

the end goal is to reach the Heavenly Father.

2. This provides a spiritual understanding, where a person prays as Jesus prayed that the will of the Heavenly Father be done and not his own will and is strengthened by the Holy Spirit in that process. This is the spiritual Trinity.

3. There is a theological Trinity, where it is stated that the Word of God eternal and not created in time.

4. There is a linguistic expression of Trinity, where the word 'God' is used for not only, God the creator, but also his Word and his Spirit. This is done to emphasise the eternity of the Word of God.

5. The misunderstanding of linguistic expression of Trinity can lead to spiritual modalism and spiritual tritheism.

6. Quran supports biblical and spiritual Trinity. Quran does not comment on the theological Trinity. Quran mildly advises against the linguistic expression of the Trinity, as they can lead to modalism and tritheism. Quran strongly criticises spiritual modalism and spiritual tritheism. Quran also criticises the use of dirty words for God, such as a biological son (Walad) of God. However, the Quran never says that Christians say God has a biological son (Walad).

7. In summary, Christianity is as monotheistic as Judaism and Islam, with just a different linguistic expression for its monotheistic beliefs.

8. Muslims should know that when Christians say Jesus is God, they mean Jesus is Word of God, and Word of God is eternal. Suppose they want to ask Christians, whether they consider Jesus as God in the way the word God is understood in ordinary language. In that case, they should ask them if Jesus is the Heavenly Father, who created the heavens and earth, and they will get the answer is negative.

9. Christians should avoid the words like Son of God, as Muslims might understand it in biological terms. They can find common terms, like Word of God for Jesus, and Creator for Heavens Father and they can find common ground to talk to each other.

10. Here, we have argued that the Quran can be reinterpreted in a way that it promotes a deeper understanding of Christianity, rather

than its rejection. As Quran states in 5:48 To thee We sent the Scripture in truth, confirming the scripture that came before it and guarding it in safety... So Quran is an explanation, guard and affirmation of the Bible and not a negation of the Bible.

Sometimes, in Islamic theology, this point has been missed. For example, the identification of Holy Spirit with Gabriel in Islamic theology seems to miss the point that if Quran used it in a Christian context (in relation with Jesus), its meaning has to be restricted to what Christians would understand from it. Similarly, sometimes Christians seem to be to fixed on the use words, that they do not focus on the meaning of those words. However, the concept of God in Christianity is similar to the concept of God in Judaism and Islam. So Christianity is monotheistic like Judaism and Islam.

Jacobsen: Thank you very much, Dr Faizal, these views may help build bridges between Christianity and Islam, having a theological reconciliation can help develop a way for political reconciliation and will help the cause of peace in the world. (Return to contents)

Covid-19

By Lucaa del Negro

Coronavirus: do we need today some information of a theological nature we must look at or is the scientific methodology the only reliable source?



I think one does not rule out the other. In any case, these are choices and not just personal preferences as it would seem.

The civil society in which we live, for that sort of thing, has already chosen a path for us. Above all, our children are those who are most *educated* for this: rights and duties already have a specific *new order* that the full-blown pandemic has brought. It is not so?

To start with, let us carefully examine the

Burial place of a companion (r) of the Holy Prophet (s).



words: "educated" and "new order, written above".

Although the hope is what drives us when we let science decide for us, without judging, waiting for a confirmation or denial, I do not think the "other option" I suggested for this article (the choice to approach theology) should be lost in the discussion. Reading the history of humanity, we find that theology faced pandemics, well before science. Yet if we look closely at what is happening in the world today, it seems, that states (the containers of civil societies) seem to push families not to consider this approach or at least to underestimate it.

The main reason for avoiding the Holy Scriptures is almost always the same, and it only changes if used in one corner or another of the world: the danger of gratuitous violence by the faithful called "extremists". This is to me very strange, also retracing the so-called civil and secular history.

The Abrahamic religions and, in particular Islam, never favour pathogens, the spread of deadly viruses: this is the theme!

Religion, again Islam in particular, teaches us to verify quality food and details, personal hygiene, clothes, etc. in an almost maniacal way. All this, and much more, to contain the spread of diseases as much as possi-

ble, and to maintain the well-being of the individual, maintaining high respect for life itself.

Yet this is not the point I would like to add. It will certainly not be useless, but too obvious. We agree: the exercise of civil rights, human and political, cannot be limited by any regulation or condition of a religious or ecclesiastical

nature in all non-theocratic societies at least, but, if "education" and "new order" come to conflict with spiritual freedom, could we at least discuss them before having forcefully to accept them?

Make no mistake: this hypothetical divergence of ideas must be inserted more precisely in liberal and non-oppressive contexts; bringing the highest values concerning humanity and the coexistence of People must always be in the foreground.

That is the point: are we able to deal with the institutions by making a contribution that could also be considerably different from what they might want to impose?

Law, with insubstantial differences between states, in which we live during this pandemic, is legislating in terms of "social distancing" and "discrimination", including that drastic "lock-down". The "evil" should not be "circumscribed" and worse "hidden", "avoided" at discretion but fought without imposing choices based on that ancient Latin phrase (with a long European tradition, well absorbed by the Anglo-Americans and partly by the already colonised Easterners) "*Mors tua vita mea*". (Your death is my life) TWITTER: @MshAllh_theBook <https://mashallah-book.com/>

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