

Are Islamic clerics cowards?

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With the attack on the United States on September 11, 2001, the world entered a new era:

The era of Islamic militants vs. humanity

Where does the burden of responsibility lie in countering Islamic militants?

Does the burden of responsibility lie in the intelligence services? Does the burden of responsibility lie in the police? Does the burden of responsibility lie in the armed services?

No.

The burden of responsibility lies in the Islamic clerics.

The burden of responsibility lies in the teachings espoused at Islamic religious services. The burden of responsibility lies in the teachings espoused at Islamic schools. The burden of responsibility lies in the teachings espoused at Islamic organizations.

After the rampage by Islamic militants in Paris on November 13, who should feel the greatest stigma of failure? The French intelligence services? The French border security? The French immigration services?

No.

Islamic clerics should feel the greatest stigma of failure. Violence against infidels and the subjugation of infidels are integral themes of Islamic sacred literature and of Islamic history. These themes are inspiring Islamic militants today, and it falls to Islamic clerics to interpret such themes in benign ways and to competently advance such interpretations on a national scale and on a global scale.

After the rampage by Islamic militants in Paris on November 13, who should express the most compelling message to counter such activity? Political leaders? Government messaging experts? The United Nations Secretary General?

No.

Islamic clerics should express the most compelling message to counter Islamic militancy.

The voices of Islamic clerics should be raised in an organized manner to express revulsion for Islamic militancy and to express devotion to the values of western civilization: democracy, freedom of speech, freedom of press, freedom of assembly, freedom of religion, and freedom of commerce.

Are Islamic clerics fulfilling these roles that fall to them? What would you say? Are you aware of any such leadership by Islamic clerics? I haven't seen any in the news sources that I read. Have you seen any? If so, please post the links.

Given the failure of Islamic clerics to provide notable leadership to counter Islamic militancy, we are compelled to ask the reasons for this failure. What do you think the reasons are?

Two possibilities come to my mind:

- ◆ Islamic clerics are sympathizers.
- ◆ Islamic clerics are cowards.

If you have some other hypothesis, please post it. In the meantime, here is what I have been thinking.

Sympathizers. Islamic clerics may actually sympathize with the militant cause, feeling that it's about time that the dominance of western civilization should be destroyed. Islamic clerics may hark back to the glory days of the Islamic conquests of the 600s and 700s, which were followed by centuries of Islamic empire. Islamic clerics may long for a resurgence of Islam that pays the west what it has coming for vanquishing Islamic rule by the forces of arms, commerce, culture, and technology. Islamic clerics may view the activity of Islamic militants as the hand of Allah bringing righteous judgment on the arrogant, sinful infidels of western civilization.

But another possibility comes to my mind, as well: Islamic clerics are cowards.

Cowards. It may be that Islamic clerics actually disagree with the militant cause but are cowards, so they won't publicly play a leadership role to counter it.

Why would Islamic clerics be cowards?

Because the theme of violence is integral to the sacred literature of Islam and to the history of Islam, and Islamic clerics don't want to be murdered for opposing Islamic militants. All that it takes is for one young male to feel inspired to serve Allah by murdering a misguided cleric, and that cleric is dead.

The idea of sacrificing your life in warfare against infidels is an integral theme of Islam, and this theme inspires young Islamic men today. By contrast, due to the life and death of Jesus, the theme of sacrificing your life for standing for truth is the hallmark theme of Christianity, not of Islam.