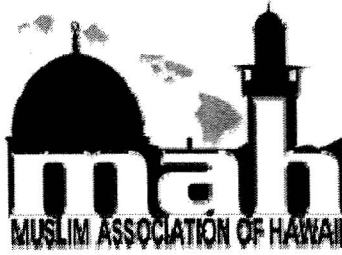


111 signatures



LATE TESTIMONY

April 7, 2009

The Committee on Tourism, Culture, and International Relations (TCI)  
State Capitol

Dear Representatives:

On behalf of our board of directors, Committees and sub-committees members (signatures enclosed) and our entire congregation of over 4000 Muslims in Hawaii, please accept this missive as our strong support for HCR100 Birth of Islam.

As you know, the relationship between Islam and the 'West' has been depicted as one of confrontation and indifference. But there is more to Islam and its relation with the West than violence and confrontation.

Islam teaches that God is one with no partner and that Prophet Muhammad, like earlier Prophets, was no more than a messenger of God. It also teaches its followers to worship God through prayer, alms giving, fasting and performing the pilgrimage to Mecca in addition to high moral character and excellence in conduct toward humans and animals.

Historical and theological facts easily repudiate the claim that Islam is intolerant of Christianity and Judaism. Muhammad (pbuh) signed treaties of peace with the Christians and Jews. In the year 631 C.E. Prophet Muhammad received a delegation of sixty Christians from Najran, about 450 miles south of Medina in present day Saudi Arabia, who were received in the Prophet's mosque, and they were allowed to pray in the mosque.

The Islamic civilization has in the past proved capable of, for the times, astonishing feats of toleration and acceptance. Under the Muslims, medieval Spain became a haven for diverse religions and sects. Following the Christian reconquest, the Inquisition eliminated all dissent. The idea that Islam or Islamic civilization is inherently less capable of tolerance and compassion than any other is hard to square with the facts.

In a 2008 book, *God's Crucible: Islam and the Making of Europe*, one of America's greatest historians, David L. Lewis, states that Muslims 'accomplished the greatest

revolution in power, religion, culture, and wealth in history' – all of which created the European civilization. There would be no Europe without Islam.

The Islamic civilization has made an enormous but largely neglected contribution to the way people live in the West. The contributions are so immense that three major universities in Australia will be teaching a third year course titled Islam and the Making of Europe.

Hundreds of innovations - from kiosks and chess through to windmills and cryptography - that are often popularly associated with the western world but originate from Muslim scholarship and science.

Increasingly, contemporary scholarship on the history of science demonstrates that a substantial amount of genuine science was done by the Islamic civilization. This predated similar discoveries in the West, and it also impacted upon the Renaissance. For example, in the late 1950s, E. S. Kennedy and his students at the American University of Beirut discovered an important work of a fourteenth century Muslim astronomer by the name of Ibn al-Shatir (d.1375) that showed that Ibn al-Shatir's astronomical inventions were the same type of mechanism used by Copernicus a few centuries later, and may have played a key role in the Copernican revolution.

The work of astronomers like Ibn al-Shatir allows modern scholars to conclude that “at some level the Renaissance – which was at least partly inspired by the Copernican revolution – was not a purely European creation...the role of Arabic astronomy was not to preserve Greek astronomy, but to correct its flaws and finally to seek alternatives to it.”

Muslim scientists recognized the importance of the Indian system and thus transformed it into the well-known ‘Arabic numerals,’ which are still in use today in the West, through which, according to Goldstein (1980); the West has been able to make its giant mathematical strides. They invented trigonometry – both plane and solid and were also the first to formulate explicit trigonometric functions.

In medicine, the novelty of the Islamic civilization does not lie in the mass of information that it conveyed to the West via Arabic translations, but in the way it helped “medicine to become established as a science”.

Such examples demonstrate that Muslims share the core values upon which Europe and the West are founded. The criticism that Islam is irrational is “potentially dangerous in its double reductionism in the historical approach, and in the definition of European identity.”

It is incumbent to understand that Islam and Muslims are not the ‘enemy within.’ Islam needs to be understood in its theological, historical and contemporary context. Both “Islam” and the “West” have a responsibility to act. The West must drain the swamp of Muslim rage by portraying Islam and Muslims in a fair and just manner. On the other hand, it is the responsibility of the Islamic world to defeat the terrorist aberration

theologically and to engage with the 'West' in a manner that is befitting of today's context.

We respectfully request that the following be included in HCR100

- 1- The Prophet Mohammad [pbuh] had left his house to migrate to Madinah on Safar 27th, the fourteenth year of Prophethood, i.e. 12/13 September 622 A.D. He reached Quba in the vicinity of Madinah, on Monday, the 12th day of Rabi ul-Awwal. This is the equivalent to the 24<sup>th</sup> of September, 622 A.D. If the 24th of September is available that will be great.
- 2- We request that the first sentence of the resolution be changed to: 'Whereas, Hawaii is known for the wealth of its cultural and religious...' [add the word religious after cultural]
- 3- We request that sentence number 16 be changed to, 'Whereas, the Islamic world preserved and made original contributions to the works of science...' [add and made original contributions to]
- 4- We request that sentence number 25 be changed to 'Whereas, the Islamic faith shares common teachings found in texts of both Christianity and Judaism, ...' [add shares common teachings found in texts]

Recognizing Islam Day in Hawaii will continue to show how Hawaii and her people lead by example in bridging the gap and provide a great environment for all people to live and work side by side as one people, brothers and sisters of our parents Adam and Eve. We very much appreciate your support and endorsement of HCR100.

Mahalo and Best regards



Hakim Ouansafi  
Chairman

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1	Mohammad Akram Khalil	Honolulu, HI 96821	
2	ABDELQUAHAB	96822	
3	Christoph Benjamin	HI 96857	
4	SARIM KABIR	HI 96863	
5	Ally ElKadi	HI 96827	
6	David Salamah	Honolulu, HI 96819	
7	Abdullah Morris	Wahiawa HI 96792	
8	Hakim Oussar	HNL 96821	
9	Musceda Ganjali	Honolulu, HI 96825	
10	Zaid Wans	Honolulu HI	
11	YOUSSES BERTOMANE	KAILUA 96734	
12	Joseph Higin	Honolulu	
13	Zaid H. Saeed	KANEHOE BAY, HI 96863	
14	Hicham Genane	Honolulu HI 96823	
15	MUHAMMAD ANWAR QUMR	Honolulu HI 96822	

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17	MUHAMMAD	[Redacted]	[Signature]
18	Azi Paulani	[Redacted]	[Signature]
19	Muhammad Kazi	[Redacted]	[Signature]
20	Ala Sharana	[Redacted]	[Signature]
21	Mohamed Abdourahimou	[Redacted]	[Signature]
22	JOHN KENDRICK	[Redacted]	[Signature]
23	NIZAM MUHSIN	[Redacted]	[Signature]
24	Rafat Mashaly	[Redacted]	[Signature]
25	Shazia Khalil	[Redacted]	[Signature]
26	ADMA Aki	[Redacted]	[Signature]
27	Sayed Hussain	[Redacted]	[Signature]
28	LABOU, MEERANE	[Redacted]	[Signature]
29	Salam AbuRabi	[Redacted]	[Signature]
30	Hamed Ali	[Redacted]	[Signature]


























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45	Abdul Mueib	[REDACTED] Honolulu 96815	[Signature]

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#	Name	Address	Signature
✓46	Shafiq Patel	[Redacted]	Shafiq Patel
47	Dalida Elsamouy	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
48	Yamira Fares	N/A	Yamira Fares
49	Fatem EL Kadi	[Redacted]	Fatem EL Kadi
✓50	Filiz Arslan	[Redacted] Hoalulu	[Redacted]
✓51	Michele Ouanzafi	[Redacted] HNL 96821	Michele Ouanzafi
✓52	Samina	[Redacted]	Samina
✓53	Nurzaheen Hussain	[Redacted] Eusa Beach	Nurzaheen Hussain
✓54	Niglat Quadi	[Redacted] Hoalulu	Niglat Quadi
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47	Filiz Arslan	 Honolulu	
48	Michele Quansafi	 HNL 96821	Michele Quansafi
49	Mahzabeen Hussain	 Tuna Beach 96782	
50	Samwis	 Honolulu	Samwis
51	Nihal Quadin	 Honolulu	Nihal Quadin
52	Dr Belle	 Honolulu HI 96822	
53	Lehan Siddiqui	 Kalaheo 96891	Lehan Siddiqui
54	MADY AREF	 96821	
55	Mohammad Saif	 96822	
56	ROCH SPEROSA	 96892	
57	Sofiane BOU HAPPAH	 96825	
58	Abdelkader Abakbi	 HI 96822	
59	Rashed Garoud	 HI 96898	Rashed Garoud
60	Nabeel Hasan	 Mililani HI	









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62	Farhan Saifar	[REDACTED] Honolulu HI	[Signature]
63	Abdi Ahmed	[REDACTED] Honolulu HI	[Signature]
64	Wahib Homari	[REDACTED] Honolulu, HI	[Signature]
65	Aladin El-Eddi	[REDACTED] Honolulu, HI 96825	[Signature]
66	Muhammad Costa	[REDACTED] Haleiwa HI 96712	[Signature]
67	SYED NABEEL	[REDACTED] Ewa Beach	[Signature]
68	Michelle Occoroff	[REDACTED] Honolulu HI 96841	[Signature]
69	Darva Aldogari	[REDACTED] Honolulu, 96822	[Signature]
70	Gurdal Arslan	[REDACTED] Honolulu, HI 96822	[Signature]
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75	RADWAN AKRAWI	[REDACTED]	[Signature]

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82	Shereed Zarr	[REDACTED] New York	[Signature]
83	Sulaiman Alsuwad	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
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96	Sulaiman Ahmed Ali	[Redacted] Honolulu, Hawaii	[Signature]
97	Wilmar Salim	[Redacted] Honolulu	[Signature]
98	Riad Malik	[Redacted] Honolulu, 96817 Honolulu HI	[Signature]
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