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## **ARAB VIEWS ON BALKANS' MOSLEMS: AN ATTEMPT AT SHEDDING MORE LIGHT OF THE ROLE OF ISLAMIC FUNDAMENTALISTS**

Hundreds of books were written in the Arab world during the Bosnia and Kosovo wars, overwhelmed with rhetoric aimed at arousing a sense of Islamic solidarity. However, they have no scientific basis and are, therefore, of no academic value. They were either along the lines of the West's Balkan political campaign or were intended to elicit voluntary donations that were, more often than not, followed by large-scale financial scandals.

Among other, we could find the following books: a) Muhammad Abdul Qadir Ahmad, *Tragedy of Bosnia and Hezegovina* (Cairo, 1993); b) Adnan Ali Ridha al Nahawi, *The Epic of Bosnia and Herzegovina–Big Crime* (Riyadh, 1993); c) Ismail al Farhani, *The Preoccupations of a Moslem Journalist*, (Cairo, 1994); d) Hussam al Suwailam, *What is behind losing of Bosnia* (Cairo, 1993); e) Sami al Sakkar, *Moslems in Yugoslavia* (Riyadh, 1992); f) Ashraf Abdul Ghafar, *Coming from Bosnia and Herzegovina* (Alexandria, 1992); g) Ahmad Shibli, *A Warning Outcry From the Black Column in Bosnia and Herzegovina* (Alexandria, 1992); and so on and so on.

Some authors even resorted to preaching and rhetoric style to encourage collection of donations. Some others also resorted to the use of so-called printing errors when citing some suras from the Kur'an, without listing corrigenda that were made. And third ones turned to pathetic attacks against the symbols of our Arab

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nation, depicting Bosnians in such a way as to create an impression that they are better Moslems than the Arab Moslems themselves.

In the repertory of works by Ashraf Abdul Ghafar and some other authors, mistakes were made repeatedly (seven times) in citing verses from the Kur'an, without any effort, as we already said, to include the corrigenda to the "Printing Errors". An example of this is the verse cited by Jamal Abdul Naseer on page 31 of this book, where he describes a criminal and the Devil killing and torturing Moslems. It goes without saying that his ghastly descriptions abound in exaggerations, as he concludes: "My dears, this happened to a Moslem nation whose love for Islam is greater than that of some Arabs".

In a book like this, the reader – whether he likes it or not – cannot find anything of value, except for the message that the Humanitarian Aid Committee has released a "60 million pound" slogan. Every citizen is called on to contribute one pound in order to "save a nation (Bosnian)". Even if we take the good intentions of the Aid Committee for granted, how are we then to account for numerous financial scandals relating to the aid to Bosnia, worth millions. For example, why was former Bosnian Foreign Minister Muhamed Sacirbej imprisoned? Because he stole that money, of course. This and many other similar information has not been obtained from Bosnia's enemies, but precisely from their own Bosnian sources, printed media and others.

For this reason, it is also necessary to shed light on the insincerity of some fundamentalist structures in the Arab world that have raised their voice in support of Kosovo Albanian Moslems, irrespective of the fact that their claims are illegitimate. At the same time, these structures turn a blind eye and a deaf ear to the claims of other Moslems, despite the fact that their claims are legitimate.

For instance, does such approach mean that there is a difference between the Moslems of Kosovo and those of (FYR) Macedonia? Why are voluntary donations being collected for Kosovo Albanians and not for Macedonia's Albanians? Why are Kosovo drug rings branded as "liberation army" and rebels in Macedonia as "insurgents", and sometimes even as "terrorists"?

Why do the Islamic and the Arab worlds keep silent about this? How can one explain such an enormous concern on the part of the Islamic and Arab media for extending assistance to Kosovo refugees, while at the same time completely ignoring Palestinian refugees? Why aren't the fundamentalists more vocal also about the problems of all Moslems in the Balkans, rather than remaining silent about them?

### ***The survey of the books on Yugoslav crisis published in the Arab world***

A book ***The Epic of Bosnia and Herzegovina*** by **Adnan Ali Ridha al Nahawi**, published in 1993 in Riyadh, shows that its author is not familiar with the basic ethnic determinants and the geography of the region that he writes about. A conclusion can be drawn that the sources used in the book were translations of western "studies" and foreign media stories, rather than inherent knowledge of the facts and situation in this region. In other word, he knew nothing on subject that he that he wrote on and his main goal was to dispraise and humiliate the Serbs.

Moreover, the author further humiliated himself with regard to the knowledge of the language, claiming that in the Albanian language the word Kosmet means "jewel" (p.38). We do not know where this information comes from, because the word is solely used by the Serbs and has no meaning in Albanian. In fact, Kosmet is short for Kosovo and Metohija. Serbs insist on this name in order to assert their right to Kosovo, since the word "Metohija" is of a religious origin, taken over from the Greek language back in the Middle Ages, and it denotes property, the lands of the Orthodox Church, and its meaning is close to the meaning of the word "waqf" used by Moslems.

The author notes (p.68) that a Serb assassinated the Austro–Hungarian Crown prince on 28 June 1914, claiming that this was a "criminal assassination of the Grand Duke". We are convinced that the author is ignorant of the fact that a Serbian youth Gavrilo Princip belonged to the "Mlada Bosna" organization that fought against Austrian occupation of Bosnia. A member of this organization was also a Moslem warrior Muhamed Mehmedbasic who fought shoulder by shoulder with Gavrilo Princip, as well as many other Bosnian Moslems, while "the Grand Duke" was the occupier and colonizer.

The book entitled ***The Question of Bosnia and Herzegovina*** by **Akram al Zoghby**, published in 1993 in Damascus, does not differ from other writings that will be referred to herein. All these books are based on United States and western sources that neither like Islam nor wish it well. The author notes that he relied upon three sources in particular. One of them is "The New York Times" newspaper that makes references to CIA reports. The second is a report of a certain British woman author called Verbertown (?) and the third is the British newspaper "The Independent".

We can only imagine what conclusions are made knowing that they are based on CIA reports, the writings of the British lady and "The Independent" newspaper, particularly when the subject matter is the prevalence of Islam and the Moslems. The book also contains some humorous parts written ambiguously, but with a clear purpose. It says, for example, (p.31) that German is spoken in Croatia. The author

should at least know that the language spoken by Serbs, Croats and Bosnian Moslems is the same and has nothing to do with German.

Al Zoghby goes on to say (pp.29–30) that the region of Kosovo “separated from Albania and was attached to Serbia in spite of the fact that its inhabitants are Moslems, who are not of Slav origin”. This is absolutely untrue, because Kosovo never belonged to Albania, not for a moment. The state of Albania did not appear on the map before 1913. The London Conference of the great powers, held on the level of ambassadors on 29 August 1913, created the state of Albania as an independent principality. The title Duke of Albania was first offered to the Britishman Aubrey Herbert, but the British Government refused to support it. Thus, German Prince William von Wied became the Duke of Albania, arriving there on 14 March 1914.

Author’s claim that all inhabitants of Kosovo are Moslems implies that all inhabitants of Kosovo are Bosnian Moslems. This is not true, since the term Moslems, as used in the studies relating to the Balkans, refers to Slav Moslems in the former Yugoslavia. It would be correct to note that all the inhabitants of Kosovo are Albanian Moslems who are not Slavs. This is supported by the statistical data concerning the population of Kosovo by nationality (Albanians 76%, Moslems 3.7%, Turks 0.8%, etc)<sup>2</sup>. Accordingly, the word “Moslems” refers to a nationality and is not related in any way to other nationalities, such as Turks, although we know that Turks are Moslems. If it were for religious affiliation, they would all appear under the common name of “Moslems”.

On page 44, the author alleges that Serbs are not an indigenous people in Bosnia, which is absolutely untrue. He uses this assumption further on to draw erroneous conclusions. On page 58, the author states that the Serbs sent an ultimatum to the inhabitants of “Bihak”, a town of 70,000 at the time, requesting that they leave. This is an ample proof that the author is ignorant of facts relating to events, for the bloody conflict in the region around the town of Bihac and not “Bihak” was between the Fifth Corps of the Army of Alija Izetbegovic attacking the local Moslem forces of Bihac region under the command of Fikret Abdic. And both of them – Alija Izetbegovic and Fikret Abdic – are Moslems. On page 59, the author goes on to say that “The Serbs fought a war against Bosnian Moslems to ensure their access to the Adriatic Sea.” This in itself suffices to show how naïve and uninformed the author happens to be.

The author of this book believes (p.62) that the Serbian war against Bosnia required the intervention of the international community, that is, the factor known as the “new world order”, which is based on the so-called “world government reflected in the Security Council, tasked to oversee the implementation of the United Nations Charter”. How can

<sup>2</sup> Sinan Hassani and other authors, *Kosovo: Yesterday and Today*, Belgrade, „Institute for International Politics and Economy”, 1989, p. 211.

we evaluate such positions that emanate from the fact that the Security Council is a world government that interfered with Bosnian affairs in order to ensure the implementation of the UN Charter? It is necessary to work persistently to raise the awareness of Arab intellectuals to dismiss the relentless attacks of western propaganda aimed at justifying interference in the internal affairs of states in the name of the implementation of the UN Charter. At the same time, the Palestinian problem is being ignored, as the "world government" pays no heed to the very mention of Palestinians.

The author also says (p.70) that the "Bosnian leadership's rejection of the decisions of the 1993 Peace Conference was prompted by reasons of decency". He does not even know that Alija Izetbegovic had first accepted and signed the peace agreement (1992), but withdrew his signature later on, persuaded by US Ambassador Warren Zimmerman who promised that the US would back him. If he had not done that (withdrew his signature), the Bosnian problem would have come out of the dark tunnel before the tragic events took place in Srebrenica and elsewhere.

When reading the book *Bosnia and Herzegovina—from Independence to Tragedy* by **Dr. Muhammad Harb**<sup>3</sup>, we found out that the author has discredited himself by saying that "two armies, the Ottomans and the Crusaders, confronted each other in the Kosovo dessert (?) located west of Pristina, between Mitrovica and Skopja" (p.16). It is truly beyond our comprehension how the author managed to put all these things together, for there is no dessert in the region, which is actually a paradise on earth. The venue of the battle is called Kosovo Polje. In the very same place there is even today a village of about 10.000 population with the same name (Kosovo Polje), about 5 kilometers southwest of Pristina. It is not true that Kosovo Polje is located between Kosovska Mitrovica and Skopje, and it is even less true that Serbs are "friends of Crusaders". Irrespective of all their positive or negative features, they are historically and religiously the greatest enemies of Crusaders. They are proud of the fact that the Crusaders crossed the whole world without subjugating them to Vatican rule. The Vatican was successful in spreading its influence to other continents as well, but was unable to influence the Serbs, although only the narrow Adriatic Sea was between them.

The memoir of articles by **Dr. Asharaf Abdul Ghafar** and other authors was published by the "Aid Committee of the Union of Medical Practitioners" from Alexandria. Its purpose was to collect 60 million Egyptian pounds in assistance and to familiarize the Muslims with the Bosnian cause. The authors said: "Dear friends, the problem is an important one and it calls upon us to fight for two things: to collect donations and to familiarize the

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<sup>3</sup> Dr. Muhammad Harb, *Bosnia and Herzegovina: From Independence to Tragedy*, Cairo, "Egyptian Center for Ottoman Studies and Turkish World", 1993.

Moslems with the problem that they too may have to face.”<sup>4</sup>

We believe that the author and his co-authors have successfully completed the first assignment, but it is clear that they have obviously failed in the second one: they failed in the task of supplying the Moslems with truthful information. Negative qualifications have been used in referring to Nasser (p.8), describing him as a villain and devil, by saying: “Who is that man calling himself Marshall Tito, the teacher of Abdul Nasser and his educator? For he is the one who turned Nasser into Satan, by teaching him how to kill, arrest and torture Moslems.” They had met each other more than four times in single year. Tito told to Nasser: “Do to Egyptians same what I did to Moslems in Yugoslavia, and so on, and so on, forty five years, forty five years under the tyranny of that man”.

We are convinced that such words are pure nonsense that is not even worthy of any comment. Therefore, we will leave it to the distinguished readers to make their own judgment in this respect. Nevertheless, it is necessary to underline that Marshall Josip Broz Tito, as a revolutionary, warrior and statesman, is considered to be one of the greatest leaders of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Accordingly, the “second” Yugoslavia, established on 29 November 1945, is considered to be the best role model that provided common framework for South Slav nations to live together, whose foundations were laid by late Josip Broz Tito. In his day, the world could not hear of any tyranny against, or executions of, Yugoslav citizens. At that time, Yugoslav citizens were able to travel to any country, and to most of them without a visa, whether they were Moslem or Christian; Macedonian, Albanian or Croatian...

The author also qualifies the Serbs (p.49) as Crusaders by saying: “We therefore bring to the world’s attention that Serbia is waging a new crusade against the Moslems”. However, he does not know that catholic Croats can be considered as true Crusaders, the same catholic Croats with whom Bosnian leadership of Alija Izetbegovic made an alliance in the framework of a federation, already in the second year of the Bosnian war. This was later confirmed also in the Dayton Peace Agreement, signed in November 1995, and it’s Annex 11.

Therefore, this subject matter is not of a religious nature. This qualification was given to it by the powerful media in order to stir up religious sentiments so as to pursue the strategic interests of the great powers.

The author continues his slanted rhetoric by using terminology loosely. Therefore, on page 50, he says that “after all, the Dayton Peace Agreement recognized another

<sup>4</sup> Ashraf Abdul Ghafar and other authors, *Coming from Bosnia and Herzegovina*, Alexandria, “Aid Committee of the Union of Medical Practitioners”, 1992, p. 45.

Islamic republic in the world!" For the sake of truth, we must note that the new state is called the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and it is therefore not clear how the author came to the above conclusion.

At this point, we must say that every Moslem who holds Islam in high esteem would like to see it, of course, in the midst of Europe. However, this did not and will not happen, because the United States and Western Europe will not allow it, nor will they allow any Islamic creation to be established in the middle of the continent of Europe.

The book by **Dr. Ahmed Shibli** draws our attention to a warning sign coming from the "black column" in Bosnia and Herzegovina<sup>5</sup>, as its author links the "Moslem Brotherhood" movement in Egypt with the "Moslem Youth" in Bosnia (p.27). The author goes on to explain as if the "Moslem Brothers" movement and the ideas of Hassan al Banna were an ideal portrayal of the Arab and Islamic liberation movements.

Even a casual glance at the above text will clearly reveal the author's ignorance of the nature of the political, ethnic and geographical position of the regions being discussed. For, faith alone neither constitutes nor presupposes national unity. This situation is reminiscent of those one where an Iranian, Arab and Turk, all of them being Moslem, would meet and not understand each other because they speak different languages and lack common national sentiments and history.

Such books only serve to berate and throw abuse at the other side and show a lack of the necessary knowledge, particularly when claims are made in contradiction of historical or geographical facts. An example of this can be found on page 29, where the author says: "In 1941, the Serbs massacred 60,000 Moslems and threw them into the River Volga!!!" Thus, if the author is ignorant of history, is it normal for a doctor of science not to know geography and that the big River Volga flows through Russia, thousands of kilometers away from Bosnia? By the way, for the sake of truth, it would have been better if the author had told a historical truth by saying that the some Moslems of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as Hitler's collaborators in that war, had killed many more Serbs, than claimed in the above fabrication.

A book entitled ***Mass Murder Sites in Bosnia and Herzegovina–A New Andalusia in Europe*** by **Fawzi Muhammad Tail** was released<sup>6</sup>. In this book, the author uses strange names indicating that he failed to make an effort even to look at the map of the country he was writing about. When an Arab reader reads the texts of such authors as Dr. Fawzi Muhammad Tail, he tends to believe in what they write, because

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Ahmad Shibli, *A Warning Outcry From the Black Column in Bosnia and Herzegovina*, Alexandria, "Qait Bey", 1992.

<sup>6</sup> Fawzi Muhammad Tail, *Mass Murder Sites in Bosnia and Herzegovina, a New Andalusia in Europe*, Cairo, "Zahra-Arab Publications", 1992, p. 19.

he believes in their acumen and knowledge, and trusts that they were familiar with national name references and notions they were writing about. At the same time, we would like to point out that this, unfortunately, is not often the case, to the surprise of knowledgeable readers. Therefore, God help the Arab readers wishing to improve their knowledge by reading such books.

In order to whip up the readers' anger and hatred, the author makes the following accusation: "The Moslems of Sanjak in Serbia are deprived of all rights and are treated as second rate citizens." We ourselves visited Sanjak several times, before and during the war, as well as Novi Pazar, the biggest town in the area. During war in Bosnia, we personally requested then President of Yugoslavia to help us in visiting Novi Pazar. We spent some time in that city in September 1995 and we saw on the spot the life of the people in Novi Pazar. Their plight reflected an objective picture of Yugoslav Moslems that was completely different than the lies and propaganda of war lords and colonialist media. On the contrary, it confirmed once again our conclusion that war in Bosnia was not religious one derogating by itself Western biased propaganda<sup>7</sup>.

Neglecting scientific approach and building on faulty facts, Fawzi Muhammad Tail elaborated the question which states had been in Communist bloc after the Second World War (p. 74). He claimed that Communist bloc "consisted of a number of countries from Eastern Europe including one Islamic state, Bosnia and Herzegovina (exactly in those words!), Kosovo, Yugoslavia and Albania". We confute such claims once again wondering how this author could even claim that Bosnia Herzegovina was state. We even do not understand why he insisted on omitting word 'and' between these two geographic notions. So as Kosovo, this has never ever had any statehood. What Islamic states this author is talking about?

We would like to emphasize that foreign policy of any country should not be based on religious factor despite its big importance. According the criteria of Fawzi Muhammad Tail, foreign policy of Greece should be described as bad one since that country is not Islamic one. But, we believe that policy of Greece toward Arabs is much better than policy of Turkey. For, official Turkey is much better position to Israel than to the Arabs. Its international policy clearly confirms such conclusion taking into consideration either Turkey's military alliances or its "maneuvering" related to the water curses of Euphrates and Tigris in Arab countries and its hard position on pipelines described in project by the name of "Peace".

The book of **Ismail al Farhani** is not different among other book full of rhetoric directed to boost religious solidarity neglecting completely the scientific approach

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<sup>7</sup> More in: Dr Jaafar Abdul Mehdi Saheeb, *Orthodox Serbs: Denigrated Nation*, Tripoli, "Dar ul Nahla", 1997, p. 116.

and even the logic<sup>8</sup>. The book is nothing but list of incriminations. As an eyewitness, we repent spending of our time on reading the thoughts showing author's deep ignorance on the subject and having no logical sense. Boosting of religious feelings could be positive and useful and we do not disagree with al Farhani on that matter. But, religious feelings can not contradict the facts and logic. For, true faith is the first enemy of ignorance.

Al Farhani too used some examples that exposed his ignorance of history and geography. Or, maybe al Farhani knew the situation of Moslems in Yugoslavia better than Belgrade's mufti sheikh Hamdija Jusufspahic? Yugoslav mufti said: "NATO has no wish to help us"<sup>9</sup>. He confirmed his opinion in the interview to the magazine "Free Bosnia" published in Sarajevo: "NATO would like to impose its rule over Moslems in Europe. I am convinced in that and I firmly believe in that. For, the war of NATO against Yugoslavia is Crusaders' war with the goal to destroy the Islam in the region"<sup>10</sup>. We add that proverb says: "A Qureish knows better than the simple people from Mecca".

The credibility of Yugoslav mufti is clearly verified by his own curriculum. Born in 1937, he graduated at University "Al Azhar" in Cairo<sup>11</sup> where he finished postgraduate studies as well. He is Mufti of Belgrade since 1968 and he is one of the founders of Islamic Council of Europe based in London. He is Vice-president of the World Alliance of Cans and Hafizes besides being member of almost all Islamic organizations in former Yugoslavia. He is currently President of Islamic Majlis in Serbia and Mufti of Belgrade. He received much recognition all over the world and he was decorated by many Arabic and Islamic honors such as Medal of Egyptian Nile, Medal of Islamic Conference in Pakistan etc.

### **Arab Fundamentalists – Followers of the West**

Before, during and after the aggression of NATO against Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in March–June 1999, most of the Arab media started to compete in deliberating on Kosovo's Albanians. The solidarity with a Moslem nation, exposed to "extermination" by Serb authorities, was mainly expressed. One should note that the extent of treatment of Kosovo in Arab media was much more less than in the case of Bosnia.

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<sup>8</sup> Ismail al Farhan, *The Preoccupations of a Moslem Journalist: Sacrilege of Time*, Cairo, "Bookshop Madbuli", 1994, p. 79.

<sup>9</sup> The statement of President of Islamic Majlis in Serbia sheikh Hamdija Jusufspahic to Austrian newspaper "Volkstampt", Vienna, 22.05.1999.

<sup>10</sup> "Free Bosnia", No. 1224, Sarajevo, 3. 4. 1999, p. 18.

<sup>11</sup> One of the oldest universities in the world. Best known by its sophistication in theology, this University has been established in 11. century in Cairo firmly preserving traditions of Sunni Moslems (trans. remark.).

For example, on occupied Arab soil, in Palestine, during so called Kosovo crisis a huge protest rally was held (organized by Hamas – trans. remark) for expressing of solidarity with Kosovo’s Albanians. The most absurd thing was that demonstrators requested NATO to intensify the bombardment of Yugoslavia and Serbia. The Organization of Islamic Conference was very active in supporting Kosovo’s Albanians and requesting of abolishment of “Serbian dictatorship”. Many Arabic and Islamic symposia were held on Kosovo affairs. For instance, the symposium organized by “Center for the Studies of Arab Unity” on May 31<sup>st</sup>, 1999. The fundamentalists were passionately engaged in “defense” of Kosovo’s Albanians through TV networks and other electronic media in Arab world, as well as in many other ways.

Some Arab media strongly focused on Kosovo and their only priority was to force Arab and Islamic public opinion in siding with Albanians and support of previously totally unknown “Kosovo Liberation Army”. Many Islamic (information) committees were established throughout Europe in order to consolidate the supporting Kosovo’s Albanians cause – for example, “Kuwait Association for Social Reforms” or “Islamic Salvation Committee”.

On one poster was written: “Support Kosovo people that is on historic temptation”. On the bottom one could see the account number at Kuwait Investment Bank as well as telephone numbers and hotline numbers. Even the brotherly United Arab Emirates joined the campaign to collecting the money for Kosovo’s Albanians. Besides, they sent 1.300 soldiers to serve in the “international” military forces stationed in Kosovo.

One could say ‘So, that’s good’. For, that was the thing which could rein us up, having in mind that every single Moslem heart is sensitive when other Moslems suffering. If only that was truly case in approaching all oppressed Moslems in the world. Only then such actions would have been coherent and positively accepted. But, we have to be more cautious in such situation since those activities were induced by outside Arab and Moslem world, primarily by US and its allies in NATO.

If we look back on the things that we said, one should pose, for example, a question ‘aren’t Macedonia’s Albanians are those who deserve our support and aid as well’. And, another question follows immediately. Why Islamic fundamentalists have expressed no solidarity with Macedonia’s Albanians as it was in the case of Kosovo’s Albanians? Finally, why Arab media pays not attention to Macedonia’s Albanians leastwise comparing to the attention given to Kosovo’s Albanians?

Why there were no demonstrations and rallies on the streets in Arabic and Islamic cities supporting the rights of Macedonia’s Albanians although their quests could be also justified? Why Macedonia’s Albanians were portrayed as ‘rebels’ or ‘separatists’

while secessionist mobs in Kosovo became 'liberation army' even though their claims were totally illegitimate? What behind such obvious double standards? Does that mean that Macedonia's Albanians are second class Moslems?

Why, why and why?

In order to answer these questions, one should realistically and honestly admit that NATO was only keen, exclusively and solely, to remove the obstacle to its further Eastward conquests, obstacle called Yugoslavia, particularly Serbia. That country was such stumbling block to Western world-lords that they attributed to her, through their powerful political and media machinery, every single evil and villainy. West spared no money to dismantle and destroy Yugoslavia and particularly Serbia. So we faced such paradox that separatist movements were described as 'revolutionary' and 'liberation armies'. How unbelievable and tragic, isn't it?

But, if these things are natural for America and Europe, what is then natural for fundamentalists in Arab and Islamic world? There is no convincing answer but to describe our fundamentalists loyal to West as unionists loyal to their Vatican. Accordingly, West has described separatist mobsters in Kosovo as 'liberation army' – same was done by fundamentalists in Arab and Moslem world. US and Europe turned blind eye on quests of Macedonia's Albanians – therefore, Arabic and Islamic fundamentalists are silent, without any intention to raise their voice.

Hence, it could be claimed that fatwas and declarations on supports to Moslems were hammered out on Atlantic Ocean. That was the only reason why fundamentalists from Arabic and Islamic countries were so silent about the sufferings of other Moslems. That confirmed, unfortunately, just one thing – fundamentalists in Arab and Moslem world do not think by their own heads. Often, they are puppets on the strings of NATO's planners.

Fundamentalists in Arab and Moslem world use our faith in a very bad manner, abusing it in the interest of daily politics. They mortify their faith in accordance to the needs of those forces in the world that are interested just for egoistic increase of their own power.

## **Abstract**

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### **ARAB VIEWS ON BALKANS' MOSLEMS : AN ATTEMPT AT SHEDDING MORE LIGHT OF THE ROLE OF ISLAMIC FUNDAMENTALISTS**

Hundreds of books were written in the Arab world during the Bosnia and Kosovo wars, overwhelmed with rhetoric aimed at arousing a sense of Islamic solidarity. However, they have no scientific basis and are, therefore, of no scientific value. They were either along the lines of the West's Balkan political campaign or were intended to elicit voluntary donations that were, more often than not, followed by large-scale financial scandals. For this reason, it is also necessary to shed light on the insincerity of some fundamentalist structures in the Arab world that have raised their voice in support of Kosovo Albanian Muslims, irrespective of the fact that their claims are illegitimate. At the same time, these structures turn a blind eye and a deaf ear to the claims of other Muslims, despite the fact that their claims are legitimate.

In order to answer these questions, one should realistically and honestly say that NATO was only keen, exclusively and solely, to remove the obstacle to its further conquests, obstacle called Yugoslavia, particularly Serbia. That country was such obstacle to Western world-lords that they attributed to her, through their powerful political and media machinery, every single evil and villainy. West spared no money and means to dismantle and destroy Yugoslavia and particularly Serbia. So we faced such paradox that separatist movements were described as 'revolutionary' and 'liberation armies'.

Yet, if these things are natural for America and Europe, what is then natural for fundamentalists in Arab and Islamic world? There is no convincing answer but to describe our fundamentalists loyal to West as unionists loyal to their Vatican. Fundamentalists in Arab and Moslem world use our faith in a very bad manner, abusing it in the interest of politics. They mortify their faith in accordance to the needs of those forces in the world that are interested only for egoistic increase of their own power.

**Key words:** Balkans, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo and Metohija, Fundamentalism an Arab and Moslem world, NATO, Arabic studies on Moslems in former Yugoslavia.