

The background of the cover is a cityscape at sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, red, and purple, with a crescent moon and a few stars visible in the upper portion. The city below is silhouetted against the bright sky, with various buildings and a prominent dome on the left. The title 'THE THIRD JIHAD' is centered in large, white, distressed font, with two horizontal lines separating the words.

THE THIRD JIHAD

Overcoming Radical Islam's Plan for the West

MICHAEL YOUSSEF

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The Third Jihad: Overcoming Radical Islam's Plan for the West

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ISBN 978-1-4964-3150-9

Printed in the United States of America

25	24	23	22	21	20	19
7	6	5	4	3	2	1

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1

THE ISLAMIC STATES OF AMERICA

AN AMERICAN ISLAMIST IMAM in Washington, DC, has called for the creation of an Islamic State of North America by 2050—that is, imposing a theocratic totalitarian government across the United States, Mexico, and Canada. No one takes his prediction seriously. No one thinks it could ever happen here.

But instead of shaking our heads and laughing off such an “unthinkable” notion, perhaps we should pause and prayerfully ask, “*Could* it happen here?”

Many big moments in history were unthinkable—until they happened.

Could fifty-two American embassy employees be held hostage for more than fourteen months by a group of college students?

Unthinkable.

But it happened in Iran in 1979.

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Could eight hundred thousand people be slaughtered in the span of one hundred days by soldiers, former friends, and neighbors?

Unthinkable.

But it happened in Rwanda in 1994.

Could nineteen men hijack four commercial airliners and fly them into three buildings and an open field, killing nearly three thousand people and injuring six thousand more?

Unthinkable.

But it happened in America in 2001.

Perhaps more to the point, could a Western democracy fall into the hands of a ruthless dictator “in part by using democratic freedoms to undermine and then destroy democracy itself”?¹

Unthinkable.

No one likes comparisons to Nazi Germany, but it happened there in 1933, and the seeds are being sown for it to happen again—only this time with an Islamist government—across Europe, Great Britain, and even North America.

As we'll see, an Islamic State of North America is not unthinkable to the Islamists. They are planning for it and patiently working toward it, day by day. The choices we make now, and in the years to come, in America and across Western civilization, will either pave the way for the unthinkable or stop the Islamists in their tracks.

It's time we pause and think about the unthinkable. The Third Jihad has already begun—a holy war conducted not only with terror and violence, but also by stealth and intimidation. Like the two jihads that came before it—the wars of Islamic conquest (622–751) and the wars of Islamic

expansion (1302–1922)—the Third Jihad demands a strong response.

What if the imam is right?

Because I was born in 1948, it is statistically unlikely that I will live to see the year 2050. But my children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren can reasonably expect to be alive in that year—and the same can probably be said of yours.

But what will America look like in 2050?

If the imam in Washington has his way, every man, woman, and child within the present-day borders of Canada, the United States, and Mexico will live under the authority of the Islamic State of North America. As the founder of an Islamist organization with branches in Washington, Philadelphia, and four California cities, he is actively working toward this goal.²

His role model is the late Ayatollah Khomeini, the Shia Muslim cleric who led the 1979 Iranian Revolution that overthrew the 2,500-year-old Persian monarchy and established the Islamic Republic of Iran. Why does this American imam revere the Ayatollah Khomeini? I believe it's because Khomeini achieved in Iran the same goal the imam is pursuing in America: a cultural revolution and the establishment of a theocratic Islamic state.

As the imam told his followers in 2008, “Our quest is to emulate the life of our hero in contemporary times, Imam Khomeini, as we strive to establish the Islamic State of North America. His story is a story of ultimate success against unbelievable odds.”³

You might think that what this Muslim leader envisions—an

Islamic-ruled America—is simply impossible. It could never happen. But just suppose for a moment that the Islamists managed to achieve their goals. Imagine what life in America would be like under Islamic rule.

A preventable future

A famous science-fiction writer once said that he wrote futuristic stories not to *predict* the future, but to *prevent* it.⁴ The scenario you are about to read is not a prediction—at least I hope not. But it *is* a wake-up call. I hope what you're about to read will inspire you to help prevent this future from ever coming to pass.

Let's jump forward to the year 2050. The Islamic State of North America (ISNA) is now firmly in control of the US government and all the institutions of American society.

At first glance, the September 11 memorial in lower Manhattan looks much as it has since it was dedicated in 2011. Two square pools of water still mark the footprint of the World Trade Center towers that collapsed during the 2001 terror attacks.

But a closer look reveals big changes. The Cross at Ground Zero, a formation of steel beams resembling the Christian cross that was found in the World Trade Center debris, has been removed from the memorial museum. The names of those who died in the attacks have also been removed, replaced by a marble tablet inscribed with just nineteen names—the nineteen al-Qaeda “martyrs” who hijacked the planes and flew them into the towers, the Pentagon, and the grassy field in Pennsylvania.

The Islamist regime has altered some American monuments and destroyed others. Just as the Taliban dynamited the

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centuries-old Bamiyan Buddhas in Afghanistan in March 2001, the rulers of the American caliphate have dynamited great symbols of American freedom—the Statue of Liberty, Mount Rushmore, and the Lincoln Memorial. The Supreme Islamic Council of America, in a televised ceremony, brought out the original parchments of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights, and fed them to a bonfire in front of the National Archives.

As an Islamist imam in Denmark once declared, “No Muslim can accept secularism, freedom, and democracy. It is for Allah alone to legislate how society shall be regulated! Muslims wish and long for Allah’s law to replace the law of man.”⁵ In 2050, the Islamists’ dream has come true in America, as Sharia law replaces the Constitution and other founding documents of the United States.

Just as in the days when ISIS controlled much of Iraq and Syria, ISNA has decreed that all property belonging to heretical religious groups—Christian churches, Jewish synagogues, and even “apostate” Islamic sects—shall be subject to confiscation. Cathedrals, churches, and synagogues are being shuttered or converted to mosques.

Your adult children have been ordered to renounce Jesus and convert to Islam or pay the *jizya*, the tax of submission to Islam. Your granddaughters have been taken out of school and sent home because girls need to learn only one thing: obedient submission. Any female found outside the home unaccompanied by a male relative, and without being covered from head to toe, risks brutal punishment.

Department stores and dress shops that once offered the

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latest colorful fashions for women now offer only shades of black, brown, and white. Stores sell only niqabs (cloth coverings for a woman's face and hair) and robe-like chadors. ISNA billboards around the city depict fully veiled, robed women, and warn that women who do not properly cover themselves face fines and imprisonment.

Your grandsons, as young as fourteen years old, have been conscripted as fighters in the Muslim army, just as the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria once conscripted young boys into its army. Your grandsons must swear allegiance to the Islamic State, and they will be taught to root out secret enclaves of Christians, Jews, and other “infidels” and “idolaters,” and to wage jihad against apostates and heretics of rival Muslim sects.

Not that life under the Islamic State is all bad. There are some good things to be said for a theocratic dictatorship. Just as ISIS was once a model of bureaucratic efficiency during its occupation of Iraq and Syria, ISNA has vastly improved government efficiency in 2050. Under the old American government, strong unions and federal regulations made it almost impossible to fire or discipline government workers who didn't do their jobs. In ISNA, government workers no longer slack off or go on strike because the regime will imprison them (or worse) if they fail to achieve their quotas.

The brutally efficient ISNA bureaucracy collects the garbage, sweeps the streets, fixes the potholes, maintains power lines and cell phone towers, keeps the tap water flowing, prevents the sewers from backing up, and collects the taxes. ISNA levies taxes on every conceivable transaction, and their collectors extract payment from the citizenry with a ruthlessness that

makes Americans nostalgic for the kindly benevolence of the Internal Revenue Service.

In 2050, your children and grandchildren will need a strong stomach to handle the daily roadside death scenes staged by the ISNA's Diwan Al-Hisbah—the Ministry of Moral Code Enforcement. Most Islamic-ruled nations maintain a paid or volunteer force to enforce Sharia law. Islamist America will be no different. In Saudi Arabia, this force is called the Mutaween. In Iran, it is called the Guidance Patrol (Gasht-e Ershad). In the English-speaking ISNA, this force is known simply as the Morality Police.

Often working undercover, the Morality Police patrol the streets, parks, shopping malls, grocery stores, and schools, making sure that women obey the dress codes, men obey the haircut and beard regulations, children are quiet and reverent during the call to prayer, and no one listens to forbidden music. The Morality Police may admonish, fine, or arrest any violators, and those who are arrested will be tried in a Sharia court. Few will be able to prove their innocence.

The guilty may be imprisoned, flogged, suffer the amputation of a hand or foot, or be subjected to public execution. Are floggings, amputations, stonings, or beheadings cruel? Of course not! These punishments are intended only to promote virtue and prevent vice.

As citizens of the Islamic State of North America, there is no need to live in fear. The laws of the state are clear and perfectly reasonable. If a man is careful never to trim his beard, cut his hair inappropriately, or play cards, dominoes, or music, he has nothing to fear from the Morality Police. If a woman never steps

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outside without being fully covered, and if she makes sure never to pluck her eyebrows or wear cosmetics, she has no reason to be afraid. If children never steal, never play with forbidden Western-style toys, and never whisper or laugh during prayers, they never have to fear the Morality Police.

ISNA authorities have issued many flyers and pamphlets telling citizens of the Islamic State of North America how to speak, behave, think, dress, and pray just as the Prophet and his companions did fourteen centuries ago. Under the old US Constitution, the American people were oppressed by a wide array of freedoms that caused them to continually transgress the merciful rules and regulations set forth by the Prophet. But now, with the clarity of Sharia law, every man knows right to the centimeter the precise spot on his calf where his trousers should be hemmed—no lower, no higher. The people are blessed and happy because they know exactly what the state expects of them in even the smallest details of their lives.

Of course, only faithful Muslims enjoy these blessings. Christians, Jews, apostates, and idolaters face a much harsher existence. ISNA's Ministry of Collections and Distributions confiscates homes, cars, furnishings, and appliances from the infidels and redistributes them to the faithful. Families of Islamic martyrs never have to pay for housing, utilities, or other necessities of life because ISNA makes sure they are rewarded with worldly goods confiscated from the idolaters. And what better way to prove oneself worthy of receiving such blessings than by informing on one's neighbors to the Morality Police?

The Islamic State of North America uses all the latest

technology to turn back the clock of civilization to the seventh century AD. Computers, the Internet, smartphones, security cameras, and flying drones maintain constant surveillance and control of the people. The Islamic State uses high-speed computers to watch every person and listen in on every conversation, whether on the street, in the office, at the market, or in the so-called privacy of the home.

Every phone, every computer, and every TV is a listening device for the watchful eye of the Islamic State. There is no place to hide, no place where the state cannot watch, hear, and apprehend you. The Islamic State of North America will eliminate all sin and vice by making sure every citizen is monitored at all times. Nothing escapes the notice of the state.

Released from the oppression of free will, the people are happy and grateful subjects of the new Islamic utopia. At least, that's what the ISNA leaders say.

But will we prevent it?

It may seem as if the future I've just described is farfetched, impossible, and maybe even alarmist. But so many world-changing events—from even just the past few decades—seemed fanciful and unbelievable . . . until they happened.

Few so-called experts in foreign policy believed President Reagan's prediction that the Soviet Union would collapse—until he was proved right less than three years after leaving office. Investors failed to heed warnings about the dangers of deregulation, derivatives, and risky loans until the 2008 global financial crisis nearly plunged the world into another Great Depression. No one predicted the widespread surge

of the Arab Spring that swept across North Africa and the Middle East from late 2010 to 2012. Likewise, the “experts” were caught off-guard by the results of the June 2016 Brexit referendum (in which British voters chose to pull out of the European Union). Many American “experts” were equally astonished by the November 2016 election victory of Donald Trump over a seemingly unbeatable Hillary Clinton.

Considering these “impossible” events that have already happened, can we really say with confidence that an Islamic State of North America could never happen?

In March 2018, a Muslim lawyer and scholar named Ahmed Abdou Maher published an Arabic-language article in an Egyptian publication. I discovered it on christian-dogma.com, an Arabic-language Christian website. The article is titled “Why Don’t Christians and Jews Accept Our Islam?” If Mr. Maher had been writing to a Western audience, using the politically correct terms of our culture, he might have titled it “Why Are Christians and Jews So Islamophobic?” The article is a remarkably frank and honest examination of how Muslims have treated non-Muslims down through history and of the treatment we might expect under a future Islamic caliphate. Here is an excerpt, which I have translated from Arabic:

How unjust our Muslim ancestors were to Allah and Islam when they invaded countries and looted the riches [of those countries] in the name of Islamic conquests—conquests that were not commanded by Islam or the Prophet of Islam [Muhammad]. . . .

Imagine what [Muslim conquerors] offer you if you are a young [non-Muslim] man defending your country. If you were

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captured, they would either kill you, sell you [into slavery], or you had better accept their Islam, which they impose on you.

And if you are a non-combatant civilian, they would give you two choices: (1) either you change your religion to become a Muslim overnight without even explaining to you what Islam is all about, or (2) you stay as you are but pay an oppressive *jizyah* [the tax of submission to Islam] while feeling humiliated and crushed.

Your daughters and children will be taken captive. And your wife will be a concubine to a bearded libertine who sleeps with her, saying that this is the ruling that Allah has revealed [in the Koran].

Your children will be their servants or a source of enjoyment for their desires. Or they may sell some of those they don't need in the slave market, convinced all the while that this shameful behavior is the rule of Allah.⁶

Maher goes on to explain in detail the kind of discrimination that non-Muslims must endure under Sharia law. For example, non-Muslims are not allowed to ride horses but are permitted to ride donkeys. They must ride without a saddle (only blankets are permitted), and riders may not straddle the donkey but may only ride with both legs dangling from one side.

A non-Muslim man cannot have a normal haircut; he must shave his head. In any gathering, non-Muslims cannot sit in the front rows but must sit in back. Non-Muslims may not lead meetings or councils.

Muslims may not greet non-Muslims with pleasantries, such as, "How are you?" or "How is your day?" Muslims are forbidden to give consolation to non-Muslims who are sick.

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Non-Muslims may not walk in the middle of the road, but must walk close to the walls.

Non-Muslims may not build a new church or other building of worship, nor may they rebuild or repair ruined churches or buildings, even if those buildings were unjustly demolished. A non-Muslim may not build a structure higher than Muslim buildings. A non-Muslim is forbidden from publicly displaying wine, pork, a bell, or a Bible. A non-Muslim may not raise his or her voice during mourning, may not publicly display food or drink during the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan, and may not enter a mosque, even if invited to do so by a Muslim.

A non-Muslim may not enter a public restroom without wearing a ring of lead around his or her neck as a sign of submission. A Christian may not convert to Judaism or vice versa.

If a non-Muslim refuses to pay the *jizyah* tax and refuses to accept insult and humiliation from Muslims, his blood and money are to be wasted. Non-Muslims must stand in the presence of Muslims and are not to be honored among Muslims.

After listing these acts of discrimination and insult that Muslims show to non-Muslims, Ahmed Abdou Maher asks his fellow Muslims, "Would you deal with people in this brutal way to force them to become Muslims? . . . Would it be right to call all these actions the 'Sharia of Allah'? . . . Don't you see that the Koran doesn't call for any of these? . . . Don't then be surprised when others from all other religions hate you!"⁷

These are the words of a moderate Muslim scholar in Egypt, pleading with fellow Muslims to show respect for non-Muslims. But he is also painting a frightening word-picture for us of what life would be like for non-Muslims under an Islamic caliphate.

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Where can your children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren go to escape the iron grip of the Islamists? Not to Europe or Great Britain—those Western nations will undoubtedly fall to the Islamists before America ever does. If the Islamic State comes to power in the West, there will be no way to escape and nowhere to run. The Islamists will reign supreme, and their control will be absolute.

Welcome to your Islamic utopia.