

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

Submitters Perspective

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Overcrowding of Mecca during Hajj

God's laws for Hajj are disregarded



God Almighty does not wish to make the religion difficult for us (5:6). He wishes for us convenience, not hardship, that we may fulfill our obligations, and to glorify God for guiding us, and to express our appreciation (2:185). Yet, we witness overcrowding of Mecca during Hajj (Pilgrimage) every year, why?

The reason for this overcrowding is that the Saudi Government does not follow God's law for Hajj that we find in the Quran. They decree their own law never authorized by God, and restrict Hajj to a few days, instead of four sacred months as mentioned in the Quran! Consequently, overcrowding is prevalent during the Hajj season every year. They do not understand God's Wisdom about the four sacred months! Their current solution is to place strict controls on the number of pilgrims entering the country—giving a quota to each government which then selects pilgrims. Still, there are nearly 2 million pilgrims that come from different countries; all are forced to do Hajj within the designated days.

The world's population is believed to have reached over 6.7 billion in 2008, and continues to grow. We hope the Saudi Government realizes the importance of upholding God's laws in the Quran and changes the time of Hajj from a few days to four sacred months.

We learn from the Quran that, like the other rites of Islam such as Testimony (Shahadah), Contact Prayers (Salat), Fasting during Ramadan, and Obligatory Charity (Zakat), the rites of Pilgrimage (Hajj) also came through Abraham by God's leave.

[22:26] *We appointed Abraham to establish the Shrine: "You shall not idolize any other god beside Me, and purify My shrine for those who visit it, those who live near it, and those who bow and prostrate.*

[22:27] *"And proclaim that the people shall observe Hajj pilgrimage. They will come to you walking or riding on various exhausted (means of transportation). They will come from the farthest locations."*

We learn from the Quran that nothing bad comes from the Most Merciful God. And, God is the Best Lawmaker.

[4:79] *Anything good that happens to you is from God, and anything bad that happens to you is from you. We have sent you as a messenger to the people, and God suffices as witness.*

[5:50] *Is it the law of the days of ignorance that they seek to uphold? Whose law is better than God's for those who have attained certainty?*

So, if Hajj is decreed by God, the Best Lawmaker, then why do we hear all the bad news on Hajj almost every year? Why have all the problems and disasters been happening during the Hajj season? We find the answer in the Quran.

[42:21] *They follow idols who decree for them religious laws never authorized by GOD. If it were not for the predetermined decision, they would have been judged immediately. Indeed, the*

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transgressors have incurred a painful retribution.

[6:114] *Shall I seek other than GOD as a source of law, when He has revealed to you this book fully detailed? Those who received the scripture recognize that it has been revealed from your Lord, truthfully. You shall not harbor any doubt.*

According to the Quran, the fully detailed book, Hajj can be observed any time during the four sacred months.

[9:36] *The count of months, as far as GOD is concerned, is twelve. This has been GOD's law, since the day He created the heavens and the earth. Four of them are sacred. This is the perfect religion; you shall not wrong your souls (by fighting) during the Sacred Months. However, you may declare all-out war against the idol worshipers (even during the Sacred Months), when they declare all-out war against you, and know that GOD is on the side of the righteous.*

[2:194] *During the Sacred Months, aggression may be met by an equivalent response. If they attack you, you may retaliate by inflicting an equitable retribution. You shall observe GOD and know that GOD is with the righteous.*

[2:195] *You shall spend in the cause of GOD; do not throw yourselves with your own hands into destruction. You shall be charitable; GOD loves the charitable.*

[2:196] *You shall observe the complete rites of Hajj and `Umrah for GOD. If you are prevented, you shall send an offering, and do not resume cutting your hair until your offering has reached its destination. If you are ill, or suffering a head injury (and you must cut your hair), you shall expiate by fasting, or giving to charity, or some other form of worship. During*

the normal Hajj, if you break the state of Ihraam (sanctity) between `Umrah and Hajj, you shall expiate by offering an animal sacrifice. If you cannot afford it, you shall fast three days during Hajj and seven when you return home - this completes ten - provided you do not live at the Sacred Masjid. You shall observe GOD, and know that GOD is strict in enforcing retribution.

[2:197] *Hajj shall be observed in the specified months. Whoever sets out to observe Hajj shall refrain from sexual intercourse, misconduct, and arguments throughout Hajj. Whatever good you do, God is fully aware thereof. As you prepare your provisions for the journey, the best provision is righteousness. You shall observe Me, O you who possess intelligence.*

The four Sacred Months in Islam were observed before and during the time of Muhammad.

[2:125] *We have rendered the shrine (the Ka`aba) a focal point for the people, and a safe sanctuary. You may use Abraham's shrine as a prayer house. We commissioned Abraham and Ismail: "You shall purify My house for those who visit, those who live there, and those who bow and prostrate."*

[16:123] *Then we inspired you (Muhammad) to follow the religion of Abraham, the monotheist; he never was an idol worshiper.*

Unfortunately, the Saudi Government is not following God's law for Hajj stated in the Quran, and the other religious practices that came through Abraham, in favor of innovations that are falsely attributed to Prophet Muhammad.

[2:130] *Who would forsake the religion of Abraham, except one who fools his own soul? We have chosen him in this world, and in the Hereafter he will be with the righteous.*

[9:97] *The Arabs are the worst in disbelief and hypocrisy, and the most likely to ignore the laws that God has re-*

vealed to His messenger. God is Omniscient, Most Wise.

The Saudi Government and their religious leaders are violating God's sacred laws despite the Quranic commands.

[5:2] *O you who believe, do not violate the rites instituted by GOD, nor the Sacred Months, nor the animals to be offered, nor the garlands marking them, nor the people who head for the Sacred Shrine (Ka`bah) seeking blessings from their Lord and approval. Once you complete the pilgrimage, you may hunt. Do not be provoked into aggression by your hatred of people who once prevented you from going to the Sacred Masjid. You shall cooperate in matters of righteousness and piety; do not cooperate in matters that are sinful and evil. You shall observe GOD. GOD is strict in enforcing retribution.*

[9:19] *Have you considered the watering of the pilgrims and caring for the Sacred Masjid a substitute for believing in God and the Last Day, and striving in the cause of God? They are not equal in the sight of God. God does not guide the wicked people*

[31:6] *Among the people, there are those who uphold baseless Hadith, and thus divert others from the path of GOD without knowledge, and take it in vain. These have incurred a shameful retribution.*

The Quran is the complete, perfect and fully detailed book of God Almighty. It is also the best hadith of messengers of God. The true religion of Islam, preached by Prophet Muhammad, is replaced by various sectarian beliefs that abandoned the teachings of the Quran for the sake of so-called hadiths or sayings falsely attributed to the prophet.

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[7:185] Have they not looked at the dominion of the heavens and the earth, and all the things GOD has created? Does it ever occur to them that the end of their life may be near? Which Hadith, beside this, do they believe in?

[12:111] In their history, there is a lesson for those who possess intelligence. This is not fabricated Hadith; this (Quran) confirms all previous scriptures, provides the details of everything, and is a beacon and mercy for those who believe.

[39:23] GOD has revealed herein the best Hadith; a book that is consistent, and points out both ways (to Heaven and Hell). The skins of those who reverence their Lord cringe therefrom, then their skins and their hearts soften up for GOD's message. Such is GOD's guidance; He bestows it upon whoever wills (to be guided). As for those sent astray by GOD, nothing can guide them.

[23:52] Such is your congregation - one congregation - and I am your Lord; you shall reverence Me.

[23:53] But they tore themselves into disputing factions; each party happy with what they have

[6:116] If you obey the majority of people on earth, they will divert you from the path of GOD. They follow only conjecture; they only guess.

[12:103] Most people, no matter what you do, will not believe.

[12:104] You are not asking them for any money; you simply deliver this reminder for all the people.

[12:105] So many proofs in the heavens and the earth are given to them, but they pass by them, heedlessly!

[12:106] The majority of those who believe in GOD do not do so without committing idol worship.

God knows what is best for us. He established His laws to make the religion easy and convenient for us. It is we who make the religion difficult through innovations. This may also repel others from following the religion. If we want to be successful both in this life and the Hereafter, we should study and follow God's laws.

May God guide us in His right path.

M. I.

A Reader's View

Salamun alaykum,

Dear Brothers and sisters,

By the grace of God, enlightenment comes to those that seek the truth and by God's will accordingly benefit such. The state of Islam/world as it stands is at a loss with wars and hatred while practicing or upholding meaningless values and with the few that are guided by His grace.

I myself for many years have been in search questioning the faith and the practices since early childhood as far as I can remember. I have been reading the Quran in English having read several versions but never read or followed the *Hadith*. People used to all mention such, and follow such in their practice/way of life – not sure if many even questioned the path they are on. Maybe it is society with all its trimmings, or basic fact we forgot to think and uphold the Quran alone, practicing monotheism, reading/searching our souls asking directly from our Creator for the answers to the riddles of life. For He created all, to Him we return. His Greatness is forgotten/lost in minds for our priorities are lost forgetting how to think, rationalise, question could be the one of main factors – to each own downfall.

I used to practice and follow as my parents had taught me. Through time

by the grace of God in my search of the truth.

I am now at peace having found and practicing by the grace of God the right Islam, everything is in accordance with God's will. I have tried in my ways – maybe my parents, family members, friends, loved ones will understand and follow. If it is not so, give it time maybe the persons own soul will awaken, search and find if God wills.

God's truth will always stand, His wisdom, justice, His rule. We should submit and understand His greatness. Many people, I sense, do not really understand God's greatness and have the complexity of opening the mind/heart truly in search of information/facts/truth. I do not judge them. It is free will for each person to decide the course of path; one can only advise, show, provide such and let oneself make their own decisions.

I have been through testing times and have had support from parents and family members; yet in the practice of monotheism it is one with God and place one's trust trying to stay steadfast, honour the parents, regard relatives, poor and those in need.

I am tested financially and now pretty much my marriage over and not even to see or know of my own daughter barely since birth. It is difficult and has been what can one say and do let each make their own decision and in the manner they choose to.

There is no compulsion in religion or life. God has provided us with the tools and maybe we will all understand and correct our ways moving forward positively by the grace of God having our loved ones united with us on the righteous path through patience and kindness....

Thank you. May God watch over us all.

Aziz

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Comments from a Canadian Submitter

Assalaamu 'alaykum;

By way of introduction, I was born and raised a Christian. I converted to Islam just over four years ago Alhamdulillah (Praise God).

I attended *Halaqa* until earlier this year where I learned the Wahhabi perspective.

I decided earlier this year to learn the Shi'ite perspective.

In both instances I felt that the hadiths and Sunna were being followed and not the Quran.

This morning I came across 'United Submitters International' and know that this is what I have been searching for—Believers who follow the Quran and who obey Allah Only.

I reside in Ottawa, Canada. Are there any Submitters in Ottawa whom I could get in contact with?

Please feel free to give them my e-mail address.

Thank you very much.

Wassalaamu alaykum

Coralie

[Ed.'s note. We appreciate and value your comments. Please send them to info@masjiduntucson.org.]