

Islamic doctrines of peace

- In fact as far as the Qur'an is concerned the concept of *jihad* has nothing to do with violence. The Qur'an does not use this word in any sense of war at all.
- The word *jihad* is derived from the root *jahada* and means to exert, to strain, to endeavor and exert oneself.
- It is a struggle which is an act of worship for which Allah will reward the *mujtahid*.

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- (22: 52): “So obey not the disbelievers, and strive against them (*jahidhum*) a mighty striving (*jihad kabir*).”
- “So obey not the disbelievers ... ” which implies that one should not listen to those who do not believe and should strive in mighty way to fight untruth through one efforts.

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- (49: 15): “The believers are those only who believe in Allah and His Messenger, then they doubt not, and struggle hard (*jahadu*) with their wealth and their lives in the way of Allah. Such are the truthful ones.”
- (29: 6): “And whosoever strives hard (*jahadu*), strives for himself. Surely Allah is Self sufficient, above (need of) (His) creatures.”

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- The Qur'an does permit use of violence in certain given situations but with some strict conditions. Firstly, it disapproves of any kind of aggression which it calls *`udwan*. *'Udwan* can also mean transgressing or exceeding the limits.
- Allah has fixed limits for everything and anyone who transgresses these limits harms himself as well as the society.

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- The word for war in the Qur'an is *qital* and not *jihad*. There are several verses on *qital* in Qur'an but none permits war of aggression.
- (22: 39): “Permission (to fight) is given to those on whom is made, because they are oppressed. And Surely Allah is able to assist them.”

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- (4: 75): “An what reason have you not to fight in the way of Allah, and of the weak among the men and the women and the children, who say: Our Lord, take us out of the town, whose people are oppressors, and grant us for Thee a friend, and grant us for Thee a helper.” (2: 190): “And fight in the way of Allah against those who fight against you but be not aggressors.”

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- (9: 12): “And if they break their oaths after their agreement and revile your religion, then fight the leaders of disbelief — surely their oaths are nothing — so that they may desist.” The Qur’an 90: 8-9 invites to respect those who do not fight you for your religion and do not drive you out of your homes. Not only that do not fight them but show them kindness and deal with them justly.

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- (8: 61): “And if they incline to peace, incline thou also to it.” (9: 29): “Fight those who believe not in Allah, nor in the Last Day, nor forbid that which Allah and His Messenger has forbidden, nor follow the Religion of Truth, out of those who have been given the Book, until they pay the tax in acknowledgment of superiority and they are in a state of subjection.”