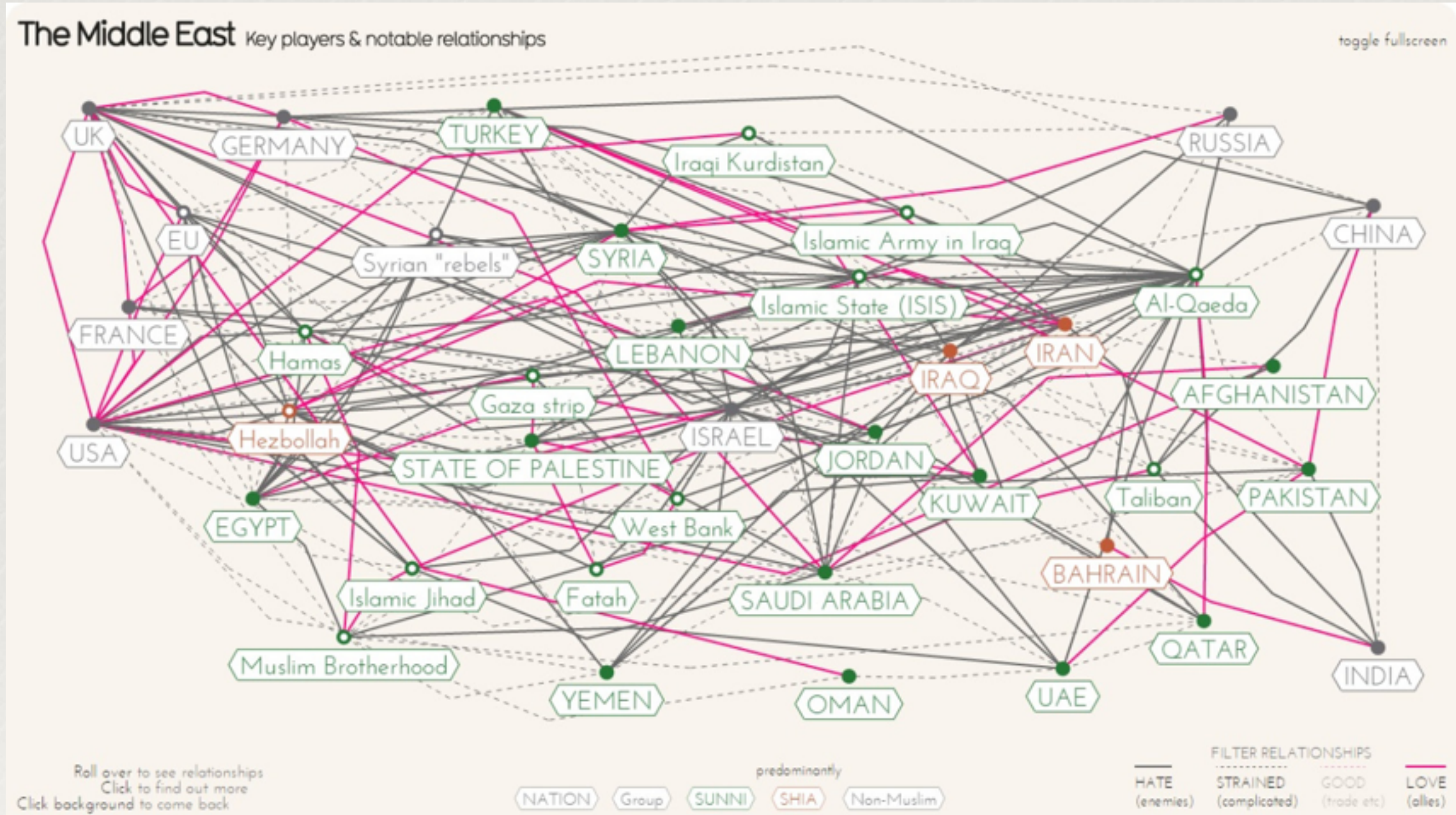


Islamic Extremism



I. Introduction

A. Confusing Players



I. Introduction

B. Confusing Terms

- ✦ Islamism
- ✦ Radical Islam
- ✦ Political Islam
- ✦ Fundamentalism
- ✦ Militant Islam
- ✦ Jihadism
- ✦ Islamic Terrorism
- ✦ Wahabism
- ✦ Salafism
- ✦ Takfiris
- ✦ Extremism
- ✦ Islamofascism

I. Introduction

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- ✧ Takfiris
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- ✧ Islamofacism

Salafism

- ✿ Al salaf al salih “The pious forefathers”, i.e. Muhammad and his earliest companions.
- ✿ Try to imitate in every detail; literal, narrow interpretation of the Qu’ran & Hadith
- ✿ Focus on purity of Islam
- ✿ Ibn Taymiyyah; Islamic scholar (1263-1328)

I. Introduction

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Wahabism

- ✦ Muhammad Ibn Abd al-Wahab
(1703-1792)
- ✦ Arab; Salafi scholar
- ✦ Reformer; promoted extremely rigid form of Islam
- ✦ Pact made with the Al-Saud family

I. Introduction

B. Confusing Terms

- ✧ Islamism
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- ✧ Salafism
- ✧ **Takfiris**
- ✧ Extremism
- ✧ Islamofacism

Takfiri

- ✦ In Islam, taking the life of another Muslim is the worst of sins.
- ✦ *Takfir*: Declaring other Muslims to be apostates or not true Muslims

Takfiri

- ✦ Apostates from Islam are under a death penalty, and non-Muslims are to be fought—so killing them is no longer a sin.
- ✦ A *Takfiri* is an extremist who uses this as a way to silence moderate Muslims, “purify” the faith, and get rid of opposition.

I. Introduction

C. Confusing Behavior

- ✿ Not all extremists are violent themselves.
- ✿ Extremists do not all agree on methods, timing, authority, Islamic law, immediate goals, etc.
- ✿ Extremists are not unified (thankfully!).

II. 1979: A Turning Point

- ✦ Islamic Revolution in Iran (*Result*: powerful Shi'a extremist government; new enemy of Israel; oil prices doubled in one year)



II. 1979: A Turning Point

- ✦ Soviet invasion of Afghanistan (*Result:* jihadi movement; Taliban; Al Qaeda)



II. 1979: A Turning Point

- ✦ Grand Mosque in Mecca seized by Sunni extremists (*Result*: more power given to fundamentalists; oil wealth used to spread Wahabi form of Islam)



III. The Extremist Mindset

A. The Extremist **Ideology**

- ✦ Allah is the universal lawgiver. He alone has the authority to establish the laws that should govern mankind.
- ✦ When men make laws, they are essentially usurping Allah's authority as lawgiver.

III. The Extremist Mindset

A. The Extremist **Ideology**

- ✿ It is oppression to require people to obey man-made laws. It's essentially slavery.
- ✿ Cultures, religions, and governments do not teach the truth about Allah and Muhammad.

III. The Extremist Mindset

A. The Extremist **Ideology**

- ✦ When cultures, religions and governments reject the message of Islam, they are in a state of rebellion and aggression against Allah.

III. The Extremist Mindset

A. The Extremist Ideology

- ✦ It is the duty of Muslims to wage *jihad* to remove all obstacles in the way of Islam so that Allah's law can be established.

“The Islamic approach moves forward to liberate mankind from servitude to other human beings, so that they can worship God alone. Its aim is to destroy tyrannical forces and regimes which force people to submit to a rule different from that of God and apply a law other than his own.”

Qtub, *In the Shade of the Quran*, Vol VIII,
p. 25-26

III. The Extremist Mindset

B. The Extremist Method of Interpreting the Qur'an

1. The Doctrine of Abrogation

Earlier verses (from the Meccan & early Medinan era) of the Qur'an were "provisional", based on the weak circumstances of the Islamic community.

Earlier Verses

“Say, ‘O atheists, I don’t serve what you serve, and you don’t serve what I serve. . . You have your way and I have my way.’”

Qur’an 109:1-6

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

III. The Extremist Mindset

B. The Extremist Method of Interpreting the Qur'an

1. The Doctrine of Abrogation

The “final rulings” of the Qur'an (from the late Medinan era) supersede or abrogate the earlier verses

“Final Rulings” of the Qur’an

Regarding polytheists/atheists:

“A call from Allah and Allah’s messenger. . . announce a painful penalty for those who disbelieve...when the sacred months [of warning] are past then kill the idolators wherever you find them and capture them and blockade them...But if they repent and practice prayer and give alms [accept Islam], let them go their way.” Qur’an 9:3-5

“Final Rulings” from the Qur’an

Regarding People of the Book:

“Fight the ones among those to whom scripture has been given [Jews & Christians] who . . . do not profess the religion of truth [Islam], until they pay the jizya (tax) willingly, and feel themselves subdued.”

Qur’an 9:29

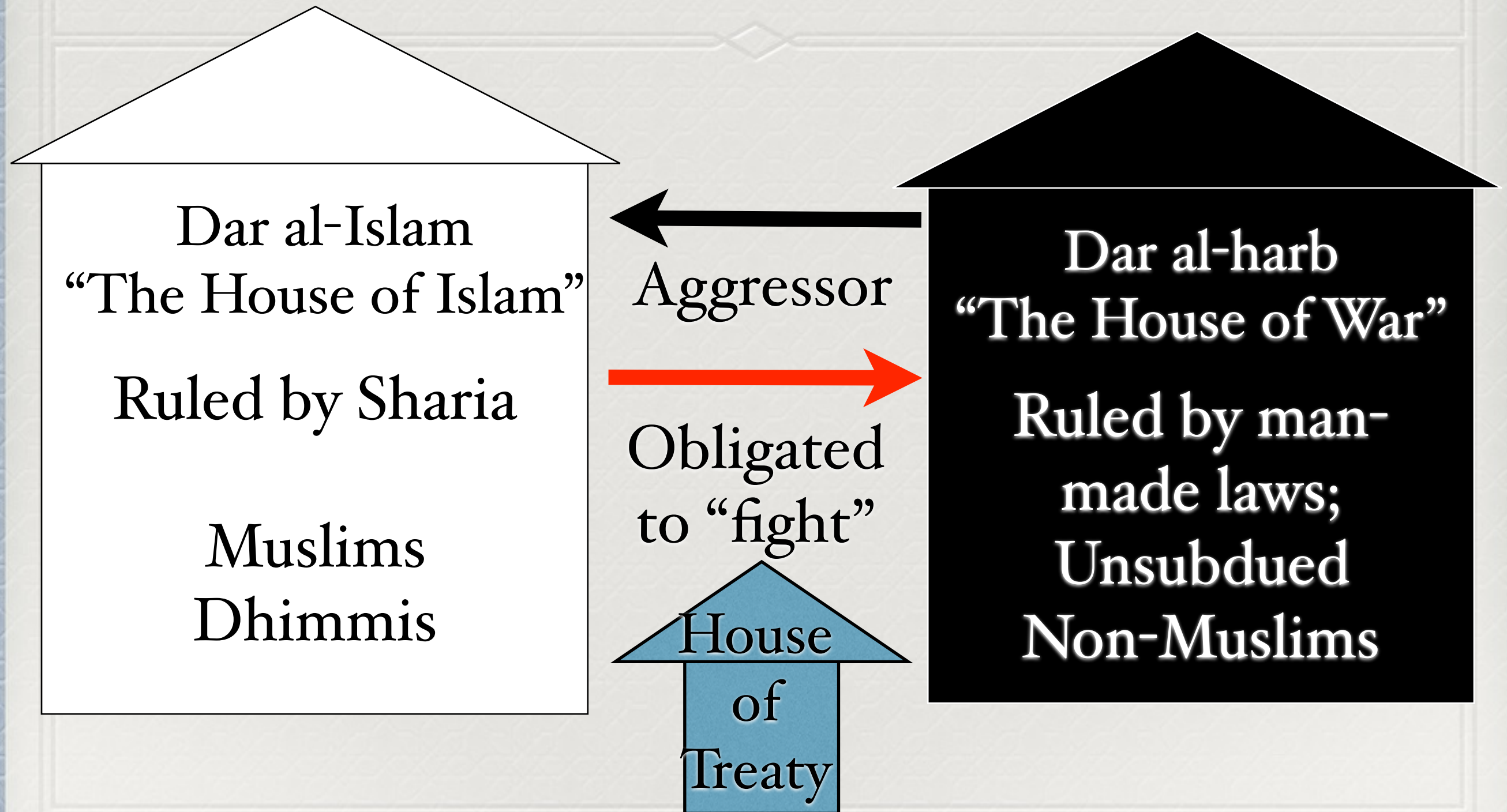
III. The Extremist Mindset

B. The Extremist Method of Interpreting the Qur'an

2. Narrow, rigid and literal interpretation of the Qur'an; often accept “weaker” Hadith.

III. The Extremist Mindset

C. The Extremist **Worldview**



“Islam means submission, and so the House of Islam includes those nations ruled by Sharia law. The rest of the world, which has not accepted Sharia law and so is not in a state of submission, exists in a state of rebellion or war with the will of Allah....”

*Hasan Al-Banna, Founder of the
Muslim Brotherhood*

“...It is incumbent on dar al-Islam to make war upon dar al-harb until such time that all nations submit to the will of Allah and accept Sharia law.”

Hasan Al-Banna, Founder of the Muslim Brotherhood

III. The Extremist Mindset

D. The Extremist Goals

I. Purify Islam



III. The Extremist Mindset

D. The Extremist Goals

2. Terrorize
the
enemies
of Islam



III. The Extremist Mindset

D. The Extremist Goals

“So that you may strike terror into the enemies of Allah who are also your own enemies. . . .”

III. The Extremist Mindset

D. The Extremist Goals

3. (Sunni):
Establish a
borderless Islamic
State with a
recognized Caliph.



Abu Bakr Al Baghdadi

Why an “Islamic State”?

“Islamic Sharia is a complete scheme of life and an all-embracing social order. Therefore there is no separation between “state and church”. . . . Muslims are required to observe religious rules in the community and establish the Islamic State to achieve man’s righteousness. Thus, the Islamic State is an indispensable condition of Islamic life, in the true sense of the word “Islam”.

Dr. Abdul Sajid, Islamic Scholar, Advisor to Tony Blair

III. The Extremist Mindset

D. The Extremist Goals

4. Usher in the coming of the Mahdi



III. The Extremist Mindset

D. The Extremist Goals



5. Bring the whole
world under Islam

“Islam is a revolutionary concept and a way of life, which seeks to change the prevalent social order and remold it according to its own vision. . .

Wherever there are governments opposed to its perspective, Islam aims to change them, regardless of where they function and the people they govern.

Sayyid Qutb, “In the Shade of the Quran”

“Its ultimate objective is to establish its way of life and to put in place governments that implement its program. Islam wants space--not a piece of the earth but the whole planet. . .

Sayyid Qutb, “In the Shade of the Quran”

Now what?
What should
Christians do?

I. Resist Prejudice.

- ✿ Islam is not a monolith; there are widely varied interpretations, practices, and attitudes.
- ✿ Most Muslims are normal people who just want to live their lives in peace.
- ✿ Tens of thousands of Muslims are also suffering at the hands of extremists.

2. Reject Fear.

“Do not fear what they fear. Do not be frightened. But in *your* hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to anyone who asks you to give a reason for the hope that you have. But do this with *gentleness and respect*, keeping a clear conscience . . .

1 Peter 3:15-16

3. Remember the bigger story.

“Our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.”

Ephesians 6:12

4. Really practice what Jesus taught.

Love

“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven.’”

Matthew 5:43-45

4. Really practice what Jesus taught.

Light

“Go into all the world and make disciples...”

Matt. 28:19-20

“...you will be my witnesses...” Acts 1:8

“You are the light of the world...” Matt. 5:14

5. Raise your voice—in prayer

“Finally dear brothers and sisters, we ask you to pray for us. Pray that the Lord’s message will spread rapidly and be honored wherever it goes. . . Pray too that we will be rescued from wicked and evil people.”

2 Thessalonians 3:2



Church in Homs, Syria

5. Raise your voice—to advocate

- ✿ Ten years ago there were 1.5 million Christians in Iraq; now no more than 300,000.
- ✿ Syria's 2 million-person Christian community is decimated.
- ✿ Egypt's 8 million Coptic Christians have experienced more persecution in the past 3 years than in the previous 600 years combined.

5. Raise your voice—to advocate

“It’s shocking to me that Americans are so silent in the face of our genocide. Please help us. Raise your voice for us. Our children are dying. In America you care for your pets so well, can you care for your Christian brothers and sisters who are suffering?” (An Iraqi nun)

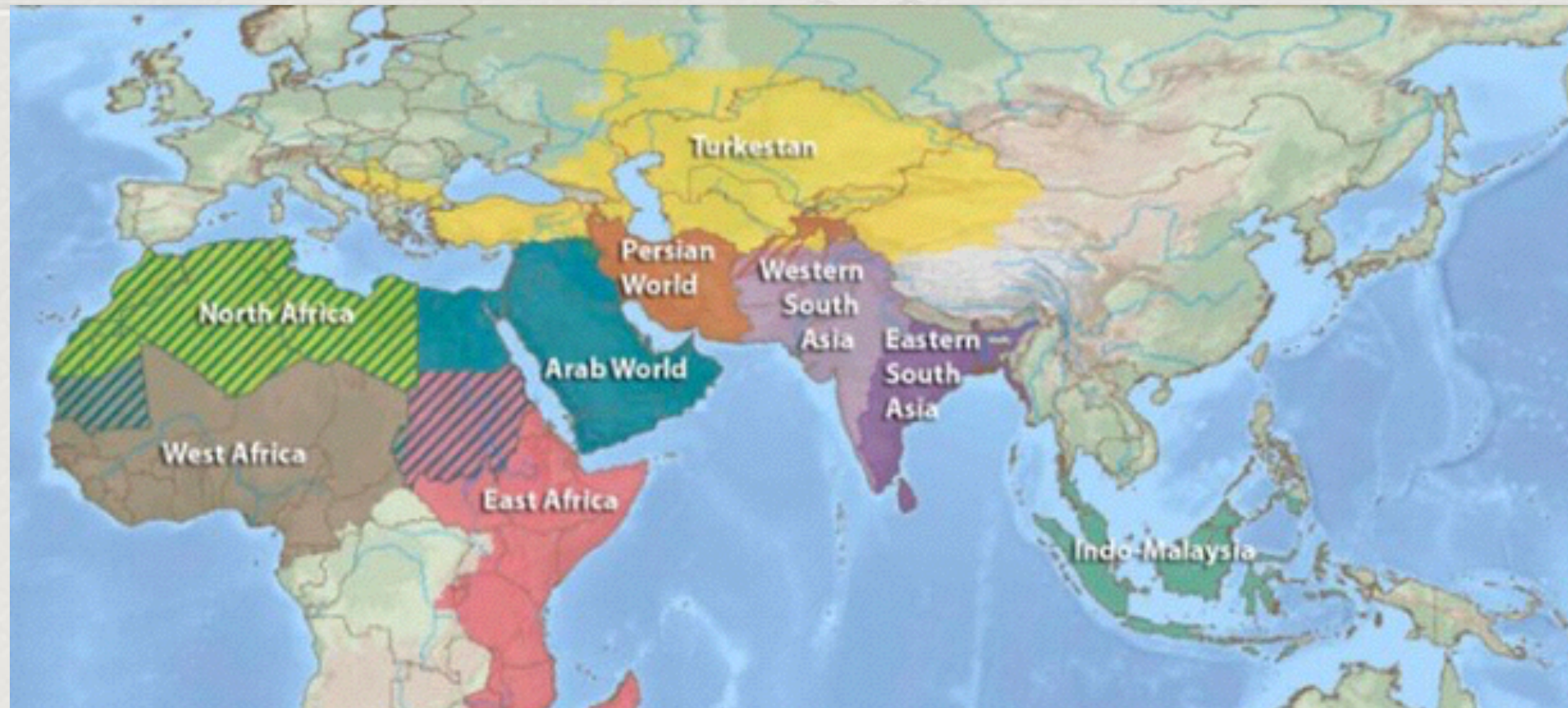
val@tlc.org

Iraqi Christian Refugees

World Relief

www.worldrelief.org

6. Re-ignite Hope



There is a wind in the
house of Islam!