

Stand for Peace

counter-extremism | social cohesion | counter-terrorism

Islamic Research and Education Academy (iERA)

The Islamic Education and Research Academy (iERA) is an Islamist organisation which tours hate preachers around Britain. It is an extreme Salafist group, which largely [focuses](#) on *da'wah* (proselytizing or preaching). Recently, its speakers have been banned from venues such as the University Conference London, Arsenal football stadium and the Sheraton Centre Hotel.

Three iERA speakers have been banned from entering Britain: Bilal Philips, described by the US as an [“unindicted co-conspirator”](#) in the 1993 al-Qaeda attack on the World Trade Center; Zakir Naik, banned from the UK for saying that “every Muslim should be a terrorist;” and Hussein Yee, who openly [preaches](#) hatred against Jews, and [claims](#) that Jews in America were ‘happy’ when the Twin Towers fell.

iERA Speakers

Abdurraheem Green

Abdurraheem Green is one of the iERA’s most prominent speakers. Stand for Peace considers him to be an anti-Semitic, anti-homosexual demagogue and an apologist for terrorism.

Green does not attempt to hide his hatred of Jews. In one video, [Green has said](#), “Why don’t you take the Yahudi [Jew] over there, far away, so his stench doesn’t disturb us, okay?”

Green [also claims](#) that Turkish leader Ataturk was “an extremely, thoroughly unpleasant, nasty kafir. He was a Jew, he was a Jew. And not only was he a Jew, he belonged to a sect of the Jews that even the Jews think are far astray.”

He [recommends death](#) to be a “suitable” punishment for adultery and homosexuality:

“Such crimes thus need suitable and effective punishments that act as a sever warning to others. A public crime deserves a public punishment. Adultery is punishable by death, and a slow and painful death by stoning. All of this also goes some way to help understand way acts of homosexuality are similarly treated so harshly.”

According to Green, beating women, in order to “bring them to goodness”, [is permissible](#):

The husband is allowed, to prevent her from evil, to apply some type of physical force. This is a type of very light beating. In fact, as some scholars mentioned it is to hit with the miswack, but what we know from the prophet is this type of beating is not allowed to leave any type of mark. It is not allowed to break the skin, does not allow to break a bone or even leave a mark on the skin. A beating that is that severe is forbidden and this is a type of assault, and is haram, and a crime in Islam to treat your wife like that. But a type of physical reprimand in order to bring her to goodness is allowed.

Green is particularly disparaging about non-Muslims, [describing them](#) as “evil” and their schools as “sewers”:

“If we leave (Muslims) in these (non-Muslim Australian) schools they will be destroyed ... You know very well what takes place in these schools ... it is all about evolution, Christmas, Easter, St Valentine's Day - a barrage. And you expect your children to survive? You think you live in a sewer and you come up smelling of roses? ... Merely living in the company of evil people will inevitably begin to rub off on us and we will begin to acquire their characteristics.”

He [condemns criticism](#) of the Taliban:

“Supporting the disbelievers against the Muslims is in fact kufr, it is disbelief. This is something that has been clearly stated by Allah (SWT) in the Quran, that to aid the unbelievers against the believers is an act of kufr, of disbelief.

“Brothers and sisters you can support the kuffar against the Muslims even by a word...For example, slandering and attacking the Muslims unjustly, such as you find many Muslims have done this about the Taliban. Slandering them and attacking them and reviling them based upon news that has come from the disbelieving media, helping the kuffar against the Muslims.”

In 2005, Green gave a speech at UCL, uncovered by the Daily Telegraph, [in which he said](#) that a “permanent state of war exists between the people of Islam and the people who opposed Islam”. Referring to Bin Laden, he added, “His rational [sic] is ... we are going to keep on killing your women and children until you stop killing our women and children. How do you argue with that?” Citing the IRA, he added: “The other thing is that it seems that terrorism works. We certainly have precedent.” Green initially objected to the Telegraph’s report but later withdrew his complaint.

It is true that Green has hinted a few times that these views are no longer his. In 2009, Green [told](#) the BBC, “I surely have said some pretty radical things and maybe even written some radical things in the past. But one thing I have been very consistent on is terrorism, participating in terrorist activities, violent revolution – is not something that I have ever thought was part of the religion of Islam.”

Since then, Green has failed to put his words into action.

Several months after speaking to the BBC, he [invited](#) two supporters of terrorism -- and fellow iERA speakers -- Bilal Philips and Hussein Ye, on a speaking tour. He has called on

his website for the release of Ali al Timimi, [whom he describes](#) as “a treasure of this ummah, but a treasure purposely buried by the opposer’s [sic] of divine guidance.” Timimi has been [convicted](#) of terrorism offences in the United States and sentenced to life in prison. Green has also [testified](#) in defence of Yassin Nassari, another Islamist convicted of terrorism offences.

Hamza Tzortzis

Tzortzis, a convert to Islam from a Greek “humanist-spiritualist” upbringing, styles himself as an “intellectual activist”. He has been lecturing on university campuses on such topics as “Islamic Law – Barbaric or Misunderstood?” and “The Miracle of the Qur’an” as well as debating some fairly prominent atheist writers on the existence of God and the morality of religious faith.

Tzortzis has [stated](#):

“We as Muslims reject the idea of freedom of speech, and even the idea of freedom. We see under the Khilafa (caliphate), when people used to engage in a positive way, this idea of freedom was redundant, it was unnecessary, because the society understood under the education system of the Khilafa state, and under the political framework of Islam, that people must engage with each other in a positive and productive way to produce results, as the Qur’an says, to get to know one another. Whereas in this society, what they call debate and positive discourse is printing cartoons.”

Tzortzis wants to [criminalise homosexuality, and equates it with](#) paedophilia and cannibalism.

Tzortzis was previously a trustee of Green Crescent, a British charity placed under investigation by the Charity Commission for links with Islamist terrorism. He resigned his trusteeship after Green Crescent’s head, Faisal Mostafa, was arrested and charged with terrorism offences in Bangladesh following the discovery of arms caches at a school run by the charity.

Dr Mostafa has twice stood trial – and been cleared – on terrorism charges in Britain. In 2008, however, he was given a two-year suspended sentence after attempting to board an aeroplane at Manchester airport with a pistol in his suitcase.

Tzortzis, although never personally accused of terrorist offences, has called for an Islamic state, expressed his hostility towards Western values and stated that: “We as Muslims reject the idea of freedom of speech, and even of freedom.” He is a former researcher for the hardline Hittin Institute.

Tzortzis was previously involved with the extreme anti-Semitic group Hizb-ut-Tahrir - worldwide organisation which seeks to overthrow liberal democracy and replace it with an Islamist theocracy.

In April 2008 Tzortzis wrote to the Centre for Social Cohesion to [invite](#) a representative to participate in a panel discussion on community cohesion in East London. The email,

signed from Tzortzis, was sent from info@hizb-towerhamlets.org.

In 2006 Tzortzis was Deputy Chairman of the [Hackney Muslim Organisation](#) (HMO), a now inactive community group. HMO organised a fundraising dinner in August of that year for [Interpal](#), which gave Tzortzis a platform along with Taji Mustafa, a member of HTB's executive committee.

Tzortzis speaks regularly at events organised by HTB. For example, in a video posted on the party's website of an HTB event in Central London in April 2008, Tzortzis is recorded saying:

It's a very real, very rational argument that the Qur'an can only be from the creator. And these are arguments that we need to develop, that we need to research, in order to discuss, ideologically, with the non-Muslims, to show to them that Islam does not have to be defended. And I am not here today to defend Islam in any shape or form. When they mention democracy and secularism, they say why these are enlightened values? They don't justify their belief and nor should we in some cases, why should we justify what Allah (SWT) says when we must cut the hand of the thief with all these conditions, why would we justify the social system? [...] Our deen, our aqeedah is based on something that is real that is rational and that is proven. Whereas their aqeedah and their manifestations of their aqeedah is based on something weak, based on the compromise, and something that can be easily refuted.

Yusuf Chambers

During an interview with Dr Zakir Naik (banned from Britain for hate preaching), Chambers specifically asks the scholar what the punishment for homosexuality should be; Dr Naik [replied](#): "So homosexuality is forbidden in Islam and the punishment for homosexuality is death." Chambers has previously [stated](#) that homosexuality is something that "is bad for you".

Chambers has also stated that Sharia law should be implemented in the United Kingdom and has called for the 'stoning to death' of adulterers.

In the same [interview](#) with Zakir Naik:

Dr Naik: *That means if any man or woman who is not married, if they have unlawful sexual intercoolers, the punishment is 100 lashes, flogging them with 100 lashes... So the punishment for adultery, unlawful sexual intercourse done by married man is Islam, it is stoning to death.*

Yusuf Chambers: *Well, Dr. Zakir, I feel that those 2 punishments were enough to frighten the most of the individuals from Zina [adultery]. May Allah protect us from that.*

Dr. Naik: *That's in Islamic country but the punishment is not there in a non-muslim country. So if it's put through out the world, InshaAllah, Zina would be removed from the face of the earth.*

Yusuf Chambers: *InshaAllah [God-willing]*

Dr. Naik: *InshaAllah*

Yusuf Chambers: *May Allah allow us to bring back that punishment to protect all humanity, InshaAllah.*

Abdullah Hakim Quick

Hakim Quick has called upon God to ‘clean and purify Al-Aqsa from the filth of the Yahood [Jews]’ and ‘clean all of the lands from the filth of the Kafirun [non-believers]’.

He has [stated](#): “They said ‘what is the Islamic position [on homosexuality]?’ And I told them. Put my name in the paper. The punishment is death. And I’m not going to change this religion.”

Seven years ago, Quick was condemned by New Zealand’s broadcasting authority for his anti-gay broadcasts, in which he [said that](#) homosexuals are dropping dead from AIDS and “they want to take us all down with them”, homosexuals are “sick” and “not natural”, and “Muslims are going to have to take a stand [against homosexuals] and it’s not enough to call names”.

Shady Suleiman

Suleiman [claims](#):

“[It is] homosexuality that’s spreading all these diseases. Let’s not deny the fact. Don’t call it the name of freedom. Don’t talk about freedom and, you know, this is the freedom of action and we could do whatever we want. It doesn’t mean that freedom of action you destroy a nation. These are evil actions that bring evil outcomes to our society...”

“Remember that if there is an Islamic state the punishment of zina (sex outside marriage), the punishment of those who commit zina, if they have never been married before, they will be lashed 100 lashes. If they are married while they committed zina, or previously been married and divorced, and they committed zina, then their punishment is stoning to death.”

Yusuf Estes

In an article on his website, Estes [writes](#): “Scholars of Islam have already made it clear what the position is on those who engage in homosexual activities.”

He links to a fatwa ruling:

“In order to maintain the purity of the Muslim society, most Muslim scholars have ruled that the punishment for this act should be the same as for zina (i.e. one hundred whiplashes for the man who has never married, and death by stoning for the married man). Some have even ruled that it should be death for both partners, because the Prophet, sallallahu

alayhe wa sallam, said: 'Kill the doer and the one to whom it was done.'"

Estes further reprints and endorses an email on his website referring to gay people as "deviants" and "devils".

Haitham Al-Haddad

Haitham al-Haddad is prominent British hate preacher, who tours around the UK and Europe regularly. He has been an advisor to the iERA. He [describes](#) Jews as "pigs and apes":

"[W]e must reflect on the reality of the conflict between us and the Jews, the enemies of God, and the descendants of apes and pigs. O brothers! The conflict between us and the Jews is religious, historic, civilizational, and infinitely complex; it is not bounded by time or place, and it has more than one dimension. Yes, o brothers, this is the nature of the conflict ... They are one of the armies of the devil, of which Allah the Almighty said: And incite [to senselessness] whoever you can among them with your voice and assault them with your horses and foot soldiers and become a partner in their wealth and their children and promise them. But Satan does not promise them except delusion. [17:64] Did Allah not commands us to seek refuge from the devils of mankind and the jinn? Indeed, the devils of mankind are perfectly represented by these Jews. Do their Protocols [of the Elders of Zion] not say: "We must seduce the world with women and wine, through gambling and recreation, and if this is not sufficient then their reality will testify to this." O brothers: their weapons in this battle are like the weapons of Satan: all kinds of desires, money, women, alcohol, games, media, so-called sports and art. All of these are amongst their weapons."

Haddad on [domestic violence](#): "A man should not be questioned why he hit his wife because this is something between them. Leave them alone. They can sort out their matters among themselves. Even the father of the daughter who is married to the man, he should not ask his daughter why you have been beaten or hit by your husband".

Haddad on [community cohesion](#): "This peaceful co-existence and just full stop is wrong. Peaceful co-existence and enjoining the good and forbidding the evil. Peaceful co-existence [should be] spreading the dawah [intense Islamic proselytisation of non-Muslims]."

Haddad on [female genital mutilation](#), "The sunnah [Islamically correct] way of doing it, the proper way of doing it, it is the consensus of all the scholars that female circumcision is sunnah. I haven't come across any scholar who said it clearly that it is not sunnah. All of them they said that it is sunnah, in fact some scholars say it is wajeb (obligatory)."

Haddad [justifies](#) suicide bombing, "This category is mentioned in what the scholars call at-Tatarrus, which permits Muslims on the battlefield to kill a group of non-Muslims if they are using Muslims as a type of shield and there is no other way to get at them. This way, even if it leads to the killing of some Muslims, as long as non-Muslims are killed, is permissible a fortiori. Thus it is understood that, although these people were not fighting, one may kill them unintentionally...".

Jalal Ibn Saeed (a.k.a. Jalal Saeed, Jalal Mohabbat)

Jalal Ibn Saeed is an American lecturer who has been resident in the UK since the early 1990s. He is a regular speaker on the university Islamic society and Islamic centre lecture circuit. He is closely associated with the Islamist-front group IERA. Saeed specialises in the art of proselytisation. His rhetoric is usually based on the glorification of death and misery as the highest ideal. Such nihilism is typical of extreme Islamism.

Saeed has made anti-semitic statements in the past. In one video, Ibn Saeed [says the following](#) of the Jews:

"...we selfishly live like the Jews, who only care about themselves and call the rest a goyim, those who are damned. Those who are enslaved to them."

Saeed has praised the Taliban and claims that the Afghan people want them to [return](#):

"Their [the Taliban] motto was "from Kabul to al-Quds [Jerusalem]". "We're going to go from Kabul to Quds." What they had was a big army, they had black flags raised. And some people say "well, if they were true they would have succeeded". That's not necessarily true. That doesn't mean they're false just because they didn't succeed. As far as I am concerned the mujāhidīn are successful whether they lose or win. They're successful. But if they succeed we also become successful. And if they fail, they succeed but we fail. And right now do we deserve such a success? [shakes head] How could they win with us like this?" ... The Taliban were coming into Kabul, they took Kabul, all or most of the country, no bloodshed, because everybody wanted that pathway. And they still do, which is Islam, sharia, etcetera."

In another lecture, Saeed [offers divine sanction](#) for 'good' Muslims to target coalition troops:

"To those against who war is waged, it is permissible for them, permission is given to fight because they are wronged and verily Allah is most powerful for their aid.' I thought it's important to start with this ayah [verse] considering the state of our ummah today and the many lands of Muslims and what they're going through. And I'm sure all of us have pain in our hearts knowing what's happening to the Muslims in Iraq, the Muslims in Afghanistan, the Muslims in Swat valley in Pakistan and other places, the Muslims in Kashmir, in Chechnya, in Kosovo, in Bosnia, in Somalia, in Sudan, so many places in the world. Our hearts bleed for them and I say let's share this ayah with them, at least the part where Allah says "permission is given to them to fight". To defend themselves. Because they are wronged. Not just by their enemies, but by us, their brothers and sisters. Nod if you agree, at least. Yes, they are wronged. So permission is given to them by Allah. And Muslims dare speak and say "they shouldn't."

In the Name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful
London College of Communication & London SouthBank Islamic Society Presents:

DEATH

The Terminator of Pleasures
"Everyone shall taste Death"
[2:185]

BY JALAL IBN SAEED
Al Fitrāh Orphan Sponsorship Appeal

Grave & its Punishment
By Murtaza Khan

Date: Wednesday 24th Oct
Time: 5 - 9pm
Venue: 6th Floor Tower Block
Tickets: £4

Charity Week 2007

Ibn Saeed's rhetoric is often based on death and suffering. In a video called, "Every soul shall taste death", Ibn Saeed [states](#) that "A good death is a slow one". He tells his audience that "a sudden death is a problem". "A believer wants a slow death, sweat, build up, let me feel everything ... We were getting ready for his death!"