

The SHARIAH

Divine system of morality
and justice



Why the world needs the *Shariah*?

In many societies the glorification of fornication, adultery, sodomite sex, alcohol, recreational drugs and gambling is visible. However the *Shariah's* key principle is "preventing harm and bringing welfare and benefit to people". It protects and defends the five basic necessary human rights: Faith, life, progeny (honour), property and intellect. Therefore the *Shariah*...

- Encourages work and trade so that individuals are able to earn a living.
- Urges the pursuit of knowledge and education to ensure the intellectual growth and development of people.
- Punishes theft because it threatens the inherent right of property.
- Prohibits adultery because it violates the sanctity of the family unit.
- Prohibits alcohol consumption because it has the potential to impair one's intellectual capacity, leading to the abuse of other people's rights.

The *Shariah* covers every aspect of life, ordained by Allah, the Almighty. Due to its divine origin it is considered timeless and perfect, geared towards the success, justice, welfare and peace of humans in this world and in the hereafter. [www.whyislam.org]

Allah knows best.
by:
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(2) Family law in the *Shariah* requires following legal rules when marrying or divorcing. For example, a husband is obliged to gift his wife a dower at the time of marriage and an additional amount in the case of divorce.

(3) An economic regulation is the prohibition of usury because it is unjust; it makes the rich richer and the poor poorer.

It is true that some laws of the *Shariah* are intended for application at a national level, and include penalties for crimes which are most destructive for society and the family, like murder, adultery and theft.

These laws make up a portion of the remaining 5% of the *Shariah*. However, these laws are intended to be applied in a system where the government derives its rules from Islam, it is subject to conditions, evidences and witnesses. Implementation of *Shariah* law on non-Muslims is subject to the legal system of the land.

Some of these penalties are called *hudud* (boundaries, not punishments) because these are the results of crossing the boundaries set by the Creator. They have an educational, preventive and strong deterrent function; history has proven that it works.

There is no need to fear these laws, if one is a law-abiding citizen and not a criminal.

Since they are laid down by Allah, it is beyond human authority to reduce or supercede them out of a sense of mercy. There is no one more merciful, more wise and more just than Allah.

In The Name of Allah

The Intensely Merciful, The Eternally Merciful

The *Shariah* misunderstood

It is propagated in Western countries that the *Shariah* is a system of legal, political, military and religious laws that calls Muslims to overthrow non-Muslim governments through brutal force, acts of terrorism, and 'holy war' (jihad) to establish itself as the sole political and religious power in the world.

To say Muslim terrorists represent Islam



is like saying the Ku Klux Klan represents Christianity.

But just as Christians don't want to be judged by the beliefs and actions of extremists like the Ku Klux Klan or I.R.A.,

likewise, Muslims should not be judged by extremists in their midst nor characterized en masse.

It is said that the *Shariah* is barbaric, intolerant and unjust. It is also said the *Shariah* cannot co-exist with civil laws and that it forces Muslims to reject the civil laws of the country they live in.

Despite loud voices shouting that the *Shariah* is a threat to Western secular societies, research shows that there is no evidence that Islamic law is influencing courts in Non-Muslim countries [USA: ACLU, 2011]

The truth is that the *Shariah* law in secular countries must be seen in the same way as the Jewish Halakah law and Catholic Canon, which are both faith-based laws that exist side by side with civil law. However, *Shariah* covers all aspects of life. **Most of the *Shariah* laws are not even applicable to non-Muslims!**

The fear for the *Shariah* and the stigma it creates, is divisive and potentially dangerous to a society.

History has taught us what fear-mongering does to a civil society. The Nazis could not have succeeded if they had not instituted an active campaign of instilling paranoia and provoking an intense hatred against minority groups in Germany. Do we really want to go down this route again?

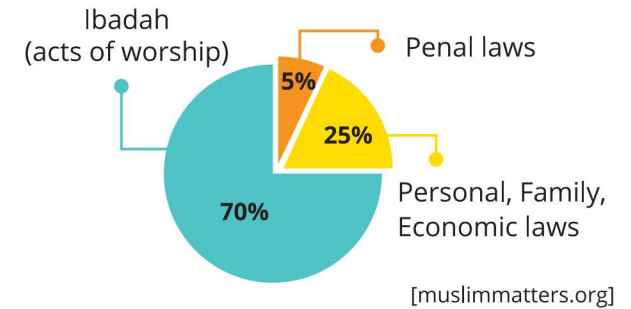
The *Shariah* demands that Muslims follow the law of the land they live in. This command is binding so long as they are not forced to commit forbidden or blasphemous acts or prevented from fulfilling their religious duties.

What is the *Shariah*?

Shariah literally means a "path to water", the source of life and signifies the way **to** God (Allah) as given **by** Him.

The *Shariah* is therefore the divinely ordained way of life for mankind, a system of morality and the best way to justice. The two primary sources of the *Shariah* are the Qur'aan (Allah's words) and the Sunnah (the Prophet's way of life).

Shariah Components



The bulk of the *Shariah* ($\approx 70\%$) deals with acts of submission to purify the soul. It instructs you to:

- Regularly take time out of the day to remember Allah consciously.
- Dedicate a percentage of your savings to the poor.
- Fast a month every year to cultivate patience, piety and to feel unity with the less-fortunate.
- Commemorate the faith of the Prophet Abraham (pbuh) by visiting the house of worship he built in Makkah (Mecca).

Approximately 25% of the *Shariah* deals:
(1) Personal laws (like un-/lawful food) For example, just like the kosher laws for Jews, Muslims have their personal laws in the *Shariah* that regulate the way animals should be slaughtered, with respect for their lives and feelings.