qadri sees it, no terrorists have emerged from a Sunni or Sufi background: instead, they have come from the Salafis (Wahhabis) or Deobandis. The Deobandis are a South Asian variant which is close to the Gulf-orientated Wahhabis.

"Every Salafi and Deobandi is not a terrorist but I have no hesitation in saying that everyone is a well-wisher of terrorists and this has not been appreciated by the Western governments," he said

Dr Tahir ul-Qadri who has the authority of a Sheikh-ul-Islam, a title given to those who have superior knowledge of the principles of the faith, is coming out with his statement now because the Wahhabis and Deobandis have been silent in condemning the killings in Pakistan and abroad.

They dominate much of the apparatus of state in Pakistan — as well as most of the mosques in London — which is why in the West we receive mixed messages: the military launches vast offensives while the religious and education ministries say nothing. As a result, many in the West believe that the church in Pakistan is not doing enough to counter the violence.

British-Pakistanis lured into extremism present a peculiar problem because, when they go to Pakistan to further their murderous ambitions, they have mixed loyalties. They do not feel British but nor do they feel wholly Pakistani and yet they are a diplomatic nightmare for both countries. Terrorism is, Dr Tahir ul-Qadri says, an intellectual phenomenon as it applies to British-Pakistanis. They have been groomed from an early age in their Deobandi-leaning mosques where they are taught that they are living in a kafir society where they cannot integrate.

It is an "us and them" way of thinking and the narrow-mindedness starts when children attend mosque from the age of five. But, as Dr Tahir ul-Qadri says: "isolation is not the Islamic model — integration was the practice of the Holy Prophet in the society of Medina".

The maulvis (untutored clerics) give a misguided concept of Jihad: "This is the burning issue of the whole world," says Dr ul-Qadri. Once these children have been groomed into intellectual conservatism, they are very susceptible to extremism especially if they are not attached to society by a job. "Those who still have contact with [such clerics], whether they act out their ideas or not, they will be well-wishers of the Taliban," he says. Since the governments and agencies working on anti-terrorism are not brought up in Muslim culture, Dr Tahir ul-Qadri believes they do not understand. "Still their policies are not on the right track." I ask him about the role of art in children's education. It is commonly thought that Islam is contrary to art. He has no quibbles: he sees art as helping to satisfy one aspect of the human personality. "Islam wants a balanced personality," he says.

"We teach children intellectually and academically. The fight against the darkness of ignorance, the fight for charity: this is the true jihad"



http://newageislam.com/NewAgeIslamRadicalIslamismAndJihad_1.aspx?ArticleID=2514

Why this fatwa for peace matters so much to us all

By Douglas Murray, Director of the Centre for Social Cohesion

The most commonly asked questions since the 9/11 and 7/7 terrorist attacks is “Where are the Muslim clerics who condemn violent actions? Where are the voices of opposition to violence being committed by people in the name of Islam?”

It is no small point. In recent years, when they have been needed most, far too few Muslim leaders have unequivocally condemned violence committed in the name of Islam. In fact, weasel words and double-speak have been endemic.

So a sentence that may to many people seem dear, such as “There can be no justification for the killing of innocent people” is filled with caveats.

What is an “innocent” person? Who decides who is or is not “innocent”? Too many Muslim religious figures sound as if they are condemning violence when in fact they are merely condemning violence in certain situations, against certain people.

So there are two potentially significant things about the fatwa being released by Tahir ul-Qadri.

The first is that the ruling is said, by those who have seen it in advance, to include a comprehensive condemnation of violence, taking away any religious justification for attacks without caveats for “grievances” or other excuses. The second thing which makes this 600-page ruling potentially important is that Dr Tahir ul-Qadri has a highly respected scholarly background.

His ruling has the possibility of being respected by a far wider range of people than any of those individual non-scholarly Muslim voices who have also condemned terrorism without caveat.

Dr Tahir ul-Qadri has a large following, both here in the UK and in Pakistan. He is also respected for his ability to cross some of the notable sectarian boundaries that abound in the Islamic faith as in all others. Even Muslims who might dislike Dr Tahir ul-Qadri will not be able to dismiss him out of hand.

Yet even if the contents of this fatwa are what people have long hoped for, it will not, of course, stop Islamic terrorism straight away.

A single fatwa will not change the level of denial and lack of self-criticism inherent in so much of modern Islam.

Nor will it stop every fevered young radical eager to kill and maim. But the trickle-down effect is important.

The most violent interpretations of Islam have indeed trickled down to terrorists via learned scholars.

The clean-up operation will have to be dealt with by the same means. And we will have to hope, as ever, that the peaceful Muslim scholars in this millennia-long battle within Islam, can indeed win through. For all our sakes:

Source: <http://www.thisislondon.co.uk>



FIND LAW

[HTTP://NEWS.FINDLAW.COM/AP_STORIES/1/1103/03-02-2010/20100302053507_06.HTML](http://news.findlaw.com/ap_stories/1/1103/03-02-2010/20100302053507_06.html)

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

LONDON (AP) - The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London is being hosted by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded, anti-extremism think tank.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistan is living in other countries.

<http://news.aol.ca/article/islamic-scholar-issues-fatwa-against-terrorism/784654/>

Islamic Scholar Issues Fatwa Against Terrorism

Source: CBC News
Posted: 03/02/10 9:47AM
Filed Under: World

A prominent Islamic scholar issued a religious ruling against terrorism and suicide bombings at a speech in London Tuesday.

Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, a leading scholar of Sufism, the tradition within Islam that focuses on peace and tolerance, isn't the first Islamic teacher to denounce acts of terrorism.

But Qadri's 600-page judgment, or fatwa, is among the harshest denouncements of the theological arguments used by militant groups like al-Qaeda.

"Whatever these terrorists are doing, it's not martyrdom," said Qadri on Tuesday.

U.K.-based anti-extremism think-tank the Quilliam Foundation, which sponsored the speech, called the Pakistani-born Qadri's fatwa "arguably the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism to date."

Suicide bombers destined for hell, Qadri says

Qadri condemned suicide bombers as destined for hell, a counter to the extremist promise of eternal paradise after death. Qadri said the fatwa outlaws suicide bombings "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

He said he was compelled to issue the fatwa because of concerns about the radicalization of British Muslims at university campuses, most of whom are of Pakistani descent.

Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdul Mutallab, accused of trying to bomb a Detroit-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008.

Qadri is the founder of the international Minhaj-ul-Qur'an movement, which is mostly based in Pakistan, where he once served as an elected member of the national assembly and was a close associate of assassinated prime minister Benazir Bhutto.



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[HTTP://NEWS.MEEDAN.NET/INDEX.PHP?PAGE=EVENTS&POST_ID=294902](http://news.meedan.net/index.php?page=events&post_id=294902)

02.03.2010

Pakistani sheikh condemns 'infidel' suicide bombers in anti-terrorism Fatwa

In a new Fatwa (religious ruling), Sheikh Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri- Pakistani preacher and one of the most prominent Muslim Scholars – openly condemned terrorism, calling suicide bombers infidels who are doomed to hell.

The 59-year-old scholar addressed Muslims saying: "Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses of ifs and buts. The world needs an absolute, unconditional, unqualified and total condemnation of terrorism."

According to British newspaper "The Independent", the Fatwa exceeds all previous religious rulings in its condemnation for terrorism.

Fatwa in UK condemns suicide bombings

06:32 AEST Wed Mar 3 2010

Leading Muslim scholar in Britain issued a fatwa on Tuesday condemning terrorists and suicide bombers, saying they had no justification in the name of Islam.

Pakistan-born Dr Tahir ul-Qadri said there were no "ifs or buts" about terrorism, in a news conference attended by officers from London's Metropolitan Police, MPs, charitable organisations and think-tanks.

He said he wanted to convey the message that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma (the wider Muslim community)," he said.

"No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad."

Qadri said his 600-page fatwa, or religious ruling, was an "absolute" condemnation of terrorism without "any excuses or pretexts".

"Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good," he said.

"Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts."

He said Islam was a religion of peace that promotes beauty, "betterment", goodness and "negates all form of mischief and strife".

The fatwa will be translated into English in the coming weeks and made available online in an attempt to counter extremist versions of Islam available on the internet.

Qadri founded the Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, which has thousands of supporters in Britain and across the world.

In Britain, it says it runs courses in combating religious extremism in educational centres in London, Manchester and Birmingham.

[HTTP://NEWS.ONEINDIA.IN/2010/03/02/PAKISTANIISLAMIC-SCHOLAR-TO-ISSUE-600-PAGE-FATWAAGA.HTML](http://news.oneindia.in/2010/03/02/pakistaniislamic-scholar-to-issue-600-page-fatwaaga.html)

Pakistani Islamic scholar to issue 600-page fatwa against terrorism, suicide bombing

London, Mar.2 (ANI): Describing Al-Qaeda as an 'old evil with a new name', influential Pakistani scholar Dr Tahir ul-Qadri has said he would soon issue a 'fatwa' against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Qadri said the Al-Qaeda has not been sufficiently challenged and that his global ruling against terrorism completely dismantles the banned terror organisation's violent ideology.

In his 600-page ruling, Qadri said Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

The fatwa also challenges the religious motivations of would-be suicide bombers who are inspired by promises of an afterlife, The BBC reports.

The famous Muslim scholar developed his document last year as a response to the sudden increase in suicide bombings across Pakistan.

The fatwa, which would be promoted in Britain by Qadri's organisation, Minhaj ul-Quran International, would cover global issues in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in western nations.

Terming the fatwa as 'hard hitting', Minhaj ul-Quran International's spokesperson Shahid Mursaleen said the ruling would inject doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers.

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit the youth by brainwashing them that they will with certainty be rewarded in the next life. Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual actor from their minds," Mursaleen said.

Islamic leader issues fatwa saying suicide bombers will end up in hell

Published Date: 03 March 2010

By Clare Baillie

THE leader of a worldwide Muslim movement with thousands of UK followers yesterday issued a fatwa – or Islamic religious ruling – condemning terrorism and warning suicide bombers they are "destined for hell".

Pakistan-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri said there were no "ifs or buts" about terrorism and no justification for it in Islam.

In a news conference attended by MPs, representatives from the Metropolitan Police, charitable organisations and think

-tanks, he called on Islamic leaders to convey the message terrorism cuts people off as true followers of Islam.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma (the Muslim community), no, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire," he said. "There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered Jihad."

Dr Qadri, who spoke in both English and Arabic, said his fatwa, a religious edict, was an "absolute" condemnation of terrorism without "any excuses or pretexts".

"Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good," he said. "Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts."

He insisted Islam was a religion of peace that promotes beauty, "betterment", goodness and "negates all form of mischief and strife".

The 600-page fatwa by Dr Qadri, founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, will be translated into English in the coming weeks. His talk will also be made available online in a bid to counter extremist versions of Islam on the internet.

The fatwa has been billed as "arguably the most comprehensive" theological refutation of Islamic terrorism to date by counter-extremism think-tank the Quilliam foundation.

The Minhaj-ul-Quran movement said it runs courses in combating extremism throughout Britain, including at centres in London, Birmingham, Manchester, Nelson, Walsall and Glasgow. It also has a Dundee office.

A fatwa, an edict issued by a learned Muslim scholar, may concern any aspect of Islamic life. The term became famous in the West in 1989 after author Salman Rushdie was forced into hiding following a "death fatwa" issued by Ayatollah Khomeini, then Supreme Leader of Iran, who ruled his book *The Satanic Verses*, had "insulted" Islam.

Yesterday's fatwa announces that "suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers".

Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran UK, said: "He has hit hard on the terrorists as it prevents Islamists from considering suicide bombers as 'martyrs'. This fatwa injects doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers. Extremist groups based in Britain recruit youth by brainwashing them that they will 'with certainty' be rewarded in the next life and Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this from their minds."

Communities minister Shahid Malik, whose Dewsbury constituency was home to 7/7 bomber Mohammad Siddique Khan, welcomed the fatwa.

"It is incumbent on Muslims to stand up for their faith – when 7/7 occurred those four evil young men killed themselves and over 50 innocent people because they followed a twisted and perverted interpretation of Islam which told them by doing so they would go to heaven," he said.

"A clear message must go out that Islam teaches that these four are not martyrs going to heaven but sinners going somewhere very different indeed."

Islamic scholar Shaikh Mohammed Hisham Kabbani, of the Centre for Spirituality and Cultural Advancement, also welcomed the fatwa. "This is a landmark in enabling Muslims to be able to silence the small minority who think it is OK to commit violent acts in the name of Islam."



THE BELLINGHAM HERALD

<http://www.bellinghamherald.com/2010/03/02/1318090/muslim-leader-issues-anti-terror.htm>

Mar. 02, 2010

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

LONDON The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think tank and drew strong media attention.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

SMH.COM.AU

[HTTP://NEWS.SMH.COM.AU/BREAKING-NEWS-WORLD/FATWA-IN-UK-CONDEMNS-SUICIDE-BOMBINGS-20100303-PGPV.HTML](http://news.smh.com.au/breaking-news-world/fatwa-in-uk-condemns-suicide-bombings-20100303-pgpv.html)

Fatwa in UK condemns suicide bombings

March 3, 2010

AFP

A leading Muslim scholar in Britain issued a fatwa on Tuesday condemning terrorists and suicide bombers, saying they had no justification in the name of Islam.

Pakistan-born Dr Tahir ul-Qadri said there were no "ifs or buts" about terrorism, in a news conference attended by officers from London's Metropolitan Police, MPs, charitable organisations and think-tanks.

He said he wanted to convey the message that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma (the wider Muslim community)," he said.

"No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad."

Qadri said his 600-page fatwa, or religious ruling, was an "absolute" condemnation of terrorism without "any excuses or pretexts".

"Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good," he said.

"Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts."

He said Islam was a religion of peace that promotes beauty, "betterment", goodness and "negates all form of mischief and strife".

The fatwa will be translated into English in the coming weeks and made available online in an attempt to counter extremist versions of Islam available on the internet.

Qadri founded the Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, which has thousands of supporters in Britain and across the world.

In Britain, it says it runs courses in combating religious extremism in educational centres in London, Manchester and Birmingham.

SYMPATICO.CA

[HTTP://NEWS.SYMPATICO.CA/CANADA/CONTENTPOSTING?NEWSITEMID=026696533&FEEDNAME=CP-NATIONAL&SHOW=FALSE&NUMBER=0&SHOWBYLINE=FALSE&SUBTITLE=&DETECT=&ABC=ABC&DATE=FALSE](http://news.sympatico.ca/canada/contentposting?newsitemid=026696533&feedname=CP-NATIONAL&show=false&number=0&showbyline=false&subtitle=&detect=&abc=ABC&date=false)

Muslim leader issues 600-page anti-terror fatwa in London

Tuesday, March 9, 2010

LONDON - A former Pakistani legislator who lives in Canada and leads a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism.



Leading Muslims scholar Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri holds his Fatwa on suicide bombings and terrorism, as he speaks at its UK launch held by non-governmental organization Minhaj-ul-Quran International (MQI) in London, Tuesday, March 2, 2010. The fatwa is an Islamic decree that condemns suicide bombings and terrorist atrocities along with their perpetrators. (THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/Akira Suemori)

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

He is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a non-political, tolerant Islam.

A spokesman for the group told The Canadian Press that Tahir-ul-Qadri has been living in southern Ontario for almost four years. The spokesman would not reveal the exact location.

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think-tank.

The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

<http://wap.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/LDE62025B.htm>

Prominent Muslim to issue anti-terrorism fatwa

* Fatwa to declare terrorists to be unbelievers

* Qadri seeks to persuade young Muslims to shun terrorism

By Michael Holden

LONDON, March 1 (Reuters) - A prominent Islamic scholar is to issue a 600-page religious edict denouncing terrorism in London on Tuesday in what he says is a bid to persuade young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism.

The fatwa from Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, a leading figure who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years, echoes edicts condemning extremism issued by a number of Islamic groups since the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States.

But Qadri says his fatwa, which declares terrorists and suicide bombers to be unbelievers, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said Qadri, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship and is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam that focuses on peace, tolerance and moderation.

"I have tried to leave not a single stone unturned on this particular subject and I have tried to address every single question relevant to this subject," he told Reuters in a telephone interview.

Qadri, 59, who was born in Pakistan, is head of the global Minhaj ul-Quran religious and educational organisation which spreads his Sufi ideas.

A former Pakistani minister and associate of assassinated Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, he delivers lectures worldwide promoting his message of harmony and was one of the first Muslim leaders to condemn the Sept. 11 attacks.

Tim Winter, a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, said while there had been similar fatwas in the past, Qadri did appear to have gone further than most.

"To declare the miscreants as unbelievers is unusual, because it is not really clear that the rules allow one simply to say that they are not Muslims," he told Reuters.

"Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all. But 'swing voters' - poorly educated and angry Muslims, who respect mainstream scholars, will probably take note.

"Certainly it is a helpful initiative," he said.

HELLFIRE

Qadri said he felt compelled to issue the edict because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, accused of trying to bomb a U.S.-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008. Yemen, where Abdulmutallab began his journey, has said he was radicalised while in Britain.

"The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire," Qadri said.

He is confident that the edict will have a significant impact, saying he had drawn on classical teachings and authorities acceptable to all sects of Islam.

"I will say more than 50 percent will change their way, they will be influenced. Of the remaining 50 percent at least some of them, half of them, will become doubtful about their life, their terrorist activity," he said.

While Qadri has followers across the globe, it is in Pakistan, where he has millions of followers, and in the diaspora that his impact would be greatest, Winter said.

Britain has about 1.7 million Muslims, mainly of Pakistani descent, and the security services say that nearly all major terrorism plots since 2001, including the 2005 London bombings which killed 52 people, were linked to Pakistan.

Government officials will be among those joining Qadri for the launch of the fatwa in central London. The Muslim Council of Britain, an umbrella organisation representing some 500 Islamic groups, said the fatwa was welcome.

"It is entirely laudable for scholars such as Tahir ul-Qadri to speak out against terrorism," it said in a statement.

Although his pronouncement will be good news for the authorities in Britain and other Western governments seeking to win Muslim support to stamp out extremism, Qadri said their backing is irrelevant to his views. (Editing by Charles Dick)

Islamic scholar issues fatwa against terrorism

<http://www.cbc.ca/world/story/2010/03/02/ukfatwa-terrorism.htm>

'Whatever these terrorists are doing, it's not martyrdom'

Last Updated: Tuesday, March 2, 2010 | 9:47 AM ET [Comments](#) [456](#) [Recommend](#) [213](#)

[CBC News](#)

Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri speaks at Warwick University in Coventry, central England, in August 2009. (Kieran Doherty/Reuters)

A prominent Islamic scholar issued a religious ruling against terrorism and suicide bombings at a speech in London Tuesday.

Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri, a leading scholar of Sufism, the tradition within Islam that focuses on peace and tolerance, isn't the first Islamic teacher to denounce acts of terrorism.

But Qadri's 600-page judgment, or fatwa, is among the harshest denunciations of the theological arguments used by militant groups like al-Qaeda.

"Whatever these terrorists are doing, it's not martyrdom," said Qadri on Tuesday.

U.K.-based anti-extremism think-tank the Quilliam Foundation, which sponsored the speech, called the Pakistani-born Qadri's fatwa "arguably the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism to date."

Suicide bombers destined for hell, Qadri says

Qadri condemned suicide bombers as destined for hell, a counter to the extremist promise of eternal paradise after death. Qadri said the fatwa outlaws suicide bombings "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

He said he was compelled to issue the fatwa because of concerns about the radicalization of British Muslims at university campuses, most of whom are of Pakistani descent.

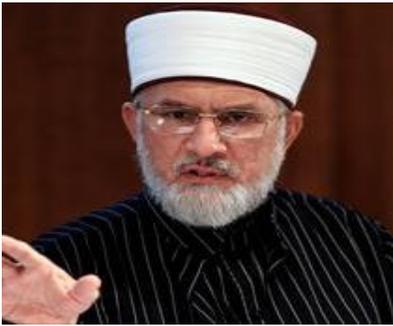
Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdul Mutalab, accused of trying to bomb a Detroit-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008.

Qadri is the founder of the international Minhaj-ul-Qur'an movement, which is mostly based in Pakistan, where he once served as an elected member of the national assembly and was a close associate of assassinated prime minister Benazir Bhutto.



<http://www.cbs47.tv/news/world/story/Muslim-leader-issues-anti-terror-fatwa/HTuC08eOMke6fmW2Z1XI7g.csp?rss=156>

3/02/2010



Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

Islamic Scholar and spiritual leader Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri delivers a terrorism Fatwa at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers on March 2, 2010 in London, England. (Dan Kitwood, Getty Images)

LONDON (AP) — The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London is being hosted by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded, anti-extremism think tank.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a non-political, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

World

<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2010/03/02/ap/world/main6258360.shtml>

Mar. 02, 2010



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<http://www.blackcountrybugle.co.uk/Home/Muslim-leader-to-condemn-terrorists-14582.xnf?FeedSourceID=11&FeedImageID=5250&BodyFormat=1&>

Muslim leader to condemn terrorists

Monday 8 March 2010

The leader of a worldwide Muslim movement with thousands of followers in the UK is due to issue a fatwa - or Islamic religious ruling - condemning terrorism and warning suicide bombers that they are "destined for hell".

Pakistan-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, founder of the global Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, will make the formal UK proclamation of a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism and suicide bombing at a news conference in London.

The 600-page fatwa announces that "suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators totally out of the fold of Islam, in other words, to be unbelievers".

Shahid Mursaleen, spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran UK, said: "He has hit hard on the terrorists as it prevents Islamists from considering suicide bombers as 'martyrs'. This fatwa injects doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers.

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit youth by brainwashing them that they will 'with certainty' be rewarded in the next life and Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds."

The fatwa has been billed as "arguably the most comprehensive" theological refutation of Islamic terrorism to date by counter extremism think tank the Quilliam foundation.

A Quilliam spokesman said: "Terrorist groups such as al Qaida continue to justify their mass killings with self-serving readings of religious scripture.

"Fatwas that demolish and expose such theological innovations will consign Islamist terrorism to the dustbin of history."

The Minhaj-ul-Quran movement runs courses in combating religious extremism in educational centres throughout Britain including London, Birmingham, Manchester, Nelson, Walsall, Glasgow and Dundee.

A fatwa, an edict issued by a learned Muslim scholar, may concern any aspect of Islamic life. The term became famous in the western world in 1989 after the author Salman Rushdie was forced into hiding following a "death fatwa" issued by Ayatollah Khomeini, then Supreme Leader of Iran, on the grounds that his book, the Satanic Verses had "insulted" Islam.



BAY LEDGER *NEWS ZONE*

[http://www.blz.com/photos/2010/03/02/Leading Muslim Scholar Issues Fatwa
a_-990.html](http://www.blz.com/photos/2010/03/02/Leading_Muslim_Scholar_Issues_Fatwa_-990.html)

March 9, 2010



LONDON, ENGLAND - MARCH 02: Islamic Scholar and spiritual leader Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul Qadri delivers a terrorism Fatwa at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers on March 2, 2010 in London, England. The comprehensive 600 page Fatwa, or religious ruling, is set to send a clear message to the Muslim world condemning extremism, suicide bombing and terrorism. (Photo by Dan Kitwood/Getty Images)



Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

<http://www.bnd.com/2010/03/02/1156027/muslim-leader-issues-anti-terror.html>

The Associated Press

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The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.



Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

The Associated Press

<http://www.bradenton.com/2010/03/02/2097622/muslim-leader-issues-anti-terror.html>

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http://www.brandonsun.com/story.php?story_id=188122

Muslim leader issues 600-page anti-terror fatwa in London

Tuesday, March 2nd, 2010

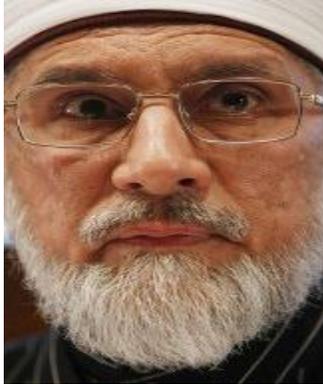
THE CANADIAN PRESS 

LONDON - A former Pakistani legislator who lives in Canada and leads a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions." He is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Qur'an, a worldwide movement that promotes a non-political, tolerant Islam. A spokesman for the group told The Canadian Press that Tahir-ul-Qadri has been living in southern Ontario for almost four years. The spokesman would not reveal the exact location.

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think-tank. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

-With files from The Canadian Press



Muslim scholar in Britain condemns terrorism

Mar 2 01:31 PM US/Eastern

A leading Muslim scholar in Britain issued a fatwa Tuesday condemning terrorists and suicide bombers, saying they had no justification in the name of Islam.

Pakistan-born Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri said there were no "ifs or buts" about terrorism, in a news conference attended by officers from London's Metropolitan Police, lawmakers, charitable organisations and think-tanks. He said he wanted to convey the message that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma (the wider Muslim community). No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire.

"There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad," he added. Qadri said his 600-page fatwa, or religious ruling, was an "absolute" condemnation of terrorism without "any excuses or pretexts".

"Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good," he said.

"Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts."

He said Islam was a religion of peace that promotes beauty, "betterment", goodness and "negates all form of mischief and strife". The fatwa will be translated into English in the coming weeks and made available online in an attempt to counter extremist versions of Islam available on the Internet.

Qadri founded the Minhaj-ul-Quran movement, which has thousands of supporters in Britain and across the world.

In Britain, it says it runs courses in combating religious extremism in educational centres in London, Manchester and Birmingham.

<http://www.canada.com/news/story.html?id=2634649>

Top Islamic scholar issues 'absolute' fatwa against terror

'Heroes Of Hellfire'

By Michael Holden, Reuters; With Files From Agence France-Presse March 3, 2010

Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri has issued an "absolute" fatwa against terrorism and extremism.



A prominent Islamic scholar denounced terrorism in London, England, yesterday, issuing a fatwa he hopes will persuade young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism.

Dr. Tahir ul-Qadri said there were no "ifs or buts" about terrorism, adding he wanted to convey the message that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

"They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become the heroes of the Muslim Umma [the wider Muslim community]. No, they become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire," he said. "There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad."

Yesterday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think-tank, and Dr. Qadri addressed an audience that included London's Metropolitan Police, lawmakers and officials from charitable organizations.

His 600-page fatwa was an "absolute" condemnation of terrorism without "any excuses or pretexts."

"Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good," added Dr. Qadri, who has been living in Southern Ontario for the past four years.

"Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts."

His words echo edicts condemning extremism issued by several Islamic groups since the 9/11 attacks.

But Dr. Qadri says his fatwa, which declares terrorists and suicide bombers to be unbelievers, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said the scholar, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship and is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam that focuses on peace, tolerance and moderation.

"I have tried to leave not a single stone unturned on this particular subject and I have tried to address every single question relevant to this subject."

Dr. Qadri, 59, who was born in the Punjab city of Jhang, Pakistan, is head of the global Minhaj ul-Quran religious and educational organization that spreads his Sufi ideas.

A former Pakistani minister and associate of Benazir Bhutto, the assassinated former prime minister, he delivers lectures worldwide promoting his message of harmony.

Tim Winter, a lecturer in Islamic studies at Cambridge University, said while there had been similar fatwas in the past, Dr. Qadri had gone further than most.

"To declare the miscreants as unbelievers is unusual, because it is not really clear that the rules allow one simply to say that they are not Muslims," he said.

"Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all. But 'swing voters' – poorly educated and angry Muslims, who respect mainstream scholars, will probably take note."

Dr. Qadri said he felt compelled to issue the edict because of concerns about the indoctrination of British Muslims at university – Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, the accused Nigerian Christmas Day bomber, has said he was radicalized while studying in London in 2008 – and the failure of Muslim clerics and scholars to condemn such extremism. "The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire," Dr. Qadri said.

He is confident his edict will have a significant impact, saying it draws on classical teachings and authorities acceptable to all sects of Islam.

"I will say more than 50% will change their way, they will be influenced. Of the remaining 50% at least some of them, half of them, will become doubtful about their life, their terrorist activity."

<http://www.canadaeast.com/news/article/970761>

Tuesday March 2nd, 2010



Muslim leader issues 600-page anti-terror fatwa in London

LONDON - A former Pakistani legislator who lives in Canada and leads a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/Akira Suemori

Leading Muslim scholar Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri holds his Fatwa on suicide bombings and terrorism, as he speaks at its UK launch held by non-governmental organization Minhaj-ul-Quran International (MQI) in London, Tuesday, March 2, 2010. The fatwa is an Islamic decree that condemns suicide bombings and terrorist atrocities along with their perpetrators

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

He is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Qur'an, a worldwide movement that promotes a non-political, tolerant Islam.

A spokesman for the group told The Canadian Press that Tahir-ul-Qadri has been living in southern Ontario for almost four years. The spokesman would not reveal the exact location.

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think-tank.

The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

-With files from The Canadian Press

http://www.catholic.org/international/international_story.php?id=35683

Fatwa Condemns Terrorism

By Greg Goodsell
3/4/2010

Catholic Online (www.catholic.org)

Religious Leader says Bombers Destined for Hell



In one of the strongest condemnations of terrorism in the Islamic world to date, a Muslim scholar has declared that suicide bombers are destined for hell.

LOS ANGELES, CA (Catholic Online) - Religious cleric Muhammad Tahir ul-Qadri has condemned terrorism and criticized Islamic extremists who use religion to justify violence.

According to the Quilliam Foundation, a London-based organization that describes itself as an anti-terrorism think tank, ul-Qadri's 600-page fatwa is "arguably the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism to date."

"Terrorism is terrorism," ul-Qadri declares. "Violence is violence. It has no place in Islamic teaching, and no justification can be provided to it ...

"No good intention -- even one thousand good intentions put together -- cannot justify a wrong and forbidden act. Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good," he says.

According to CNN, the foundation refers to ul-Qadri as a "widely recognized and respected authority on Islamic jurisprudence."

CatholicCulture.org

CatholicCulture

<http://www.catholicculture.org/news/headlines/index.cfm?storyid=5602c>

Pakistani Islamic leader issues a fatwa against terrorists March 02, 2010

Tahir ul-Qadri, a Pakistani Islamic leader, has issued a *fatwa* condemning terrorism. His 600-page statement is a detailed rejection of the ideology that supports Al Qaida, as well as a condemnation of suicide bombing and the deliberate killing of civilians.

Qadri issued his *fatwa* in London, where he has attracted a growing following.



http://www.centralfm.co.uk/news/2010/3/15564324_islamic_scholar_issues_anti_terrorism_fatwa.html

Islamic Scholar Issues Anti-Terrorism Fatwa

02 Mar 10 - UK News



A prominent Islamic scholar will use a speech in London to issue a 600-page religious edict, denouncing terrorists and suicide bombers as "unbelievers".

Muhammad Tahir ul Qadri is a leading figure who has promoted peace and interfaith dialogue for 30 years.

He said he felt compelled to issue the fatwa because of concerns about the radicalisation of British Muslims at university campuses and because there had been a lack of condemnation of extremism by Muslim clerics and scholars.

Ul Qadri says his fatwa, which is aimed at persuading young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism, goes further than any previous denunciation.

"This is the first, most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," said ul Qadri, who has written about 350 books on Islamic scholarship.

He is a scholar of Sufism, a long tradition within Islam which is widely seen as focusing on peace, tolerance and moderation.

Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdul Mutallab, accused of trying to bomb a US-bound plane on Christmas Day, studied at a London university until 2008.

Government officials in Yemen, where Mutallab began his journey, have said he was radicalised while in Britain.

However, the British Government claims his introduction to hardcore extremists happened after he left the UK.

Government officials will be among those joining ul Qadri for the launch of the fatwa in central London.

The Muslim Council of Britain, an umbrella organisation representing some 500 Islamic groups, has welcomed the fatwa.

Ul Qadri will tell his audience: "The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire."

The 59-year-old was born in Pakistan and is head of the global Minhaj ul Quran religious and educational organisation which spreads his Sufi ideas.

A former Pakistani minister and associate of assassinated prime minister Benazir Bhutto, he delivers lectures worldwide promoting his message of harmony and was one of the first Muslim leaders to condemn the 9/11 attacks in the US.

While ul Qadri has followers around the globe, it is in Pakistan where he has millions of followers and in the diaspora that his impact is likely to be greatest.

Britain has about 1.7 million Muslims, mainly of Pakistani descent.

The UK's security services say nearly all major terrorism plots since 2001, including the 2005 London bombings which killed 52 people, have been linked to Pakistan.

Ul Qadri said he is confident his edict will have a significant impact because he has drawn on classical teachings and authorities acceptable to all sects of Islam.

"I will say more than 50% will change their way, they will be influenced," he said.

"Of the remaining 50% at least some of them, half of them, will become doubtful about their life, their terrorist activity," he said.

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"To declare the miscreants as unbelievers is unusual because it is not really clear that the rules allow one simply to say that they are not Muslims."

He added: "Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all but 'swing voters' - poorly-educated and angry Muslims who respect mainstream scholars - will probably take note.

"Certainly it is a helpful initiative."

Ul Qadri's pronouncement will be welcomed by authorities in the UK and by other Western governments seeking to stamp out extremism - but the respected scholar said their backing is irrelevant to his views.

[salvationarmy.org.au](http://www.salvationarmy.org.au)

http://www.salvationarmy.org.au/corps_prog/24/prayer_points.asp#

U.K. MUSLIM GROUP ISSUES FATWA AGAINST ISLAMIC TERRORISTS

02 March 2010

London-based Muslim organisation led by Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, founder of the increasingly popular Sufi movement Minhaj-ul-Quran, has issued a fatwa against Islamic terrorists. The move is being "hailed as a significant step forward in the fight against fundamentalism, and one that will have repercussions in the UK and beyond." The edict amounts to a "direct challenge to al-Qaeda's violent ideology" and declares "suicide bombings and attacks against civilian targets are not only condemned by Islam, but render the perpetrators as unbelievers."

Ul-Qadri said the edict, aimed at persuading young Muslims to turn their backs on extremism, goes further than any previous denunciation. "This is the most comprehensive fatwa on the subject of terrorism ever written," he said.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/sns-ap-e-u-britain-anti-terror-fatwa,0,4977818.story>

By Associated Press

8:37 a.m. CST, March 2, 2010

Pakistan-born Muslim leader issues 600-page anti-terror fatwa in London



Leading Muslim scholar Dr. Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri speaks at the UK launch of the Fatwa on suicide bombings and terrorism held by non-governmental organization Minhaj-ul-Quran International (MQI) in London, Tuesday, March 2, 2010. The fatwa is an Islamic decree that condemns suicide bombings and terrorist atrocities along with their perpetrators. (AP Photo/Akira Suemori) (Akira Suemori, AP / March 2, 2010)

Nation World

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The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a nonpolitical, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in [Pakistan](#) or Pakistanis living in other countries

Be heard.

Montreal's Newstalk Leader



<http://www.cjad.com/node/1093164>

Muslim leader issues 600-page anti-terror fatwa in London

Tue, 2010-03-02 14:52.

By: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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<http://www.classicfm.co.uk/on-air/news-and-weather/uk-and-world/islamic-scholar-issues-anti-terrorism-fatwa/>

Islamic Scholar Issues Anti-Terrorism Fatwa

Tuesday, 2 March 2010 01:26

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Ul Qadri will tell his audience: "The reality is that whatever these terrorists are doing it is not martyrdom. All these activities are taking them to hellfire."

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He added: "Those who are already hardliners will pay no attention at all but 'swing voters' - poorly-educated and angry Muslims who respect mainstream scholars - will probably take note.

"Certainly it is a helpful initiative."

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<http://www.pakistannews.net/story/607461>

Pakistani Islamic scholar to issue 600-page fatwa against terrorism, suicide bombing

Pakistan News.Net

Tuesday 2nd March, 2010 (ANI)

Describing Al-Qaeda as an 'old evil with a new name', influential Pakistani scholar Dr Tahir ul-Qadri has said he would soon issue a 'fatwa' against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Qadri said the Al-Qaeda has not been sufficiently challenged and that his global ruling against terrorism completely dismantles the banned terror organisation's violent ideology.

In his 600-page ruling, Qadri said Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

The fatwa also challenges the religious motivations of would-be suicide bombers who are inspired by promises of an afterlife, The BBC reports.

The famous Muslim scholar developed his document last year as a response to the sudden increase in suicide bombings across Pakistan.

The fatwa, which would be promoted in Britain by Qadri's organisation, Minhaj ul-Quran International, would cover global issues in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in western nations.

Terming the fatwa as 'hard hitting', Minhaj ul-Quran International's spokesperson Shahid Mursaleen said the ruling would inject doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers. "Extremist groups based in Britain recruit the youth by brainwashing them that they will with certainty be rewarded in the next life. Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual actor from their minds," Mursaleen said. (ANI)

CORYBERNARDI.COM

<http://www.corybernardi.com/2010/03/finally-muslim-leader-condemns-terrorism.html>

Finally - Muslim Leader Condemns Terrorism

Muslim scholar, Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, launches a fatwa that condemns suicide bombings

It's about time.

I am referring to reports in the UK newspapers yesterday that a Muslim leader has finally condemned the acts of terrorism conducted in the name of Islam.

Pakistani-born Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri said there were no 'ifs or buts' that acts of terrorism cut people off as true followers of Islam.

In issuing his fatwa, or religious edict concerning Islamic life, he said "There is no place for any martyrdom and their act is never, ever to be considered jihad."

He further called on Islamic leaders to convey the message to all their followers.

Dr Qadri's comments are a welcome change to the equivocation of many self-styled imams and Islamic religious leaders who refuse to condemn suicide bombings and other atrocities committed in the name of their religion.

In Australia, one of these so-called leaders of the Islamic community, Sheik Hilali, even justified rape of Australian women, referring to them as 'uncovered meat', while one supporter of a convicted terrorist plotter blamed the Australian social security system for the extremist behaviour.

In the face of great adversity, there has been a great deal of tolerance extended to those of the Islamic faith by the western world. Such tolerance has been wearing thin by the refusal of so many Islamic scholars to unequivocally condemn terrorism, in all its forms, as evil.

In a further departure from the intolerance, hate and barbarism preached by radical Islamists, Dr Qadri was quoted as saying;

'Good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good. Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teaching and no justification can be provided for it, or any kind of excuses or ifs or buts.'

Islamic scholar Tahir ul-Qadri issues terrorism fatwa

BBC

Posted on Tuesday March 2, 2010

An influential Muslim scholar has issued a global ruling against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Dr Tahir ul-Qadri, from Pakistan, says his 600-page judgement, known as a fatwa, completely dismantles al-Qaeda's violent ideology.

The scholar describes al-Qaeda as an "old evil with a new name" that has not been sufficiently challenged.

The scholar's movement is growing in the UK and has attracted the interest of policymakers and security chiefs.

In his religious ruling, delivered in London, Dr Qadri says that Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

Although many scholars have made similar rulings in the past, Dr Qadri argued that his massive document goes much further by omitting "ifs and buts" added by other thinkers.

He said that it set out a point-by-point theological rebuttal of every argument used by al-Qaeda inspired recruiters.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/03/03/2834788.htm?section=justin>

Cleric's fatwa condemns martyrs to hellfire

By Rachael Brown in London

Posted Wed Mar 3, 2010 6:04am AEDT

A leading Pakistani cleric has issued a religious ruling in Britain condemning terrorism, saying suicide bombers are destined for hell.

Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri's 600 page religious ruling, or fatwa, is a very different message to the interpretation of Islam in which martyrs go to heaven.

Dr Qadri says there is nothing written in the Koran that could be used to justify suicide bombings, rather, he warns that Islam condemns such acts.

"These kind of activities will lead them to hellfire and they are not involved in any kind of martyrdom operation," he said.

"Rather they are doing an act which is an act of disbelief."

Dr Qadri preaches in Pakistan, but says he wanted to spread his message in the western world where youths are being brainwashed and misguided on the concepts of Islam.

<http://www.abc.net.au/worldtoday/content/2010/s2835566.htm>

Cleric issues fatwa condemning terrorism

ELEANOR HALL: A leading Pakistani cleric in Britain has issued a religious ruling condemning terrorism.

Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri heaped scorn on the notion of religious rewards for suicide bombers.

Instead he warned suicide bombers they are destined for hell.

In London, Rachael Brown reports.

RACHAEL BROWN: Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri's 600-page religious ruling, or fatwa, says suicide bombings and attacks on civilian targets are condemned by Islam, and render the perpetrators 'unbelievers'.

He says there are no circumstances in which suicide bombings can be justified.

MUHAMMAD TAHIR-UL-QADRI: No person in the whole world can provide a single evidence from Koran who would create any exceptional permissibility to committing suicide bombing.

RACHAEL BROWN: Dr Qadri runs a Sufi movement based in Lahore, but he says he wanted to spread his message to the UK and the wider Western world.

MUHAMMAD TAHIR-UL-QADRI: So that the whole world may know that whatever the terrorists are doing, they no link with Islam, and I wanted to give this message to the youth in Western world also, that these kind of activities will lead them to hellfire, and they're not involved in any kind of martyrdom operation. Rather they are doing an act which is an act of disbelief.

RACHAEL BROWN: Dr Qadri hopes his message will come in time for those on the fringes of extremism, who, he says, have been brainwashed. He says Western youth, whether they be of Pakistani, Indian or Arabic Islamic backgrounds, are being victimised and misguided on the concepts of

Islam.

MUHAMMAD TAHIR-UL-QADRI: You go on Internet and you will find the extremist and the terrorist people are running uncountable websites giving the wrong concepts of Jihad, wrong concepts of suicide bombing, giving that fatwa's in favour of suicide bombing, creating some exemptions for them and this is how they are being brainwashed.

In America, you know, the basic thing in 9/11 took place and in England 7/7 and the England and UK is the country most concerned.

RAC HAEL BROWN: But Azzam Tamimi from the Institute of Islamic Political Thought thinks this fatwa will fall on deaf ears. Mr Tamimi thinks suicide bombings are permissible under the Koran as a form of self defence.

He says he sees no difference between a suicide bomber, and an F16 pilot who drops bombs on innocent people. But Tamimi says there real issue here is of utility.

AZZAM TAMIMI: Whether this is actually good for the cause or bad for the cause and in most cases it's not good for the cause. And I think this is the argument we need to push forward rather than resorting to fatwas because for every fatwa, there is a counter fatwa.

RAC HAEL BROWN: And he says many young people aren't interested in fatwas, and are confused about how to attract attention to their cause.

AZZAM TAMIMI: British young Muslims I would advise them against resorting to any of these tactics because they are counterproductive. But I cannot apply the same thing for people who are defending their country and defending their homes and for people whose families have been wiped out completely by coward pilots flying F16's and Apache helicopters.

RAC HAEL BROWN: But the counter extremism think tank, the Quilliam Foundation, says Dr Qadri's fatwa is the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamic terrorism to date.

ELEANOR HALL: Rachael Brown reporting.

<http://www.24dunia.com/english-news/shownews/0/Pakistani-Islamic-scholar-to-issue-600-page-fatwa-against-terrorism-suicide-bombing/5523225.html>

Pakistani Islamic scholar to issue 600-page fatwa against terrorism, suicide bombing

London, Mar. 2 : Describing Al-Qaeda as an 'old evil with a new name', influential Pakistani scholar Dr Tahir ul-Qadri has said he would soon issue a 'fatwa' against terrorism and suicide bombing.

Qadri said the Al-Qaeda has not been sufficiently challenged and that his global ruling against terrorism completely dismantles the banned terror organisation's violent ideology.

In his 600-page ruling, Qadri said Islam forbids the massacre of innocent citizens and suicide bombings.

The fatwa also challenges the religious motivations of would-be suicide bombers who are inspired by promises of an afterlife, The BBC reports.

The famous Muslim scholar developed his document last year as a response to the sudden increase in suicide bombings across Pakistan.

The fatwa, which would be promoted in Britain by Qadri's organisation, Minhaj ul-Quran International, would cover global issues in an attempt to get its theological arguments taken up by Muslims in western nations.

Terming the fatwa as 'hard hitting', Minhaj ul-Quran International's spokesperson Shahid Mursaleen said the ruling would inject doubt into the minds of potential suicide bombers.

"Extremist groups based in Britain recruit the youth by brain washing them that they will with certainty be rewarded in the next life. Dr Qadri's fatwa has removed this key intellectual factor from their minds," Mursaleen said.



<http://www.680news.com/news/world/article/31569-muslim-leader-issues-600-page-anti-terror-fatwa-in-london>

Muslim leader issues 600-page anti-terror fatwa in London

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS *Mar 02, 2010 14:46:16 PM*

LONDON - A former Pakistani legislator who lives in Canada and leads a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

He is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Qur'an, a worldwide movement that promotes a non-political, tolerant Islam.

A spokesman for the group told The Canadian Press that Tahir-ul-Qadri has been living in southern Ontario for almost four years. The spokesman would not reveal the exact location.

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London was publicized by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded anti-extremism think-tank.

The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

-With files from The Canadian Press

600CKAT

<http://www.600ckat.com/news/world/more.jsp?content=w026696533>

Muslim leader issues 600-page anti-terror fatwa in London

March, 2, 2010 - 02:43 pm THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Leading Muslims scholar Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri holds his Fatwa on suicide bombings and terrorism, as he speaks at its UK launch held by non-governmental organization Minhaj-ul-Quran International (MQI) in London, Tuesday, March 2, 2010. The fatwa is an Islamic decree that condemns suicide bombings and terrorist atrocities along with their perpetrators. (THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/Akira Suemori)

LONDON - A former Pakistani legislator who lives in Canada and leads a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, condemning terrorism.

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-With files from The Canadian Press

Kal point

<http://www.kalpoint.com/national-news/tahir-qadri-s-fatwa-for-terrorists-hell-waits-for-you.html>

Tahir Qadri s Fatwa for terrorists: Hell waits for you

Dated: 03 March 2010

LONDON: A highly influential Sufi Muslim scholar on Tuesday issued a historic Fatwa (religious edict) against acts of violence perpetrated in the name of Islam, calling perpetrators of violence and their mentors as destined for hellfire.

Dr Muhammad Tahirul Qadri, the founder of formidable Minhajul Quran movement, used a lecture in London to unreservedly condemn terrorist attacks and suicide bombers and urged the Muslim world to take a firm stand against those who bring Islam in disrepute.

Dr Qadri was joined at the Fatwa launch event by government ministers Jim Fitzpatrick, Shahid Malik, Muhammad Sarwar, MP, Dominic Grieve, MP, representatives of various Muslim organisations, government departments and security think tanks. The 600-page Fatwa on Suicide Bombings and Terrorism has been extracted from Dr Qadri s latest research work titled Dehshet Geri aur Fitna-e-Khawarij, in a reference to those rebels who had taken up arms against Hazrat Ali (RA).

Speaking at length in English and Arabic, Dr Qadri frequently referred to Quran, Companions of the Prophet (peace be upon him), Hadith and leading Muslim Imams to prove his point that Islam doesn't allow individuals and non-state groups to launch attacks on civilians and opposition targets. Islam absolutely condemns violence and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and it's our Islamic duty to condemn acts of terrorism without any ifs or buts, without any excuses, pretexts and selfish justifications. Those who perpetrate violent attacks and target humanity act outside the ambit of Islam, they are the enemies of Islam, he said, opening his speech.

The launch of Fatwa is being regarded by many circles as a significant and historic step, the first time that such an explicit and unequivocal decree against perpetrators of terror has been broadcast so widely.

The Fatwa is considered arguably the most comprehensive theological refutation of Islamist terrorism as demonstrated by Taliban, al-Qaeda and their like-minded sectarian groups. To those who laud suicide bombers and praise their acts, Dr Qadri said, they are in unison with heroes of hellfire. They can't claim that their suicide bombings are martyrdom operations and that they become heroes of the Muslim Ummah. No, they indeed become heroes of hellfire, and they are leading towards hellfire. Their actions have nothing to do with Jihad, Dr Qadri said, who has a large following in Europe and many young Muslims are increasingly taking to his message.

He made it clear a thousand good intentions cannot convert a wrong into good, they cannot convert an evil into good. Terrorism is terrorism, violence is violence and it has no place in Islamic teachings. Islam is a religion of peace. It promotes goodwill, beauty, betterment, goodness and negates all forms of mischief, strife and division. Dr Qadri told The News he wanted to connect with those Muslims who were confused about the actual message of Islam and those whose minds were brainwashed by preachers with little knowledge of Islam. He said his clear and categorical injunction will dissuade impressionable young Muslims from falling prey to radical groups.

He agreed many religious edicts against terrorism have recently been issued in Pakistan and elsewhere but none of them comprehensively addressed the issue of terrorism. Dr Qadri said the latest Fatwa goes further than any previous denunciation. He lamented that many religious and political parties in Pakistan were providing succour to terrorist elements.

I have been under threat for the last 20 years. I know I am a target for the terrorists and they would love to silence me but I am speaking out against them in the service of my Creator, Dr Qadri, who is spending most of his time outside of Pakistan, told The News, when asked about the threat to his life.

<http://www.13wham.com/news/world/story/Muslim-leader-issues-anti-terror-fatwa/HTuC08eOMke6fmW2Z1XI7g.cspX>

Muslim group Minhaj-ul-Quran issues fatwa against terrorists

Ruth Gledhill ("Times Online," January 17, 2010)

London, UK - A leading Muslim organisation in Britain has issued a fatwa against suicide bombings and terrorism, declaring them un-Islamic.

Minhaj-ul-Quran, a Sufi organisation based in East London which advises the Government on how to combat radicalisation of Muslim youth, will launch the 600-page religious verdict tomorrow. It condemns the perpetrators of terrorist explosions and suicide bombings.

The document, written by Dr Muhammed Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former minister of Pakistan and friend of Benazir Bhutto, declares suicide bombings and terrorism as "totally un-Islamic". It is one of the most detailed and comprehensive documents of its kind to be published in Britain.

The fatwa, which was released in Pakistan last month, uses texts from the Koran and other Islamic writings to argue that attacks against innocent citizens are "absolutely against the teachings of Islam and that Islam does not permit such acts on any excuse, reason or pretext".

Dr Tahir-ul-Qadri, who is based in Canada and has written more than 400 books on Islamic law, said: "All these acts are grave violations of human rights and constitute kufr, disbelief, under Islamic law."

Minhaj-ul-Quran is an organisation based in 80 countries that follows Sufi teachings of peace and moderation. It is gaining influence in Britain as the Government seeks to gain ground among Muslim groups eager to combat the radicalisation of young people. The group receives no government funding but its agenda is comparable to the official Prevent strategy, under which community organisations are encouraged to work together to counter extremism.

Radical Islamists will dismiss the fatwa but it will be welcomed by many Muslims from the large community of South Asian heritage in Britain, among whom confusion about religious teaching is exploited by extremists seeking to recruit suicide bombers.

"Extremist groups start brainwashing the young students from British universities and eventually convince them to oppose integration in British society," said Shahid Mursaleen, a spokesman for Minhaj-ul-Quran. The fatwa would help fight extremist recruitment of young Muslims and was "one of the most comprehensive verdicts on this topic in the history of Islam", he added. Inayat Bunglawala, former spokesman of the Muslim Council of Britain and founder of the new group Muslims4UK, set up to counter the radical message of the newly banned Islam4UK and other extremist groups, welcomed the fatwa.

"This adds to the view of many Islamic scholars internationally that terrorism and suicide bombings are unacceptable in Islam," he said. "It is a positive initiative. Anything that helps move young people away from violence and from those who promote violence must be welcomed."



<http://www.2424actu.fr/actualite-internationale/un-erudit-musulman-publie-une-fatwa-contre-le-terrorisme-616299/>

Muslim leader issues anti-terror fatwa

Last Update: 3/02 8:56 am



Islamic Scholar and spiritual leader Shaykh-ul-Islam Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul Qadri delivers a terrorism Fatwa at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers on March 2, 2010 in London, England (Dan Kitwood, Getty Images)

LONDON (AP)— The leader of a global Muslim movement has issued a fatwa, or religious edict, that he calls an absolute condemnation of terrorism.

Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri, a former Pakistani lawmaker, says the 600-page fatwa bans suicide bombing "without any excuses, any pretexts, or exceptions."

Tahir-ul-Qadri has issued similar, shorter decrees, but Tuesday's event in London is being hosted by the Quilliam Foundation, a government-funded, anti-extremism think tank.

The religious scholar is the founder of Minhaj-ul-Quran, a worldwide movement that promotes a non-political, tolerant Islam. The group has hundreds of thousands of followers around the world, most of them in Pakistan or Pakistanis living in other countries.

A fatwa against religious justifications for Islamic terrorism

by Samir Khalil Samir
03/10/2010 13:10

A 600 page document by Prof. Tahir ul-Quadri, against violence, signals the beginning of a new season in the Islamic world. Like the pope in Regensburg, he says that God is reason and is against violence. Now a movement of people is needed to purify the disfigured face of Islam.



Beirut (AsiaNews) – On March 2nd, Tahir ul-Quadri, a Pakistani sheikh Soufi, declared to the BBC that he had produced a 600 page document that demolished the ideology of terrorist groups who refer back to the Qur'an and Sunnah. Al-Qaeda, he says, is "an old evil under anew name". The fatwa defies the religious justifications of suicide bombers who dream of the paradise promised to martyrs. They are not martyrs at all, they are simply criminals. The organization of Dr Qadri, Minhaj ul-Quran International, which has about 5000 members and 10 mosques in Britain, undertook to distribute this document and the teachings of the spiritual master. God be praised! Al-Hamdu li-llah! Finally, an authoritative and learned voice that loudly proclaims what everyone has long held at the bottom of their hearts, that violence cannot be justified in the name of God and that while injustice can explain certain reactions, it can never justify them!

Violence: characteristic of Islam?

Certainly, there has been violence as long as man has walked the earth. In one way or another, almost all cultures and mythologies have practiced it. The mythical story of Adam and Eve in the Bible shows that harmony lies in submission / obedience to God, and it introduces a "heavenly" life, while violence lies in rebellion / disobedience to God. In the Koran, Islam brings to *salâm* (submission to God creates peace and harmony), rather than '*isyân* (rebellion) which leads to disorder and violence.

The story of Cain and Abel (Qâbîl wa-Hâbîl), indicated in the Bible as the children of Adam and Eve expresses this reality: extreme violence, murder, are enrolled in the human heart and are a rejection of God which leads to our own rejection by men. We find the same approach in the Koran, although with different formulas, the sura of Mâ'idah (the Table Spread') 5, 27-32, with this conclusion that clearly shows the link with the Jewish tradition (v. 32):

"For that cause We decreed for the Children of Israel that whoso ever killeth a human being for other than manslaughter or corruption in the earth, it shall be as if he had killed all mankind, and whoso saveth the life of one, it shall be as if he had saved the life of all mankind. Our messengers came unto them of old with clear proofs (of Allah's sovereignty), but afterwards, lo! Many of them became prodigals in the earth. (trans. UCOII).

We know how the anthropologist René Girard has developed this founding myth in his book *"Violence and the Sacred"* (1972), edited by Ottavio Fatigue and Eva Czerkl (Milano: Adelphi, 1980).

The fact is that man from every cultural or religious tradition has practiced violence, and has often sought to justify his actions in the name of God. No religion, no culture is exempt.

For this reason, throughout history, violence is not typical of Islam. I would say that it is typical of human beings, the only being capable of practicing violence even when it is not a vital necessity.

Non-violence as a program

However, it is task of spiritual reflection to try to eliminate violence, to place rejection of violence, "non-violence", at the heart of culture. In our time, Mahatma

Gandhi (October 2, 1869 - January 30, 1948) established non-violence not only as an ethical principle, but also as a political program. He was not the first to choose this path, but he was the first - I believe - to have instilled this goal in the masses, and practically demonstrate the effectiveness of this ideal. And we also know that he paid the price for this peaceful political revolution, with his martyrdom.

Non-violence in Islam

Muhammad Tahir ul-Quadri has dared to oppose the destructive power of terrorism to wrest any religious pretence from it: in the name of Islam or in the name of God— be he called Allah, God, or by any other name - no one can claim to obtain goodness and justice through violence. God- whatever description men (considered prophets) gave to him - cannot identify with violence. Quadri is not the first to condemn Islamic terrorism: before him, different Muslim religious figures have done so. Among them: the Grand Chancellor of the University Al-Azhar, Sheikh Muhammad Sayyed Tantawi. But Quadri is certainly the first in Islam to address the issue in a radical way, writing a treatise of 600 pages to respond to all the arguments inspired by the Quran or the Sunnah (tradition) of Islam. It is characteristic of Islamic terrorism to justify its practice by relying on arguments based on Quranic verses and the Sunnah. In order to ensure that they – by carrying out an act of terrorism - make the supreme act of piety, they do so only after receiving a fatwa. Instead, for Quadri violence is never acceptable, it is against God himself. This is precisely what Benedict XVI developed his own way in Regensburg, in his famous speech of 12 September 2006, saying that violence is an irrational act and therefore contrary to God, who is reason itself, and thus contrary to religion.

Violence justified by injustice?

It is often said that Islamic terrorism is merely a reaction against the injustice suffered by the Muslim world at the hands of colonialism and imperialism. Frequently cited examples of this include the creation of the State of Israel in 1948 on the land of Islam (*Dâr al-Islâm*) and terrorism practiced by Western countries, especially the U.S., against the Muslim world. Particular reference is made to anti-US sentiment, especially after George W. Bush spoke of the war against Iraq using the term "crusade". However, there is a difference of degree between "Islamic terrorism" and the "terrorism of the U.S.": the former relies on the Koran and fatwa issued by men of religion, the latter does not rely on the Bible and the Fathers of the Church nor on the teaching of the men of religion, rather it acts in the name of its civilization.

Thus it is hardly surprising that the world considers the religion of the former and the civilisation of the latter both horrible.

This is why it is important that Americans take to the streets to protest against the terrorism carried out on behalf of their civilization, and that Muslims protest against the terrorism carried out in the name of their religion.

Taking to the streets does not translate into an admittance of guilt. It is a form of protest against misdeeds carried out in the name of my religion and therefore in my name. In any case I am certainly not responsible for what others do. Everyone is responsible for his or her actions, and nobody is responsible for those of others. As the Koran says (6 / 164): "*no soul earns (evil) but against itself, and no bearer of burden shall bear the burden of another*".

Violence in the name of Islam, moreover, is so widespread that it is now carried out more against other Muslims than against the "unbelievers" (kuffar): think of Algeria in the years '92-2002, where more than 100 thousand Muslims (from 60 to 150 thousand, according to estimates) were killed, often with their throats cut or disembowelled alive, think of the bloodshed between Sunnis and Shiites in Iraq or Pakistan ... We often hear that the fanatic crowds are manipulated by their governments that want to divert attention from the real problems of their people. It's true! But why is it that, in order to do so, these governments use Islam? The fact is that too many Muslims are easily manipulated in the name of Islam. As always, it is important to underline the difference: religion has nothing to do with defending the land and the concept of "Islamic land (*Dâr al-Islâm*) is now outdated and unacceptable in international law. If a country is attacked, I will defend it whatever nation it may be, in the name of international law and justice, but not in the name of a religion (unless that religion is sensitive to international law and justice). Unfortunately, the violence and terrorism of the Islamists have almost become the normal way to settle scores. And the worst is that this is justified by resorting to religion.

Conclusion

Quadri's fatwa is an important gesture. It may be as be but a ripple in a pool, but on the other hand it may also be the beginning of a movement of thought and action! The fatwa itself will not change things. As they say: one swallow does not a summer make, and likewise, a fatwa is not a doctrine.

Especially since thousands of fatwa are now issued each year on diverse and often obsolete topics.[1]

However this fatwa is a prophetic act. A fatwa of 600 pages (in reality a treaty) could provoke debate among intellectuals and religious. It is an act of reason, matured and reflected upon over the years.

It now depends on the Muslim scholars and Muslim masses (but also on us all) to see that this document become a current of concerted action and reflection, to wash Islam (and every religious current) clean of the shame of having attributed God as the source and inspiration of absolute evil.

This world needs positive acts.

It is not enough to say and repeat that "Islam means salâm, peace!" It is too easy. We need gestures. In the same way there are mass demonstrations - inflamed by the speeches of the Ulema - against the "Danish cartoons" or against the speech of Benedict XVI in Regensburg, or - more recently - against the person and the thought of Talima Nasreen in Karnataka, so we need mass demonstrations of people for non-violence. Days ago, President Gadhafi has declared a jihad against Switzerland, to save the honour of his son Hannibal! How is it possible that this is the only reaction to occur to a head of state? Our Muslim world is in a crisis and has been for many decades. We do not dare confront modernity to rethink ourselves, to distinguish positive from negative, and propose reforms that are not a throwback, to a pseudo-golden age, that of the "rightly guided caliphs (*al-khulafâ' ar-râshidîn*), of whom three out of four were assassinated. We must make our reforms, to regain our dignity in this Arab-Muslim world. Perhaps then, the West will regard us in another light!

[1] As recently as Sunday, March 7, 2010, the Lebanese daily Al-Nahar gave a report on page 11 by the Palestinian Jawwad al-Bashir on the latest fatwa of the Saudi Sheikh Abd al-Rahman al-Barrak, which supports death to any person who authorizes mixed schools.

