UAE Islamic Extremism

By Patrick Conroy and Noah Spitz

UAE Prevention of Terrorism By Patrick Conroy

Hedayah

- Hedayah combats terrorism through peaceful means.
- Created in 2012 by 29 countries in the Global Counterterrorism Forum.
- Means Guidance in Arabic.
- Hedayah focus more on prevention, rather than reacting to already existing groups.
- Hedayah prevents terrorism by education.
- Hedayah aims "to counter violent extremism by promoting understanding and sharing of good practices to effectively serve as the true global center to countering violent terrorism." (Vision and Mission).
- Promotes tolerance, stability, and security.
- Wants prisons and religious schools to be reformed, for prisoners can become extremist, and religious schools could promote terrorism.
- Uses social media to stop terrorism.
- Wants victims of Terrorism to reveal their stories to youth.



The Tabah Foundation

- The goal of this organization is to reform Islam to how it used to be, stop terrorism, and go into more depth about the religion.
- Thinks that Islam today "suffers from a lack of holistic vision in diagnosing current problems." (Tabah Foundation Website)
- Has a Senior Council of Scholars, which are very important.
 - Dr. M Saeed Ramadan al-Bouti
 - Dr. Abdullah bin Bayyah
 - Dr. Nuh Al-Qudat
 - Dr. Ali Muhammad Jumua
 - al-Habib Umar bin Hafiz
- Key Goals are the following.
 - To bring together Islam, and make possible solutions to keep it together.
 - To bring together and grow Islamic "resources," (Tabah Foundation Website).
 - To create schools and universities studying and supporting their view of Islam.
 - "To bring and develop human resources." (Tabah Foundation Website).
 - To spread their message to the globe.



UAE Action

- Harsh crimes for terrorists, and will receive punishment from the full extent of the law.
- Punishments include Capital Punishment, Massive Fines, and a lifetime sentence in prison.
- Defined as "any action or inaction made a crime by this law and every action or inaction made a crime by any other law if they are carried out for a terrorist cause". (Gulf News).
- The UAE hopes this will deter people from being possible terrorists.
- The UAE takes terrorism very seriously.
- UAE considers its laws to be the most anti-terrorist in forty years.

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UAE Foreign Policy on Fundamentalism

By Noah Spitz

Separation of Mosque and State

- Keeping groups like the Muslim Brotherhood from having too much influence in politics.
- Take advantage of financial inequality
- Not respecting national boundaries
- Lead to eventual radicalization of society.
- So UAE foreign policy is very secular

Surrounding Nations

- Surrounded by Fundamentalist nations
- Close relationship with Saudi Arabia; stand together on many issues
- Joined the Saudi-led coalition that intervened in the Yemeni Civil War, which is still going on
- Giving aid to Arab leaders fighting fundamentalism

Muslim Dimension to International Affairs Beyond the Arab World

- Active participant in the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC)
- OIC is a "significant factor" in UAE's foreign policy
- Sheikh Zayed consistently calls for dialogue between Christian and Muslim nations

Humanitarian Policies

- Gave aid to Chechen Muslims during the Chechen/Russian Federation conflict in the 1990s
- Policy is based on UAE belief that the international community fails to help Bosnian and Chechen Muslims in distress, yet intervenes any time there is an Arab or Palestinian attack on Israel
- History of humanitarian actions dating back to the founding of the UAE in 1971

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