FLAGS AND SYMBOLS OF KUFR

By Maulana Sulayman Kindi

Published By:
Mujlisul Ulama of South Africa
PO Box 3393, Port Elizabeth
6056 South Africa

SOCCER CROSSES - AN INSULT TO ALLAH'S MAJESTY

Verily Allāh does not forgive that Shirk be made with Him, but forgives what is less than that to whosoever He wishes. [an-Nisā:48; an-Nisā:116]

A sad indictment on the state of the Ummah's Imān and knowledge is the wearing of garments with the Cross – even in the Masjid – under the pretext of supporting certain soccer teams. Included in *Shirk* is displaying or respecting symbols of *Shirk* such as the Cross.

What needs to be understood is that in the matter of *Shirk* the mere display of such symbols is in itself a sin, and cannot be condoned on the excuse of a non-*Shirk* intention. Who would display a "beautifully" carved idol in the Masjid with the intention of adornment? Who would erect a statue of Mary on the pretext that the Qurān reveres Maryam?

Allāh and His Rasūl (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) have declared *Shirk* to be the worse of sins. Whilst Allāh may forgive sins, even if the sinner has not repented, the Qurān specifically excludes *Shirk* – repentance MUST be made from it.

Allah's Rasul (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) could not bear the sight of the Cross

Al-Imām at-Tirmizī (Rahmatullah alayhi) narrates in his Kitāb Tafsiril Qurān in *Sunan at-Tirmizī that 'Adī bin Hātim narrates:*

I came to the Nabī (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) wearing a golden cross around my neck. He called out, "O 'Adī! Throw this idol off your neck!"

I then heard him reciting from Sūrah Barā'ah, "They made their priests and monks lords besides Allāh."

He then commented, "They did not worship them, but if they made something Halāl for them, they took it as Halāl and when they made something Harām for them they took it as Harām."

When comparing the above Hadīth with the incident of the Bedouin urinating in the Masjid, we note:

When comparing the above Hadīth with the incident of the Bedouin (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) urinating in the Masjid, we note:

- Rasūlullāh (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) was so tolerant he forbade the Ṣahābah RA from interfering with the uneducated man urinating in the Masjid.
- He forbade them from harming him in any way.
- Rasūlullāh (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) waited for him to finish urinating.
- He then only explained his error in a most kind and gentle manner.
- Rasūlullāh (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) however had no tolerance for the Cross and instantly reprimanded the wearer.
- Wearing a cross is *worse than urinating in the Masjid*!
- Rasūlullāh (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) used the word, "itrah," when there are more gentle words for "remove."
- The Cross is an *idol* according to Rasūlullāh (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam).

Why do we place our *nafs* above the command of Rasūlullāh (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam)? When this matter is brought to our attention, many people defy the command of Rasūlullāh (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) and present arguments, whether out of ignorance or sheer arrogance. The above Hadīth should be sufficient for a true believer, but let us examine the arguments in the hope that perhaps some of these people may repent from this *Shirk* of wearing "...this idol..."

As for those who declare, "We did not know," may Allāh accept your excuse. As for the future bear, in mind that it is Allāh's command that we seek knowledge. If we can memorise every tiny detail about our favourite team, why should we not learn those details which might incur Allāh's anger?

The Arguments for wearing the Cross

A Muslim is humble enough to admit his error, even if he still sins. Arguing against the Sharī'ah is most dangerous to one's Īmān. Some of the common arguments heard in this regard:

1. It's only a flag, not a Christian symbol.
2. It represents a hospital.

3. We have never heard our senior 'Ulamā' mention this.

It is only a flag

Yes, it *is* a flag, but a flag of what? Let us examine the crests of the four most famous teams who display the Cross:

1. Barcelona
2. England
3. Portugal
4. Brazil

Barcelona

Do Muslim Barcelona supporters close their eyes when reading the FC Barcelona website? It clearly states:

*And so the crest that the club wears to this day was created, although there have been a few variations. It is a bowl-shaped design, in which the two upper quarters maintain the **St George Cross** and the red and yellow bars of the original, which are the most representative symbols of Barcelona and Catalonia.*

http://www.fcbarcelona.com/web/english/club/historia/simbols/escut.html

Some might be unaware of the significance of the St George flag. It should of course make no difference. Did Rasūlullāh (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) make a distinction between the host of styles of Christian Crosses when he reprimanded 'Adī? Did he specify a particular Cross when telling us that when 'Isā (Alayhis Salaam) returns he will break Crosses?

ST. GEORGE'S CROSS FLAG

*This flag was in use during the **crusades** and it was one of the national emblems of England as early as 1277.*

http://www.anyflag.com/history/stgeorge.htm

St George's Cross

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The St George's cross

***St George's Cross** (or the Cross of St George) is a centred red cross on a white background. This pattern was associated with Saint George from medieval times.*

*St George's Cross has been adopted on the coat of arms and flags of several countries and cities which have St George as a patron saint, notably **England**, Georgia, Genoa and **Barcelona**..... It was adopted for the uniform of English soldiers during the **Crusades** of the eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth centuries, particularly by the **Knights Templar**.*

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St_George's_Cross

Some Muslims are not bothered to learn their history and do not know what the Crusades were. A full explanation is not possible here, but in short, they were wars waged by the Christians against Islām. The earlier Western Crusades were waged against the Muslims of al-Andalus (Spain and Portugal). The first city the Muslims lost there was .... Barcelona. Today we *celebrate* that loss by wearing the Crusader flag in the Masjid. Would it make any difference to certain stubborn ones if they knew how Muslims were burnt alive in Andalus for no crime other than refusing to be baptised?

Does it make any difference to us that all the Masājid were turned into churches and stables? Anyone with Īmān would weep to read the accounts of how a Spanish Muslim would have to see the Crusaders bringing Crosses and statues of Jesus into the Masjid in which he prayed his whole life. The modern Muslim proudly buys the Cross with his own money and brings it into the Masjid, not that wearing it outside the Masjid is in anyway condoned.

Here follows a short narration from a non-Muslim source describing the later Eastern Crusade at Baytul Muqaddas. After reading it, ask yourself how can you wear the flag under which this was perpetrated?

This site is a fully virtual course offered for college credit through Boise State University....

Fall of Jerusalem

There now began an orgy of killing. The Crusaders went on a rampage, killing everyone they met. They went into houses and dragged out the inhabitants to kill them. They stole everything they found. The princes lost all control.

Muslim refugees had taken refuge in the Dome of the Rock, the mosque of al-Aqsa, the one Tancred had taken. Despite his banner flying above, on the morning of the 16th a group of Crusaders broke in and slaughtered everyone inside. Similarly, the Jews of the city fled to their synagogue, only to have the Crusaders set it on fire, killing everyone.

The chroniclers tell of streets running with blood and of horses splashing blood up onto their riders' leggings. Order returned on 17 July not so much because the commanders regained control as there was simply no one left to kill. All the Jews of Jerusalem were dead. All the Muslims were dead. The Christians had been expelled before the siege began. The city was empty of all save its conquerors.
The western sources are briskly uncontrite in their descriptions of the carnage, indicating that the chroniclers were no more dismayed than were the perpetrators. But the Muslim world would never forget or forgive the Crusaders' behavior. Jerusalem was a holy city to the Muslims as much as it was to the Christians. The looting of sacred shrines and the slaughter of innocents confirmed the general Muslim opinion that the Westerners were savage barbarians with no faith at all save in blood and wealth.
http://crusades.boisestate.edu/1st/28.shtml

A sad irony is that Muslims refuse to imitate Rasūlullāh (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) and say, "It is only Sunnah," but feel no shame in imitating the symbols of the crusaders! Who do *you* chose?

Portugal Cross of the Order of Christ Football T-Shirt

http://store.objectivo.com/home/portugal-cross-of-the-order-of-chirst-football-t-shirt.html

Let us now look at the Portuguese symbol which is unanimously called, "Cross of the Order of Christ," as can be seen in the above website. The name should be sufficient, the shape should be sufficient, our Īmān should be sufficient, that we discard this symbol.
For those who would wish for further information, read this about the symbol of a "religious military order."

THE SUPREME ORDER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

This rarely given distinction cannot strictly be characterized today as an Order of Knighthood, but more as an award of honor of the highest possible standing. The recent reforms of the Papal Orders by Pope Paul VI, [1] the Order of Christ was reserved to Catholic Heads of State to whom it might be given only to commemorate very special occasions at which the Pope himself was present. ...The original foundation was actually ***a religious military Order*** *under the rule of*

Saint Benedict, constituted in Portugal by King Denis I on 14 August 1318, confirmed and granted statutory regulation by the Bull Ad ea ex quibus of Pope John XXII, given at Avignon 14/15 March 1319.[3]
http://www.chivalricorders.org/vatican/chrisi.htm

Brazil

Brazil was a Portuguese colony and so also adopted the Portuguese Cross of the Order of Jesus Christ. It should be no surprise therefore when the words "Jesus" is sometimes written on the Brazilian Soccer Cross.
The issue of Muslims hero-worshipping Kāfir soccer players and loving them more than the Ṣaḥābah RA is an issue on its own, but mention may be made of the latest Brazilian idol to fill our hearts instead of filling our hearts with love for Allāh's friends.
Kaka: a virtuoso with faith in Milan and Jesus
When it comes to religious dedication to his football, Ricardo Izecson de Santos Leite, or Kaka as he is better known, has been there, done it, and bought the Tshirt.
By Oliver Brown
Published: 10:40PM GMT 14 Jan 2009
Perhaps the abiding image of the Champions League final in 2007 was of the Brazilian, having just inspired Milan to victory over Liverpool, stripping down to a vest with the message 'I belong to Jesus' emblazoned across his chest.
Such devotion has been closely intertwined with Kaka's extraordinary playing career from the outset.
http://www.telegraph.co.uk/sport/football/leagues/premierleague/mancity/4238953/Kaka-a-virtuoso-with-faith-in-Milan-and-Jesus.html
They are not ashamed of their religion, but we compromise ours.

It represents a Hospital

Allāh have mercy! What possible connection is there between a hospital and your team, unless they are so unmanly that they will all be put in hospital after a game? The websites of your team deny this; the website of the Red Cross & Red Crescent denies this; and even if it were so, the Red Crescent itself admits that in the 33 Muslims countries the Red Crescent is used instead of the Red Cross, because of Muslim Īmānī feeling. May Allāh grant us such feeling as well.

The Red Cross

The flag of Switzerland, from which the original Red Cross is said to have been derived

*The **Red Cross** emblem was officially approved in Geneva in 1863.[4] The Red Cross flag is not to be confused with the St George's Cross which is the flag of England, Barcelona, Freiburg, and several other places....*

http://www.redcrescent.org/redcrescent_history.htm

Red Crescent

The Red Crescent symbol

During the Russo-Turkish War from 1876 to 1878, the Ottoman Empire used a Red Crescent instead of the Red Cross because its government believed that the cross would alienate its Muslim soldiers. ... Originally, the Red Crescent was used by Turkey and Egypt. From its official recognition to today, the Red Crescent became the organizational emblem of nearly every national society in countries with majority Muslim populations. The national societies of some countries such as Pakistan (1974), Malaysia (1975), or Bangladesh (1989) have officially changed their name and emblem from the Red Cross to the Red Crescent. The Red Crescent is used by 33 of the 186 recognized societies worldwide.

http://www.redcrescent.org/redcrescent_history.htm

We have never heard our senior 'Ulamā' mention this

You have been presented with facts and references and can no longer offer weak excuses. If certain people have not mentioned this to you before, then ask:

- Is the great Muhaddith, al-Imām at-Tirmizī, not senior enough?
- Is the great Sahabi, 'Adī bin Ḥātim RA, not senior enough?
- Is the greatest of all Rusul (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) not senior enough?
- Is the warning of the King of Kings not senior enough?

O Allāh, bear witness that in my limited capacity I have tried to convey the message and purify Your Houses of this fetid *Shirk* and insult to Your Supreme Majesty. All guidance and might, is however in Your Hand.

Salutations to he who taught us that You are One.

Sulaymān al-Kindī (kindi_s@yahoo.com)