

# How to Pray for Militant Muslims

The majority of Muslims today are not involved in what is known as "Militant Islam". Statistics show that only 4% of Muslims are militant or fanatical, while most Muslims are moderate or nominal.

Militant Islam has its roots in the teachings of the Qur'an on "Jihad." "Jihad" is an Arabic term meaning "to strive and persevere in implementing God's law." The Qur'an, the Sunna and the Hadith all permit the use of force to implement God's law. This gave rise to the concept of "Dar-al-Harb" (the house of war), which focuses solely on warring against non-Muslims.

Unitl 1923, descendants of Muhammed functioned as the head of Islam, known as caliphs. Since the Caliphate was abolished in 1923, the Muslim world has experienced significant change. For the first time, Muslims lacked a religious/political leader to regulate their communal and spiritual life. But with the rise of Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini in 1979, resurgence in militant Islam rippled through the Muslim world. New Jihad movements were created based on the life of Muhammad, the Hadith, and the Qur'an.

The following verses from the Qur'an are used to justify Jihad:

Sura 61:4 "Truly Allah loves those who fight in His Cause in battle array as if they were a solid cemented structure."

Sura 9:111 "Allah hath purchased of the believers their persons and their goods/or theirs (in return) is the garden (of Paradise): they fight in His cause and slay and are slain: a promise binding on Him in truth through the Law the Gospel and the Qur'an: and who is more faithful to his covenant than Allah? Then rejoice in the bargain which ye have concluded: that is the achievement supreme."

Militant Muslims are at war with all forms of government that do not claim allegiance to their understanding of fundamental Islam. In recent years, militant Muslims have used a modern style of tribal warfare now known as "terrorism." Their objective is to kill as many as possible and destroy as much as possible in one single attack. They view themselves as soldiers in the army of God on a Jihad, and are involved in what many moderate Muslim scholars claim as the "lesser Jihad."

Jihad, Holy War, has always had a two-fold incentive: first, booty for this life and second, assurance of a blissful eternity for those killed in battle. Those who die in battle are called "Shuhada" (martyrs in Arabic), which is a misinterpretation of the true Arabic meaning.

Most Muslims acquire information about Christianity and western culture through the entertainment media. They view the Christian culture as decadent and worthless.

The Bible encourages us to pray for all people, including those who are fanatic and militant. The life of Paul is a prime example of God's grace and power; God changed Saul into the Apostle Paul. The Church never need fear religious fanatics, for the Grace of God is stronger. Have faith in God! 'The prayer of the righteous has great power and is effective.' James 5:16

## Prayer points

- Pray that the Holy Spirit will convict militant Muslims of righteousness and judgement as they see innocent people die.
- Pray the God sovereignly destroys their plans and produces in them a hunger after His true character.
- Pray for an awakening in their conscience to turn from their evil ways and to seek the Truth.
- Pray for Christians to portray authentic Christian conduct towards Muslims