JIHAD: Defined and Operationalized
PART ONE: WHAT IS “JIHAD”?
* Defined
* Types
* Who can Declare?
* Who’s the Enemy?
* Muhammad’s ROE
* Defining Territory for Jihad
* Jihad in History * Views of Jihad
* Jihad = Foundation of Islam?
PART TWO:
JIHAD OPERATIONALIZED

• “Jihad al Saghir” in Action
• Modus Operandi of “Harb” as Jihad
• Evolving ROE in Jihad al Saghir & Implications for USA
• Suicide as “Jihad”
• Do the “Ends Justify the Means” Now? Implications...
• Concluding Remarks on “Jihad”
• Questions/Discussion
PART ONE: WHAT IS JIHAD?
Quranic Injunctions on Jihad...

- Term “Jihad” used differently in Quran than widely propagated by “Jihadists”
- Root word is “jhd” (effort) occurs 41 times in Quran
- 10 of these usages definitively refer to conduct of “harb”
- Roots of fighting and war are “qtl” and “hrb”
Quranic Injunctions on “Jihad” & Concept of Abrogation

Meccan Verses versus Medinan Verses
Quranic Themes on Qital (Fighting) & Jihad (Struggle)

- Injunctions regarding “Sabr”
- OK to Engage in Defensive “Harb”
- OK to Wage Offensive “Harb,” but within certain limits
- Lifting of the Above as Revealed in “Sword Verse”
- Patience with the “People of the Book”
- Loss of this Patience & Declaration to “Subdue” the Jews & Christians
- Evidence of Internal Tension and the Reluctance to Fight
**JIHAD DEFINED BY...**

- Salafists/Wahhabists/Deobandis
- Mainstream Muslims
- The West
- Different Audience, Different Definition
- Strategic Implications of How Jihad is Defined/Acknowledged
- Jihad IS a Core Concept of Islam.

**WHICH CONTROLS/DISSEMINATES THE MESSAGE IS KEY**
TYPES OF JIHAD:

JIHAD AL KABIR

VS.

JIHAD AL SAGHIR
Jihad al Kabir: Internal Struggle i.e. Seek From Within...

- Lifelong Struggle
- Peaceful Efforts
- Sufi Inspired
- Not Emphasized by “Islamists”
Jihad al Saghir: HARB

- Objective: Dar al Islam i.e. Khilafa
- Al Saghir: Who Must Fight...
- Defensive
- Offensive
WHO CAN LEGITIMATELY DECLARE JIHAD VIA A "FATWA"?

SUNNI (85% of Muslims):
- Learned Islamic Scholars/Imams
- The Caliph
- Legitimate Muslim Rulers

SHIA (15% of Muslims):
- Grand Ayatullah
- Ayatullahs
- Hojatulislamis
WHO IS THE ENEMY ACCORDING TO THE ISLAMIC MUHARIBUN?

THE ENEMY BY PRIORITY:
1) APOSTATES (Murtad Fitri & Milli)
2) DEVIAN MUSLIMS (Mushriq)
3) MUSLIM HYPOCRITS (Munifiq)
4) ATHEISTS/PAGANS (Kufar)
5) PEOPLE OF THE BOOK (Yuhudi & Nazerene)
Muhammad’s ROE in Jihad...

Strict Rules of Engagement in Jihad:

• Announce the Offer of “Faith” to the Enemy
• Protect Non-Combatants
• Destruction of Infrastructure Forbidden
• Division of Spoils
Importance of Defining Borders for the Purposes of Jihad al Saghir

• Islamic Muharibun’s (Terrorists) Agenda:
  – Declare/Identify Entire World as Dar al-Islam = Fair Game
  – Dar al-Islam Re-Conquered via Lesser Jihad (Defensive)
  – Means Justify the Religiously Sanctioned End: Global Al Khalifah
JIHAD IN MUSLIM HISTORY...

- Hijra 622 C.E. (defensive)
- Wars of the Riddah (632-634) (defensive)
- 7th Through 9th C.E. (offensive)
- 10th & 11th C.E: Crusades (defensive)
- 13th Century Mongol Invasion (defensive)
- Suleiman the Great’s Jihad (offensive)
- Post Caliphate Jihad (defensive or offensive?)
"JIHAD" ACCORDING TO OSAMA BIN LADEN ET AL

- Zawahiri & TWH
- Influence on OBL’s Views on Jihad
- 1998 Fatwa: World Islamic Front for Jihad Against Jews & Crusaders
Al Qaeda’s Operational Use of the Term “Jihad”

- Recruiting/Rallying Tool
- Defining Boundaries of Dar al Islam for Jihad al Saghir (Defensive) = Rally Ummah
“JIHAD” ACCORDING TO THE SHIA

• For the Historically Persecuted Shia, Jihad is a Permanent State as They Face a Struggle Just to Exist ...
• Occultation of Twelfth Imam & Time Out on Jihad al Saghir
IS JIHAD THE FOUNDATION AND NOT A PILLAR OF ISLAM?

• Historical Evidence:
• Conquest & Expansion
• Perceptions in Various Parts of the Muslim World Today
• Images Speak Louder than Words?
PART TWO: JIHAD OPERATIONALIZED...
JIHAD Operationalized Today:

- A Concept in “Crisis/Free Fall” in Sunni Islam? Why?
- Demise of Caliphate & Concomitant Rise of Islamist Groups Since 1924
- Loss of Oversight/Control Mechanism Over Ulema & “Free Agents”

= “Anarchical Jihad” (Burki)

Which Begs the Question: Does Jihad al Saghir Pose an Existential Threat?
EVOLVING ROE in Jihad al Saghir

1) No Hierarchical Oversight = “Democratic Jihad” (Burki)
   Every “Jihadi” can determine his own ROE...

2) Fatwas are “non-binding” in Sunni Islam

3) Deep Divisions Within Clerical Establishment & Increasing Tendencies Towards Draconian ROE or “Ends Justify the Means” Approach = Removal/Absence of Ethical or Moral Constraints = A Faith Moving Towards the Precipice as it Abandons Any Spiritual Core/Foundation
Traditional Goals of Jihad Tied to ISLAM

• Islam IS an Imperialist/Conquering Religion as Enunciated in its History, Tradition and ROE With the Kuffar.
• Theologically, Goal is CONQUEST &/or Subjugation in Order to Bring All to the True/Correct Path.
• Jihad & Da’wa are the Two Mechanism to Accomplish the Mission
CASE STUDY OF A JIHADI/GHAZI IN ACTION:
Major Nidal Malik Hasan, US ARMY

Were His Actions Haram or Halal Based on ROE of Jihad al Saghir?
More Case Studies of “Jihad”:

- 9/11*
- Faisal Shahzad
- Umar Farouk*
- Richard Reid*
- UPS Parcels
- Mumbai Attacks**
- Khost Attack*
- Marine Barracks in Beirut*
- Liquid Bomb Airline Plot*
- USS Cole*
OTHER FORMS/MECHANISMS TO WAGE JIHAD...Stealth Jihad (Phares)
PUBLIC PROTEST AS “JIHAD”
OUR RESPONSE TO DATE...
CONCLUDING REMARKS ON “JIHAD” TODAY...

- Battle of Ideas & Minds
- Control of Message/ Discourse = Edge/ Initiative
- Ulema/Scholar/Mullahs are a BIG part of the problem =
- Absence of Ethics/Morality & Emphasis on Violence in all forms as “Jihad”
- How “Victory” Might be Achieved: Restoration of a Caliphate or Reformation or Destruction/Warfare