

DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE

An Honest Discussion of Politics, Religion, and all Kinds of Things we are not Supposed to Talk About.
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A CONTINUED LOOK INTO THE KORAN

Penguin Edition, c. 1968

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PART XVII

Today is Hump Day I had thought to take another quick run through the Koran, since the text is very repetitious, in general, as you, who have been reading DtRH have learned, you will not miss anything, really. But, I can't, because so much of the book is fascinating in its details, and as I have indicated, I AM giving you a fair look at what is in the Koran. I show you the pleasant stuff in the right amount of balance compared to how often the book talks about darker subject matter such as torture, slavery, the scourge, and Hell fire. Bold text or italics are mine, to draw attention to certain ideas that are important to consider.

However, before we begin, I want to take a quick look back at something we read yesterday concerning the keeping of the Golden Mean. Cf: DtRH 25. For those of you not familiar with this lustrous mean, I want to spend a moment reflecting upon this important geometric consideration and philosophical idea. The Golden Mean is the golden middle between extremes. In geometry it is an idea which relates to the Fibonacci Sequence; a mathematical ratio which is fundamental in nature. The Sequence goes as follows: 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34... The Golden Mean is also used by architects and masons to calculate proportions for their constructions. When Allah admonishes Muslims to mind the Golden Mean it is meant for them to seek balance and harmony. Looking at how Muslims are manifesting, *balance* and *harmony*, I think they turn things on their head and practice the opposite of how they are supposed to interpret certain ideas in the Koran. Or, they don't concern themselves with the fine points and just get a great kick out of being bad asses.

A new chapter entitled, LIGHT begins at the bottom of page 209 of the Penguin Koran. The second paragraph states: 'The adulterer and the adulteress shall each be given a hundred lashes. **Let no pity for them** cause you to disobey Allah, if you truly believe in Allah and the Last Day; and let their punishment be witnessed by a number of believers.'

A hundred lashes! Do you have any idea what one lash feels like? Martinets throughout history have sentenced hapless victims to harsh punishments. Indeed, the British were renowned during the colonization of Australia with poor people who might have stolen to survive, or dangerous criminals, to have meted out hundreds of lashes upon the backs of recalcitrant prisoners. In the finest history about that period, *The Fatal Shore* by Robert Hughes, a tome I have read twice, there is mention of a hapless chap who in the course of his final days spent on Norfolk Island, had received a total of 3000 lashes, usually in increments of 300 at a time; which was a common sentence handed out by total lunatics who themselves never felt the sting of the biting leather thongs. Islamic judges, practicing Sharia, subject men and women to such barbaric punishments for what we in the West consider not to be a problem, such as not wearing a head scarf, for example, or for listening to some popular music outside on a transistor radio. Allah is a very stern martinet but, he is Compassionate and Merciful, don't you know? You should know, because those words

open every chapter of the Koran. 'In the Name of Allah, the Compassionate, the Merciful.' What is your take on Allah's mercy and compassion?

'The adulterer may marry only an adulteress or an idolateress; and the adulteress may marry only an adulterer or an idolater. True believers are forbidden such marriages.' Page 209.

The problem with the preceding verse is the fact that an adulteress is generally stoned to death and an adulterer has his back opened up with a lash. So, I don't know what sort of wedding can take place between a person who is possibly going to die from infections caused by the lashing and a bloody, broken corpse of a murdered woman.

Next page: 'Those that defame honorable women and cannot produce four witnesses shall be given eighty lashes. No testimony of theirs shall be admissible, for they are great transgressors - except those among them that afterwards repent and mend their ways. Allah is forgiving and merciful.'

Two times the word, *punishment* shows up on page 210 and once we read the word, *punished*. On page 110 we read the following: '...shall be sternly **punished** in this life and in the next.' ... 'But for Allah's grace and mercy, His compassion and forgiveness, you would have long since been **punished**.' ... 'Those who defame honorable but careless believing women shall be cursed in this world and in the next. Theirs shall be a woeful **punishment** on the day *when their own tongues, hands, and feet will testify* to what they did.' ... 'Unclean women are for unclean men, and unclean men for unclean women. But good women are for good men, and good men are for good women.'

What do you suppose is meant by, '*when their own tongues, hands, and feet will testify*'? Those would be the severed body parts named and put on public display for believers to confirm their faith in the Compassionate and Merciful Allah and for unbelievers to get the idea they had better watch themselves very carefully lest they draw the attention of those compassionate and merciful Muslims and lose a limb or worse.

Here is an interesting verse for all of you soft hearted, Marxified women who have never read the Koran and think that Muslims are just another cultural expression which must be embraced because we're 'ALL ONE' dontcha know? The verse in question starts at the bottom of page 211 and continues on the next page: 'Enjoin believing women to turn their eyes away from temptation and to preserve their chastity; to cover their adornments (except such as are normally displayed); to draw their veils over their bosoms and not to reveal their finery except to their husbands, their fathers, their husbands' fathers, their sons, their step-sons, their brothers, their brothers' sons, their sisters' sons, their women servants, and their slave girls; male attendants lacking in natural vigour, and children who have no carnal knowledge of women. And let them not stamp their feet in walking so as to reveal their hidden trinkets.'

What do you suppose is meant by, 'not reveal their finery except to....'? Since the statement regarding youngsters who have no carnal knowledge of women forms part of that verse, what is that finery that women can display to all those specific other people; mostly males? What goes on in the privacy of those Muslim living rooms with their cushions or chairs ranged against the walls, providing an open, kind of 'stage' area in the middle; as in theatre in the round? Since Muslim men are bizarre sexual predators, is that room used for some sort of exotic dance studio where the women of the house display, 'their finery.' Remember, every part of a woman's body is sexual for Muslim men; even a toe nail. To be continued tomorrow....