



Jihadism

Seminar – Discourses about Religion and Secularism
in the Arab World

Week 9, 30.05.2017

Muhammad A. Faraj

(1954-1982)

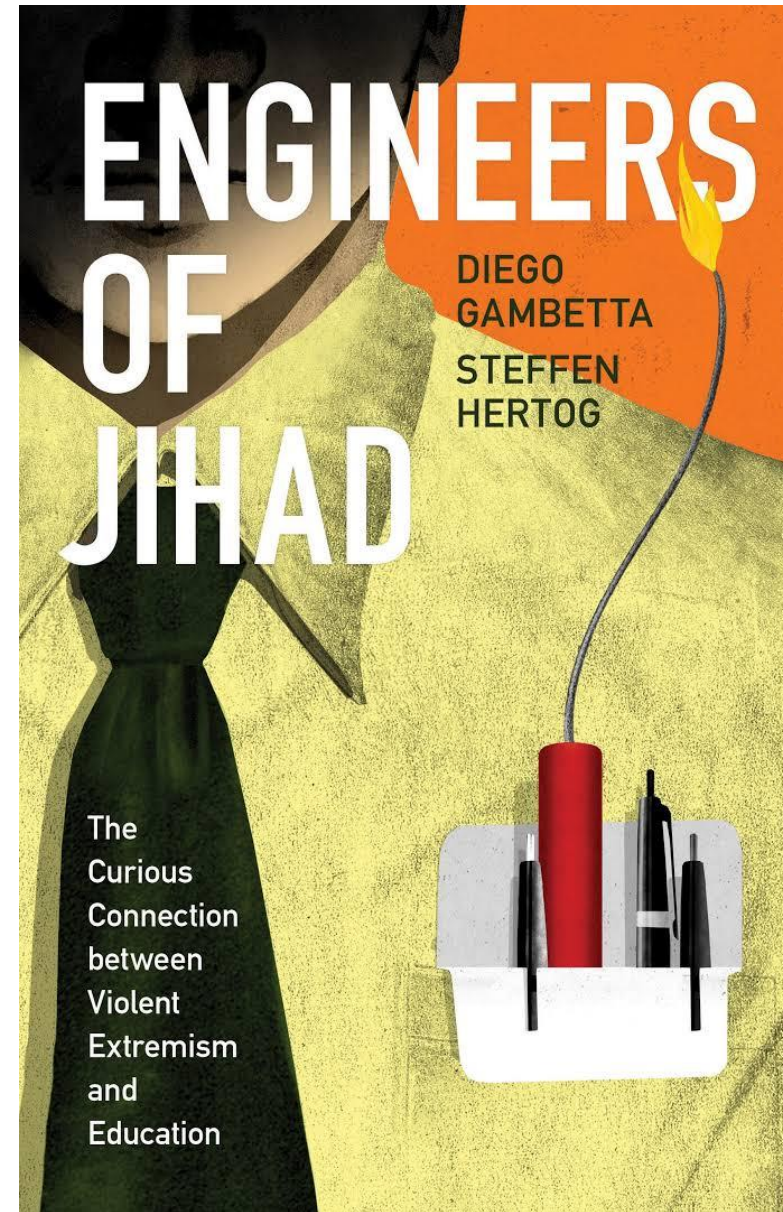
The Absent Duty



- A synthesis of a selection of textual fragments from traditional Islamic literature into a revolutionary manual
- A radical re-working of the doctrine of Jihad that omits „textual ambiguities and interpretive complexities“ and captures a set of collective sentiments
- Giving weight to historical precedence over traditional methods of reasoning in Islamic jurisprudence.

- He takes 7 different approaches to the establishment of an Islamic state, refuting them one by one.
- He insists there is only one „religiously allowed road“ to its establishment: waging a war against the „infidel“ state by a „believing minority.“
- There is no need to:
 - convince the majority of this political project;
 - take the approval of the ‘ulama;
 - delve deep into Islamic knowledge.
- The „near enemy“ vs. the „far enemy“:
 - It is better for Muslim lands to be under foreign occupation than liberated under an „infidel banner“

- Engineers are 17 times, doctors 10 times, over-represented
- Cognitive and emotional affinity between radical Islamism and technical sciences:
 - closed view of knowledge
 - intolerant of ambiguity
 - mechanistic view of social order
 - well-regulated daily routines



Hizbullah (Lebanon)

- Combining Jihadism with grassroots social and political activism
- Its appeal comes from:
 - marginalization of a specific group by the state
 - internal strife (civil war, sectarianism, weak state)
 - Parallel state structures
 - a popular cause to rally the masses (Israeli occupation)
 - Extensive external support (Iran, Syria)



Bernard Lewis

(1916 –)

The Roots of Muslim Rage



- Muslims hate the USA without a good reason (no legacy of colonialism; not atheist like the USSR; did good things to Muslims)
- A grand narrative of a primordial rivalry between an Islamic and a Christian civilization
 - Religious-historical rivalry (Islam vs. Judeo-Christianity)
 - Islamic fundamentalism vs. Western secularism and modernism
 - Feelings of humiliation and envy

الجهاد

وقالوا

فيسبيل الله

ان تصروا والله ينصركم

اتقوا الله وكونوا مع الصادقين

عدد ١ -

جريدة اسبوعية تحمل اسم المسيل الذي تاتوا مع اعدائهم جبراً مستخدمين الألمان

برلين يوم الجمعة ١٩١٥

Berlin

den 5. März 1915

EL DSCHIHAD

Zeitung für die muhammedanischen Kriegsgefangenen

Nr. 1

Arabische Ausgabe

مقصد جريدتنا

سلام عليكم من الذين جعلكم الله سبحانه
وقهالى في ايديهم

انا فله انكر لستم اعداء لنا لان اعداءكم واعداً لنا
وهو الانجليز والفرنسيون والروس ساقوكم الى

يخافون من ظهور الحق فانه مد عليهم وكيف
لا يبخشون اظهار الحقيقة وقد اشاعوا في العالم اجمع
الاكاذيب التي تقضى على شرف المانيا من جهة
وسلب حرية الامم الاسلامية والتمكن من الآلة
على اقسام للعورة واستبعاد الامم الضعيفة
من جهة اخرى وايضا لمحقدها الشد على المانيا

للامم التي بقيت على الحياد حقائق هذه الحرب
لتكون حكماً بين المانيا وخصومها
وانكم سترون ان شاء الله تعالى في هذه الجريدة
الاسباب الحقيقية التي سببت هذه الحرب
والنتائج التي نتجت عنها حتى يظهر لكم تمامها
كذب انجلترا وفرنسا والروسيا الذين

Operation Cyclone (1979-1989)



Charlie Wilson, US House of Representative (1973-1997)

Zbigniew Brzezinski

National Security Advisor
under J. Carter (1977-1981)



- Q: And neither do you regret having supported the Islamic [integrisme], having given arms and advice to future terrorists?
- Brzezinski: What is most important to the history of the world? The Taliban or the collapse of the Soviet empire? Some stirred-up Moslems or the liberation of Central Europe and the end of the cold war?

Source: David N. Gibbs (2000) "Afghanistan: The Soviet Invasion in Retrospect,"
International Politics 37, no. 2, pp. 241-242

Israel's support to Hamas

- "When I look back at the chain of events I think we made a mistake," one Israeli official who had worked in Gaza in the 1980s said in [a 2009 interview](#) with the Wall Street Journal's Andrew Higgins. "But at the time nobody thought about the possible results."

Source: Ishaan Tharoor (2014) „How Israel helped create Hamas“, *The Washington Post*, 30 July

Syria...

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zj--wiYkTw0>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ByJ9XKoLQ0>