

A Divine Guided Endeavor to  
Build a

# Beautiful Heaven

on this Earth

( True meaning of Jihad )

*“ Overwhelm your enemies  
with love and kindness ”*

Qur'an 41:34; 33:96

## What is Jihad?

Jihad does not Mean Holy War.

In fact, according to the Qur'an, no act of war in any shape or form can be considered "Holy". Engaging in a hostile and violent act, causing destruction and the deaths of innocent people, by no means or standard could be considered "Holy".

The expression "Holy War" is not even mentioned in the Qur'an.

Jihad, according to the Qur'anic teachings, means:

Striving for and utilizing everything in your power and in your possession towards improving the society, which is the cause of Allah. It is the total devotion and commitment to the righteous path and to promoting Islamic Values. Ref. 49:15; 41:33

**A believing person** is in the state of Jihad at all times. Furthermore, Jihad is the utmost in commitment and devotion to the Divine guided righteous path. This commitment and devotion is undertaken willingly, knowingly and certainly not blindly. Ref. 17:36

Jihad is to make total effort to please God. Pleasing God also means to love and serve all people. Ref. 49:15

To promote love, goodwill, understanding and respect between all people. Ref 16:90

To promote Peace, Equal Opportunity and Justice for all. Ref. 4:58; 5:8; 7:181; 4:135

To make a difference on this Earth.

To provide food and shelter for the needy and the homeless. Ref. 2:177; 70:24,25

Jihad also means self-defense, but certainly not aggression:

*“Fight in the cause of Allah against those who wage war against you, but do not commit aggression, for indeed God does not love the aggressors.” Qur’an 2:190*

*“ Be humble when you pray to your Lord, indeed God does not love the aggressors.” Qur’an 7:55*

### **Muslims are not against non-Muslims**

The mostly publicized issue of *Muslims against non-Muslims* is totally alien to the Islamic teachings. In Islam the entire World’s population is referred to as *One Global Nation Under God*. 21:92; 23:52; 2:213

*“ GOD bestows His blessings upon you, with His angels (echoing Him), so that He might take you out of the depths of darkness into the light.” 33:43*

*“. . . Indeed God is most Compassionate and Kind towards all mankind” 22:65; 42:19*

### **The Love of God**

The **Love of God** is the fundamental aspect of Islam. This love is the dominant factor in the lives of all Muslims, who are devoted and committed to the righteous path.

*“ And those who believe are intense in their love for Allah” 2:165*

*“ Pray only in those places of worship that are built by those who have chosen the righteous path. And are inclined to purify themselves. Indeed God loves all who purify themselves.” Paraphrased 9:108*

*“Be humble and thankful and remain always conscious of your Lord, indeed God is always cognizant of you.” 2:152*

### **The Inner Peace**

To promote peace in the World, one must first have peace of mind, inner peace. We must first be at peace with ourselves.

*“It is He who bestowed inner peace upon the hearts of the believers, in order to help them grow yet stronger in their faith.” 48:4*

*“ Those who believe, their hearts find peace in remembrance of God. Indeed the remembrance of God places tranquility and peace in People’s hearts.” 13:28*

*“ Those who are gifted with knowledge believe in the Qur’an and they know that it is the truth from their Lord; and their hearts humbly submit unto Him; indeed God guides the believers to the straight path.” 22:54*

### **Promoting Love & Kindness**

Muslims are taught to love and honor all people regardless of gender, race, religion, or national origin.

God created mankind in the most beautiful complexion, and gifted him (her) with that of His Spirit. Paraphrased 40:64; 64:3; 32:9; 95:4

*“. . . Allah loves them (all mankind) and they love Allah” 5:54*

*“. . We have indeed honored mankind” 17:70*

*“. . .God has caused your faith to be dear to you, and has placed beauty in your hearts, and has made*

*it unpleasant to you the denial of the truth, inequities, and rebellion” 49:7*

*“Act kindly, just as God has treated you kindly.” 28:77*

### **Sanctity of Life**

The life of a person, any person, is highly sacred and precious in Islam:

*“ . . . We prescribed with the Children of Israel that anyone who kills any person without due process shall be as if he had killed all mankind. Anyone who spares even one life shall be as if he had saved all mankind.” 5:32*

*“ . . . Don’t take any life, which God has made sacred, except by way of justice and law. God has instructed you in this so that you may act with wisdom.” 6:151*

*“ Nor take life, which God has made sacred, except by way of Justice and law.” 17:33*

Even suicide is forbidden in Islam and considered a great sin:

*“ . . . Nor kill (or destroy) yourself; for indeed God has been merciful to you.” 4:29*

### **Striving to help the needy and to eliminate the suffering is an act of worship:**

*“ It is not righteousness for you to turn your faces to the East and the West. But righteous is he who believes in Allah, the Day of Judgment, the Angels, the Scripture and the Prophets. Righteous is the one who gives away of his wealth, that is dear to him, to kinsfolk, orphans, the needy, the wayfarer, to those who ask, and to set slaves free; and observes proper worship and pay Zakat. Righteous are those who*

*keep their promises and are patient in hardship, adversity and time of stress. Such are those who are sincere.” 2:177*

### **Cherishing the Islamic Values**

The call for Jihad is prescribed in the Qur’an more than 18 times. However, in every instance it is a call for action in the cause of Allah and a call to uphold the cherished Islamic Values. The call for Jihad is for all people to join together to build a beautiful Heaven on this Earth. This is an invitation to help to eliminate suffering, hunger and poverty. Hence all people will be entitled to equal opportunity, liberty, justice, and the pursuit of happiness.

Here we refer to a few verses from the Qur’an:

No one shall be forced to accept a religion. There is a clear distinction between the Divine guided righteous path and the abyss of darkness. Paraphrased 2:256

*“Do not oppress others and do not allow others to oppress you” 2:279*

Do not enter any home without owner’s permission. Ref. 24:27

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