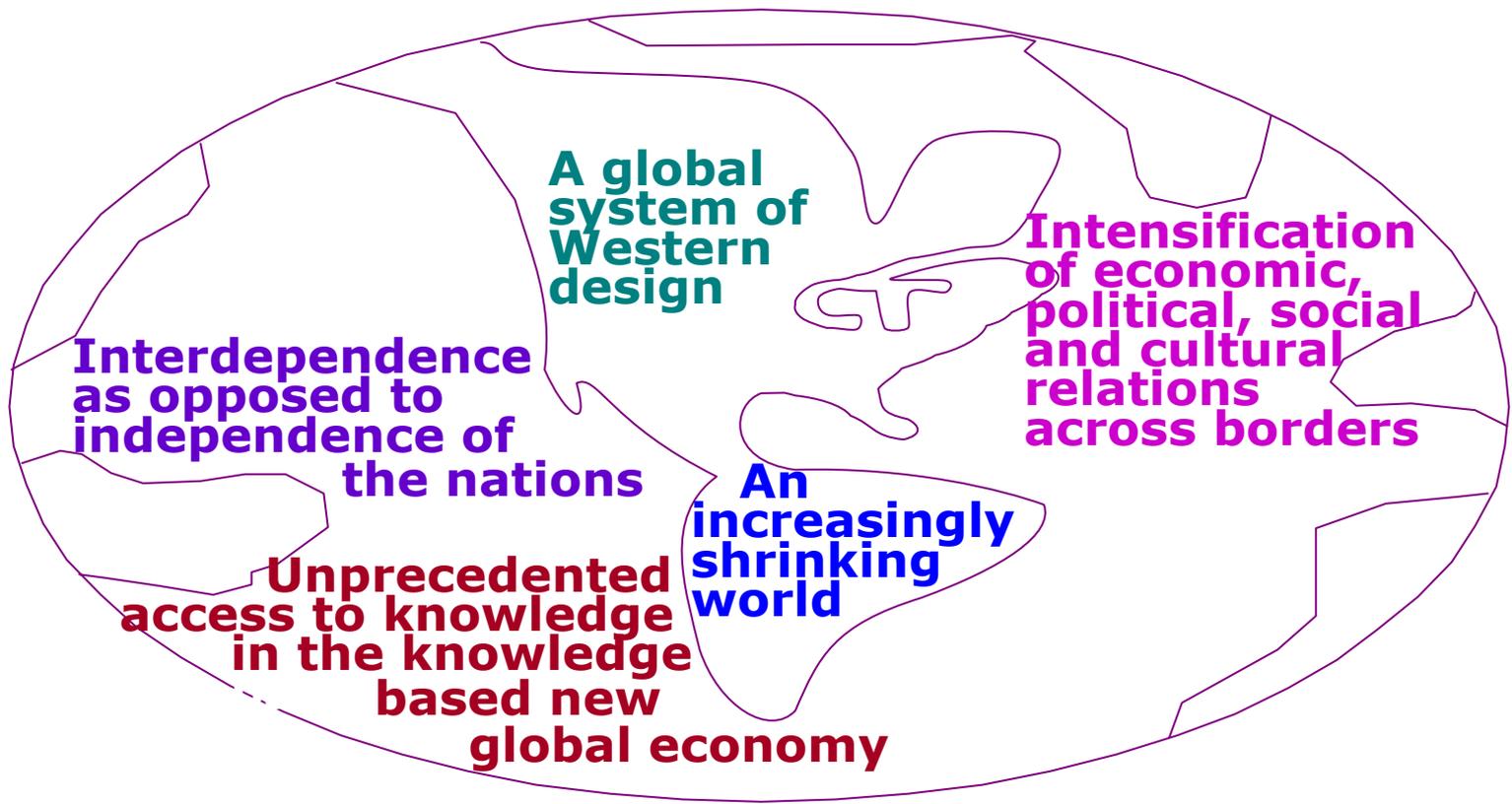


Unprepared, Unwilling and Unfit: The Muslim in the Age of IT

by

Naheed Zia Khan

**Fatima Jinnah Women University
Rawalpindi**



Globalization in the Age of IT

Globalization: Three Keys

Opening

the Doors

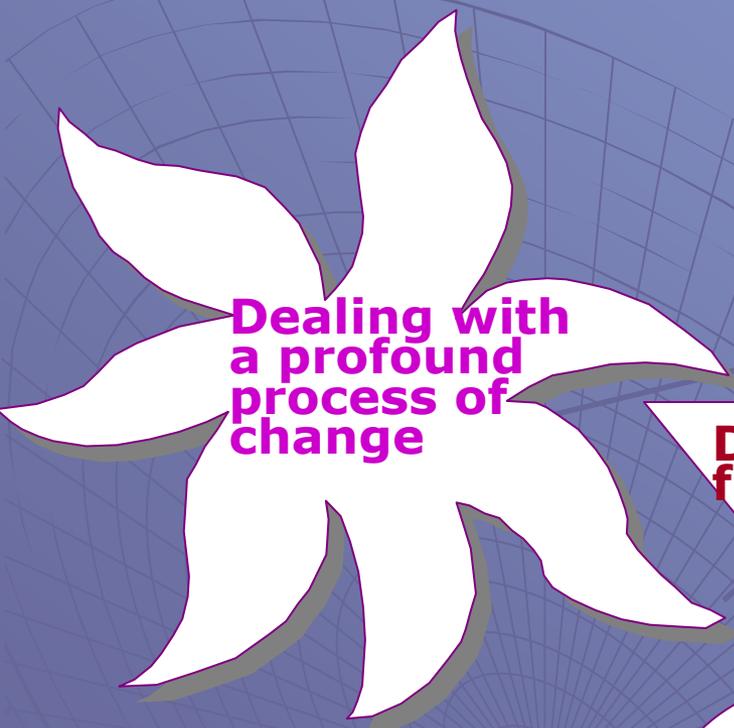
to Development

**Developing
technological
capabilities**

**Technology
acquisition &
adaptation**

**Utilization,
creation &
possessio
n of
knowledge**

Globalization: Challenges



Dealing with
a profound
process of
change



Moral and political
concerns about
good life and good
society



Divisive cultural
fundamentalism



Limits set to
globalization
by counter-
trends



Tribalism



Theological Shades of Global Sociology

Differences in sociological phenomena very often arising from ideological differences

The oldest and the strongest of the ideological differences have always been associated with the theological phenomena

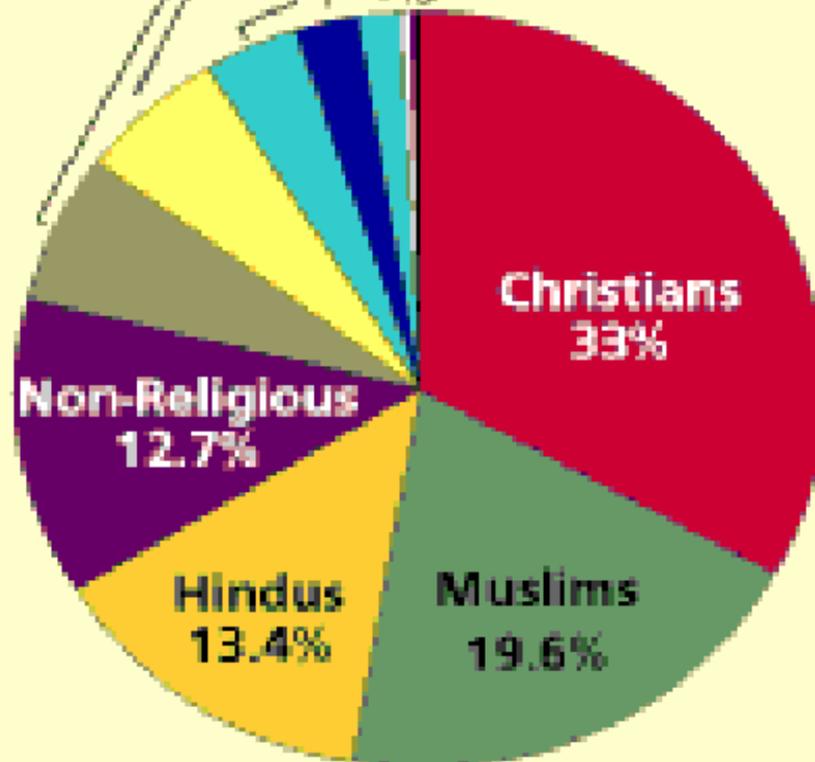
Muslims who account for one fifth of the humanity are particularly going through various kinds of pressures of the rising tide of globalization

Religious Adherents as a Percentage of World Population in 2000

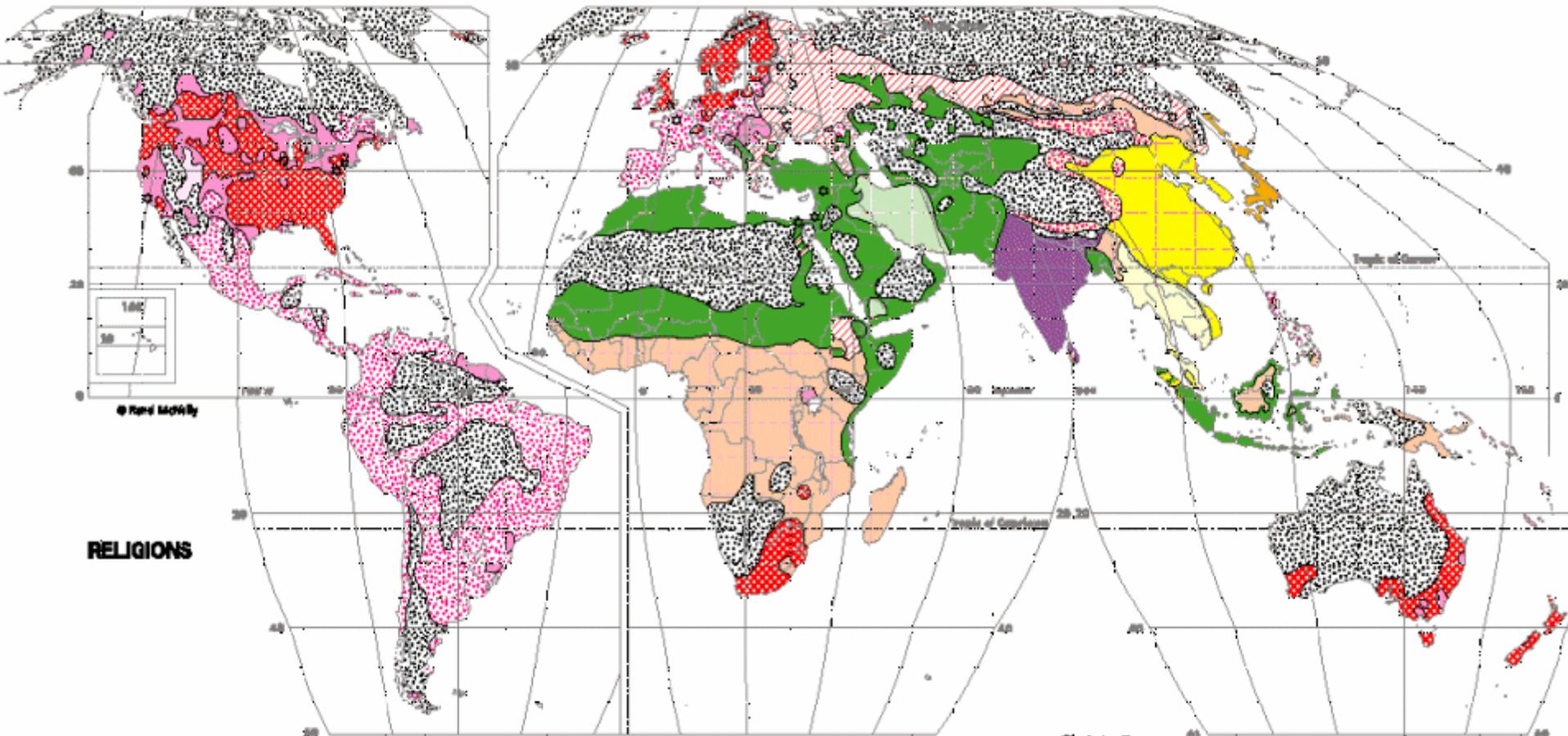
Figure 2

Atheists 2.5%
Ethno Religionists 3.8%
Buddhists 5.9%
Chinese Folk 6.4%

New Religionists 1.7%
Sikhs .4%
Jews .2%
Others .4%



Global Religious Map



RELIGIONS

- Southern Buddhism
- Chinese Religion (Confucianism, Taoism and Buddhism superimposed and more or less fused)
- Japanese Religion (Shinto and Buddhism superimposed)
- Islam: Sunni Muslims
- Islam: Shi'ah Muslims

- Lamaism (Northern Buddhism)
- Hinduism
- Tribal Religions
- ☪ Judaism (important minorities, chiefly in cities)
- Religion Undifferentiated

Christianity

- Roman Catholic (Western Rite)
- Eastern Churches (Ethiopia, Armenian, Coptic, Assyrian, Nestorian and Roman Catholic of Eastern Rite.)
- Protestantism
- Mormonism
- Christianity, sect not distinguished

After a map compiled by the Office of the Geographic, Department of State

The Muslim World: Geographical Span

Arab League



Pakistan



Turkey



Bangladesh



Afghanistan



Indonesia



Malaysia



Uzbekistan



Tajikistan



Kyrgyzstan



Kazakhstan



Turkmenistan



Azerbaijan



Iran

States with sizeable Muslim population, mainly India and some of the countries in Sub-Saharan Africa

The Muslim World: Social and Economic Dynamics

Religious and cultural diversity

Harmonious coexistence with Christians, Jews, Zoroastrians and other religious groups

Second largest religion of the humankind with the growing share in the world population

Barring Turkey and Malaysia, all of the countries almost belonging to the traditional society of the Rostow's stages of growth

Community as a whole alarmingly deficient on development, progress and sustainability indicators

The Muslim World: Major Dilemma

The continuation of the age-old tradition of inert following and obedience at all levels of social and political organization

Versus

Initiative, enterprise and self-reliance along with pragmatic apportioning of the three phenomena, namely, dogmatic beliefs, uncomplaining endurance and unquestioned obedience

Grand Design: The Eternal Scrolls

It's All Written There

Dynamic character of the Grand Design

The organic phenomena are inherently more prone to change and the change is also a lot more visible

Ideas are living organism and, in the paradoxical scheme of the Grand Design, they are the intangible counterpart of the tangible objects

The social, political and economic structures are organic entities and they live, grow and develop till the ideas are reproducing

Muslim Societies: The Past and Present

Yesterday

**Medieval Islamic
rationalism being
consonant with
modern enlightenment**

Today

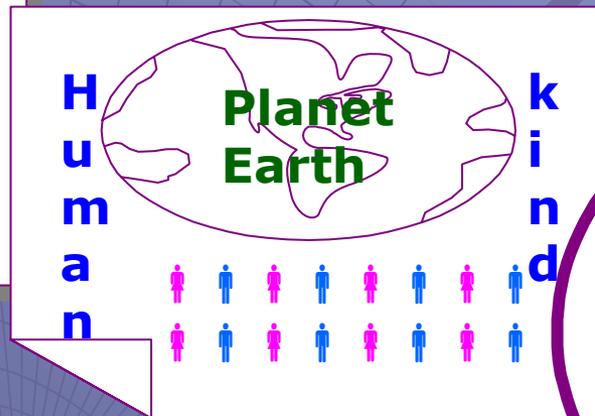
**Failure of the medieval
Islamic rationalism to
travel forward into the
future, making the natural
law in Muslim societies to
take its inevitable
retrogressive course**

Globalization, IT and Cross-cultural Dialogue

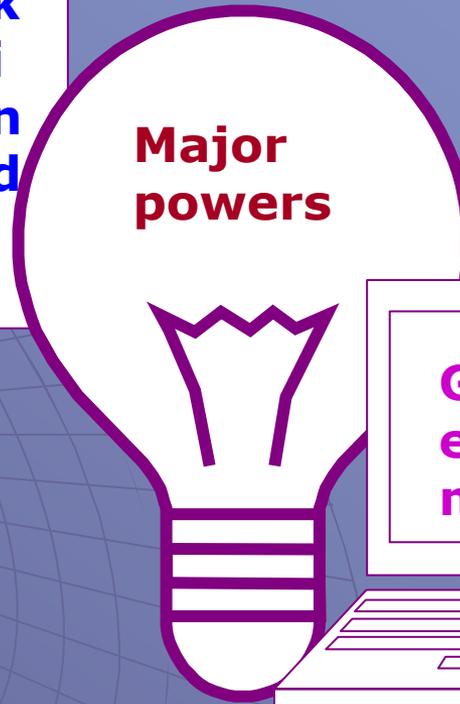
Destination



Stakeholders



Arbitrators



Mediator



Arbitrators: Balance Sheet

No sympathetic response to the plight of the Afghan and Iraqi citizens from the influential quarters of the *global village*

Precision bombing and machine-gun bullets of the self-righteousness threatening the survival of the planet more than the alleged bombs of Islamic fundamentalism

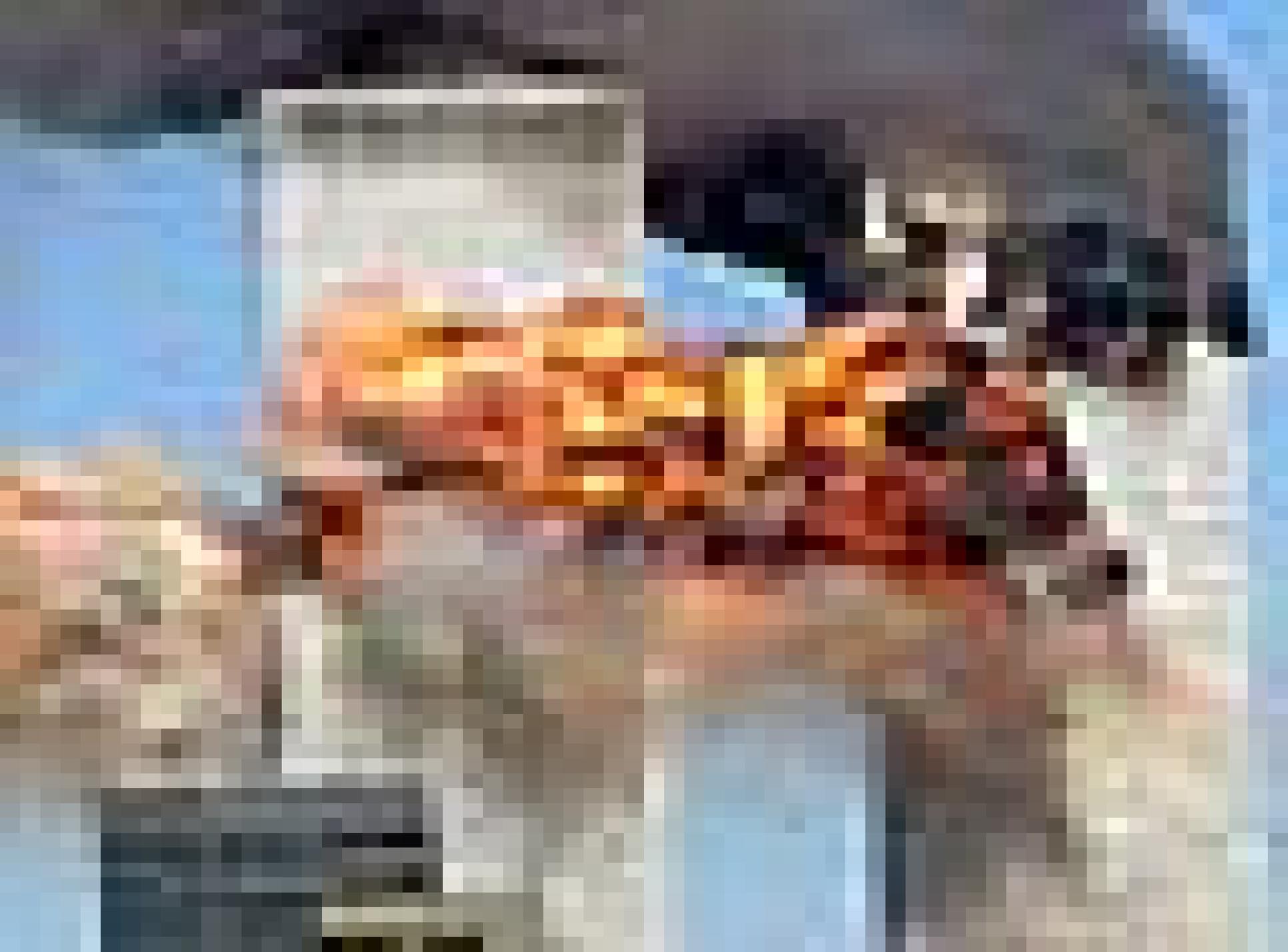
A success story of Putting the Muslim world at the defensive, causing a feeling of political and spiritual defeat at a time when the Crusaders resurrected from distant past of Holy Roman Empire appear to be invincible

Mediator: Management's Slogan



Image is Imagination





Arbitrator, Mediator and the Accomplished Accomplices

The orthodox Muslims

**Conceited
attitudes**

Ignorance

**Complacently
unperceptive
beliefs**

**Immutable
Islamic social
system**

**All embracing
essential culture valid
without further
accommodation for all
times, places and
peoples**

***True Islamic behavior:
the social and cultural
practices of the 7th
century Arabia and
early Muslim empires***

**The process
did not continue
into the modern
times for about
last two centuries**

**An organic system offering
pragmatic regulations for life
as an organic whole**

***Post-Quranic and
constructed Islamic Law.***

**In addition to the Quran and Suuna as primary
sources, the legal techniques of analogy deduction,
qiyas, and *consensus doctorum, ijma*, also evolved
as secondary possibilities for defining laws**

The Dynamic Spirit of Islam

World Political and Economic Map

A world divided into regions

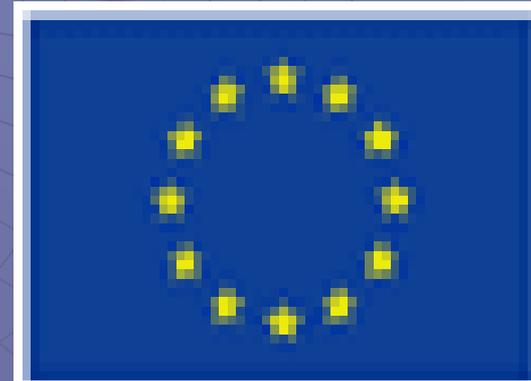
The rhetoric, symbols and gestures vs. turn coat economic and political strategies



OIC Versus NATO



OIC Versus EU



A Winners Strategy for the Muslim

The actions, not the words, for improving the welfare of the masses on this earth with normative interventions ensuring:

Pragmatism

Consistency

Continuity

Sustainability

Progress of the Muslim: Road Signs



Enhancing the religious tolerance and understanding of diverse views and ways of modern life

Ensuring prudence, political realism and pragmatism in public life regulations

Breaking into the heavily guarded coliseums of scientific and technological knowledge and claiming the property rights

Finding strength in collectivity through individual countries' responses to the internal dynamics and external interfaces within an increasingly global environment

Long Live Pakistan



Thank You