

- [Saudi Sheik Muhammad al-Munajjid](#) (1962 - ) - well-known Islamic scholar, lecturer, author, Wahhabi cleric. The fatwa taken from his popular Islam Q&A website explains in detail quoting many core texts in *Why Do Muslims Wage Jihad?*

"The issue is historic, religious, and ideological. It is impossible ever to make peace with the Jews; we must not [enter into] a pact with them, we must not [sign] a treaty with them - despite those who maintain otherwise, who are Jews just like the Jews. There is no hiding from the evil of the Jews; there is no concealment from their deception. The Jews are defiled creatures and satanic scum. The Jews are the helpers of Satan. The Jews are the cause of the misery of the human race, together with the infidels and the other polytheists. Satan leads them to Hell and to a miserable fate. The Jews are our enemies and hatred of them is in our hearts. Jihad against them is our worship... " ([Al Minbar sermon](#))

"This is the greatest benefit of the situation: educating the children to Jihad and to hatred of the Jews, the Christians, and the infidels. This is what is needed now..." ([Al Minbar sermon](#))

"We must unite around those who talk of the Islamization of the cause... If we say that the cause is an Arab cause, there are among us Christian Arabs, and infidels... and Socialists. What do all these have to do with Al-Aqsa Mosque?!" ([Al Minbar sermon](#))

***Why do Muslims wage jihad?*** ([Fatwa No. 34647 IslamOnline](#))

Praise be to Allaah.

Allaah has enjoined jihad for His sake upon the Muslims, for the great benefits that result from that and because of the harm caused by abandoning jihad, some of which are mentioned in Question no. 34830.

Some of the reasons why jihad for the sake of Allaah is prescribed in Islam are as follows:

**1 – The main goal of jihad is to make the people worship Allaah alone and to bring them forth from servitude to people to servitude to the Lord of people.**

Allaah says (interpretation of the meaning):

[Quotes [Q - 2:193](#), and [Q - 8:39](#)]

Ibn Jareer said:

So fight them until there is no more shirk, and none is worshipped except Allaah alone with no partner or associate, and trials and calamities, which are disbelief and polytheism, are lifted from the slaves of Allaah on earth, and religion is all for Allaah alone, and so that obedience and worship will be devoted to Him alone and none else.

Ibn Katheer said: Allaah commands us to fight the kuffaar so that there will be no fitnah, i.e., shirk, and the religion will all be for Allaah alone, i.e., the religion of Allaah will prevail over all other religions.

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: “I have been commanded (by Allaah) to fight the people until they testify that there is no god but Allaah and that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allaah, and they establish regular prayer and pay zakaah, then if they do that, then they save their lives and property from me except for Islamic laws and then their reckoning will be with Allaah.” Narrated by al-Bukhaari (24), Muslim (33).

And he (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: “I have been sent just before the Hour with the sword, so that Allaah will be worshipped alone with no partner or associate.”

Narrated by Ahmad, 4869; classed as saheeh by al-Albaani in Saheeh al-Jaami’, 2831.

This purpose of jihad was present in the minds of the Sahaabah ... Al-Bukhaari (2925) narrated that Jubayr ibn Hayyah said: ... Our Prophet, the Messenger of our Lord, (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him), commanded us to fight you until you worship Allaah alone or pay the jizyah. Our Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) told us the message from our Lord, that whoever among us is killed will go to Paradise to enjoy delights such as no one has ever seen, and whoever among us is left will become your master.”

When ‘Uqbah ibn Naafi’ reached Tangiers, he rode his horse into the water until the water was up to its chest, then he said: “O Allaah, bear witness that I have done my utmost, and were it not for this sea I would have travelled throughout the land fighting those who disbelieve in You, until none is worshipped except You.”

## **2 – Repelling the aggression of those who attack the Muslims.**

The scholars are unanimously agreed that repelling the aggression of those who attack the Muslims is fard ‘ayn (an individual obligation) upon those who are able to do that.

Allaah says (interpretation of the meaning):

[Quotes [Q - 2:190](#), and [Q - 9:13](#)]

## **3 – Removing fitnah (tribulation)**

Fitnah is of different types:

(i) That which is caused by the kuffaar who persecute the Muslims or apply pressure to them to make them give up their religion. Allaah has commanded the Muslims to fight in jihad in order to save those who are weak and oppressed. Allaah says (interpretation of the meaning):

[Quotes [Q - 4:75](#)]

(ii) The fitnah of the kuffaar themselves and their preventing others from hearing and accepting the truth. That is because the kaafir systems corrupt the innate nature and reason of people, and make them get used to worshipping and submitting to things other than Allaah, getting addicted to alcohol, wallowing in the mire of sexual license, and losing all characteristics of virtue. Whoever is like that can rarely tell truth from falsehood, good from evil, right from wrong. So jihad is prescribed in order to remove those obstacles that prevent people from hearing and accepting the truth and getting to know it.

#### **4 – Protecting the Islamic state from the evil of the kuffaar.**

Hence the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) ordered that the leaders of the kuffaar be killed, those who incited the enemies against the Muslims, such as the Jews Ka'b ibn al-Ashraf and Ibn Abi'l-Haqeeq.

Another aspect of jihad is to protect the borders against the kuffaar. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) encouraged that as he said: "Guarding the border for one day for the sake of Allaah is better than this world and everything in it." Al-Bukhaari, 2678.

#### **5 – Frightening the kuffaar, humiliating them and putting them to shame.**

Allaah says (interpretation of the meaning):

[Quotes Q - [9:14-15](#), and [8:60](#)]

Hence it is prescribed to fight in a manner that will strike terror into the heart of the enemy.

[...]

#### **7 – Purifying the believers of their sins and ridding them thereof**

Allaah says (interpretation of the meaning):

[Quotes Q - [3:140-142](#)]

[...]

Al-Shawkaani said: Ibn Abi Jamrah said: The scholars of hadeeth are of the view that if the primary motive is to make the word of Allaah supreme, it does not matter what else is also achieved.

#### **9 – Taking martyrs.**

Allaah says (interpretation of the meaning):

[Quotes Q - [3:140-141](#)]

Martyrdom is one of the highest statuses before Allaah, and the martyrs are the closest of His slaves to Him. There is no status higher than that of siddeeq apart from martyrdom. Allaah loves to take martyrs from among His slaves, who shed their blood for His love and to earn His pleasure, preferring His pleasure and His love above themselves. There is no way to attain this status except by circumstances that may lead to it such as enemies coming against the Muslims.

This was said by Ibn al-Qayyim in Zaad al-Ma'aad.

This is the great wisdom and those who try to put the Muslims off jihad and make them fear it, and say that jihad is no more than death, and making women widows and children orphans, pale into insignificance.

[...]

**These are some of the reasons why jihad is prescribed.**

We ask Allaah to bring the Muslims back to their religion. May Allaah send blessings and peace upon our Prophet Muhammad.