

## THE EFFECTS OF THE COMMON VALUES

# ANALYSIS ON THE VERSES OF COMMON VALUES RELATED TO RACISM AND XENOPHOBIA

## The motto

# RELIGION COULD BE UNIFYING

We have tried, putting the human in the centre, to show that the moral messages of the sacred writings have a universal character.

Let's get to know each other through religion.

## Essence of Religion

The attempt of man to comprehend the world around him, his place in it, attitudes and forces that move it.

Religion stimulates the development of morality and the innate desire in humans to be improved. This improvement includes all sublime aspirations – to truth, good and beauty and most importantly – striving for more complete and perfect life.

Religion is a spiritual quality of man.

## Verses and Common Values

### THE BIBLE

#### "The Ten Commandments"

- A wonderful summary and systematic exposition of the basic moral values of people;
- Suggest sinless life and good relations between people;
- Contain moral and behavior which no legislation in the world can resist against;
- The norms, concerning the relationships between people are accepted by all legislations in the world;
- The first written laws that human society has known.

"The Ten Commandments", formulated in the Bible, "Exodus" Ch.20 .:

Verse 12 Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

Verse 13 Thou shalt not kill.

Verse 14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Verse 15 Thou shalt not steal.

Verse 16 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

Verse 17 Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

## Verses and Common Values

### THE KORAN

#### "The Twelve Commandments"

- Define the behaviour of Muslim lifestyle;
- Show the principles of the religious legislation;
- It is impossible to have knowledge about the future and the ability to predict it;
- Not blindly believe and let themselves be influenced by malicious people.

The Twelve Commandments of Allah, described in Surah 17 "The Night Journey":

Surah 32 And come not near unto adultery. Lo! it is an abomination and evil way.

Surah 33 And slay not the wife.

Surah 34 Come not near the wealth of the orphan save with that which is better till he come to strength; and keep the covenant. Lo! Of the covenant it will be asked.

Surah 35 Fill the measure when ye measure, and weigh with a right balance; that is meet, and better in the end.

Surah 36 (O Man), follow not that whereof thou hast no knowledge! Lo! The hearing and the sight and the heart-of each of these it will be asked.

Surah 37 And walk not in the earth exultant. Lo! thou canst not rend the earth, nor canst thou stretch to the height of the hills.

Surah 38 The evil of all that is hateful the sight of the Lord.

## VERSE INTERPRETATIONS

Examples from the study being carried out;

### THE BIBLE PROVERBS OF SOLOMON

*Chapter 1 Proverb 22 How long, you simple ones, will you love simplicity? For scorners delight in their scorning, And fools hate knowledge?*

#### Values:

- ▶ Do not waste your life in ignorance.
- ▶ Carelessness destroys man.
- ▶ Only through learning will you acquire knowledge and wisdom.
- ▶ Knowledge teaches us to comprehend the lessons of life and discern what is good and what is evil.
- ▶ A clever man understands the proverbs and advice of wise men and their messages as well.
- ▶ It is the clever man only who can make wise and correct decisions.

## VERSE INTERPRETATIONS

Examples from the study being carried out;

## THE BIBLE PROVERBS OF SOLOMON

*Chapter 3 Proverb 27 Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, When it is in the power of your hand to do so.*

### Values:

- ▶ Do good, be merciful.
- ▶ Do not send away a person in need.
- ▶ Help people whenever you can do it.

## VERSE INTERPRETATIONS

Examples from the study being carried out;

### THE BIBLE PROVERBS OF SOLOMON

*Chapter 3 Proverb 29 Do not devise evil against your neighbor, For he dwells by you for safety's sake.*

#### Values:

- ▶ Avoid evil and be good.
- ▶ Do not abuse people's trust.



## VERSE INTERPRETATIONS

Examples from the study being carried out;

## THE BIBLE PROVERBS OF SOLOMON

*Chapter 4 Proverb 24 Put away from you a deceitful mouth, And put perverse lips far from you.*

### Values:

- ▶ Be honest.
- ▶ Avoid hypocrisy and falsehood.
- ▶ Respect people. Do not speak evil about others.

## VERSE INTERPRETATIONS

Examples from the study being carried out;

## THE BIBLE PROVERBS OF SOLOMON

*Chapter 10 Proverb 12 Hatred stirs up strife, But love covers all sins.*

### Values:

- ▶ Avoid hatred. Hatred is harmful, it leads to strife and even crimes.
- ▶ Respond to hatred with love. Love is creative, it can repair what hatred has done.

## VERSE INTERPRETATIONS

Examples from the study being carried out;

### THE BIBLE

### PROVERBS OF SOLOMON

*Chapter 25 Proverb 28 He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls.*

*Chapter 26 Proverb 27 Whoso diggeth a pit shall fall therein: and he that rolleth a stone, it will return upon him.*

#### Values:

- ▶ Repress your anger and emotions.
- ▶ Be restrained.
- ▶ Think before you utter the wrong word.
- ▶ Avoid hatred and evil thoughts.
- ▶ Do not plan betrayals and abominations, and do good.

## VERSE INTERPRETATIONS

Examples from the study being carried out;

### THE BIBLE SAINT JAMES

*Chapter 2 Verse 14 What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him?*

*Chapter 2 Verse 26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.*

#### Values:

- ▶ Deeds are more important than faith.
- ▶ Faith is only proved only through good deeds.
- ▶ Avoid verbosity about faith.

## VERSE INTERPRETATIONS

Examples from the study being carried out;

### THE BIBLE

#### THE NEW TESTAMENT. PETRUS

*Chapter 2 Verse 16 As free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God.*

*Chapter 2 Verse 17 Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.*

#### Values:

- ▶ Love freedom, but do not be a freedom-loving person.
- ▶ Do not misuse your freedom.
- ▶ Love and respect people, even the ones different from you.

## VERSE INTERPRETATIONS

Examples from the study being carried out;

### THE BIBLE

#### THE NEW TESTAMENT. PETRUS

*Chapter 4 Verse 8 And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins*

*Verse 9 Use hospitality one to another without grudging.*

*Verse 10 As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.*

#### Values:

- ▶ Love defeats evil.
- ▶ Be hospitable to all people.
- ▶ Do not grumble.
- ▶ Respect your colleagues, regardless of their faith.

## VERSE INTERPRETATIONS

Examples from the study being carried out;

### THE KORAN

*Chapter 4 The Women Surah 2 Give unto orphans their wealth. Exchange not the good for the bad (in your management thereof) nor absorb their wealth into your own wealth. Lo! That would be great sin.*

#### Values:

- ▶ Do not rob the property of the defenceless.
- ▶ Do not be greedy and malicious.
- ▶ Do not enrich yourself on behalf of others.

## VERSE INTERPRETATIONS

Examples from the study being carried out;

## THE KORAN

*Chapter 102 The Multiplicatio Surah 1 Rivalry in worldly increase distracteth you*

*Surah 2 Until ye come to the graves*

### Values:

- ▶ Do not covet for great wealth not envy the wealth of others.
- ▶ Do not waste your time thinking about wealth. Use your mind for something creative.



## VERSE INTERPRETATIONS

Examples from the study being carried out;

## THE KORAN

*Chapter 104 The Traducer Surah 1 Woe unto every slandering traducer*

*Surah 2 Who hath gathered wealth (of this world) and arranged it.*

*Surah 3 He thinketh that his wealth will render him immortal.*

### Values:

- ▶ Do not think that wealth can buy you immortality.
- ▶ Accumulated with calumny and slander, money will not bring you immortality.

## CONCLUSION

The examples above show that;

The moral teachings of the sacred writings of various religions have a universal character. This is the eternal wisdom of these books.

Religion unites; it does not separate people when it is not used for political purposes. The Balkans' history is an illustration of this statement.

If people listen to their hearts and follow the messages of their sacred books, they will be able to live together regardless of their religious differences.

## CONCLUSION

The examples show that religion teaches us:

- ▶ Tolerance, sympathy, humanity, solidarity.
- ▶ The culture of living together, regardless of language, religion and colour.
- ▶ Refrain anger, emotion, jealousy.
- ▶ Help and protect the poor and the weaker than us.
- ▶ The importance and power of universal and moral principles in the relationships of people.
- ▶ The importance of education and the power that educated people possess to overcome racism and xenophobia.
- ▶ Not to abuse the trust of people.
- ▶ To love freedom, but not be freedom-loving people.
- ▶ To live in peace and mutual understanding.

# THANK YOU!

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