

## Summary of Concepts

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### JEMAAH ISLAMIYAH'S IDEOLOGY OF HATE AND TERROR

"The biggest danger of the JI is their ideology, their misinterpretation of Islam and the Quran."

(Ustaz Haji Ali Haji Mohamed)

From the RRG's counseling findings, it was found that the Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) believe in a twisted form of Islamic concepts which form their ideology of hate and terror. They believe that it becomes compulsory for them to establish the Islamic Caliphate which is a utopian state, where they perceive justice and peace will flourish. Their ability to pick and choose certain pristine Islamic concepts as tools used for their corrupted political goals signifies the crookedness of their intention. Uniquely, they interpret these concepts without proper methodological formulation and arrogantly believe their interpretation and understanding of these concepts are real and succinct. Concepts such as *al-wala wal bara'* became loyalty to all that follow their ways and hatred to all that opposes them. Jihad became exclusively War. Through their *bai'ah* (pledge of allegiance), they held that their Amir (leader) have their absolute trust. They consent to *istimata* (seeking death through suicide) to achieve their goals while believing that the virgins in heaven will await their martyrs. This simplistic, literal, non-intellectual interpretation extinguishes centuries of mainstream Islamic intellectual tradition and history, and burns scholarly works of a great number of mainstream Islamic scholars.

Interestingly, the RRG found that while they were inflamed with these twisted concepts, most JI members have very little Islamic education. Most were found to be in pursuit of religious knowledge when they join the JI. Lacking in religious education, they were easily influenced with the teachings of the JI, espoused by charismatic leaders. They were thus made confused with other Islamic concepts; for example on the promises of eternal lives or *akhirah*; using violent means to restore the *Khilafah Islamiah* (Islamic Caliphate); that Military/Armed Jihad is compulsory for Muslims as Islamic Law is not being carried out; the coming of Islam is to execute all non-Muslims and therefore it is permissible to kill all Non-Muslims.

In the JI classes held in private homes of JI members, the plight of Muslims in Palestine, Chechnya and others was continuously emphasized and deliberated. This was solely aimed to incite their members towards adopting their perverse ideology of hate to the *kafirun* (non-believers). Finally, another feature of their lessons is the combination and intermingling of religious subjects with military ones.

## Jemaah Islamiyah's Ideology of Hate and Terror

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### **IDEOLOGICAL RESPONSE TO JEMAAH ISLAMIYAH'S IDEOLOGY OF HATE AND TERROR**

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## THEIR TWISTED RELIGIOUS CONCEPTS

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From RRG's counseling sessions, we have seen that the JI's ideology have misinterpreted these pristine Islamic concepts:

- Jihad (Struggle)
- Bai'ah (Pledge of Allegiance)
- Daulah Islamiah (Islamic State)
- Ummah (Community)
- Takfir (Accusing others as infidels)
- Hijrah (Migration)
- Istimata (Martyrdom)
- Al-Wala' Wal Bara' (Allegiance & Non Allegiance)

## Concept of Jihad

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### **JIHAD TO JEMAAH ISLAMIYAH**

To the JI, Jihad is HOLY WAR. It is Fardh Ain (Obligatory). It becomes an Affirmative duty. Their Final Aim of JIHAD is to achieve Daulah Islamiyah. Above all, JIHAD MUSALLAH or ARMED JIHAD is preferred. Jihad Musallah is pursued against the enemies of Islam, Infidels, Polytheists and whoever supports them.

### **JIHAD IN ISLAM**

In Islam, Jihad is to strive towards excellence. Pursuance of could be categorized into two. Firstly, Jihad for Al-Khair (Goodness), which could fall into these different categories:

- Human Development
- Prosperity
- Good Education
- Peace
- Family Livelihood
- Friendship
- Nation Building

Secondly, Jihad against Asy-Syarr (Evil), which could fall into these categories:

- Overcoming one's negative inner self
- Fight against the Accursed Devil
- Intrusion of One's Freedom
- Overcoming One's Laziness
- Overcoming One's Stupidity
- Against Hatred
- Against Arrogance

## Concept of AL-WALA'WAL BARA'

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### **AL-WALA' WAL BARA' ACCORDING TO JI**

They possess a "Us versus Them" mindset. This concept becomes their tool to categorize their friends and enemies. To them, Al-Wala' are those they are loyal to, their Friends. While Al-Bara' equals to those they hate, i.e. their Enemies. Their Friends are all who Agree with them, while their Enemies are Many which include non-Muslims & Some Muslims who do not agree with their ways.

### **AL-WALA' WAL BARA' IN ISLAM**

In Islam, there is no "Us versus Them" Mentality. All Human Beings Are Creation of God, thus we must show Love and Tenderness. In a multi-racial and Multi Religious society, we are encouraged to get to know one another (ta'awun), learn and respect each other in harmony. Islam teaches love and guidance. Islam rejects harshness, cruelty and enmity. This is all due to the position of Islam as a Rahmah (Blessing) to the Universe.

## Concept of TAKFIR.

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### CONCEPT OF TAKFIR TO JI

To the JI, fellow Muslims, professing the same faith and creed, become their enemies because majority Muslims does not support their cause. They pronounce Muslims as non-believers through the Act of Takfir (labelling Muslims as infidels). Their act is similar to the Khawarij, a splinter deviant group which existed in the early years of the Islamic history.

### TAKFIR IN ISLAM

Muslims are forbidden to pronounce anyone as an Infidel. One who calls others as an infidel, has cast infidelity upon himself. As shown in history, the Khawarij were considered as transgressors and extremists by Muslim scholars, past and present.

## Concept of UMMAH

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### CONCEPT OF UMMAH TO JI

Arrogantly believe they are the Rightfully Guided Ummah (Community). Their Way is The Rightful Way. Others are considered to not following Islam truthfully. Thus they are the Chosen Community.

### UMMAH IN ISLAM

No ONE could arrogantly claim to be THE Muslim Ummah (Community). Islam encourages Ukhuwwah (Brotherhood) among all Muslims. In the proclamation of the Medina Charter, established by the Holy Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), Muslims, Jews and Christians are One Ummah (Community) in Medina. Thus, he encourages Peaceful Co-Existence, and Islam advocates Good Citizenry. A Good Muslim is a Peaceful, Loyal and Good Citizen.

## Concept of HIJRAH

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### CONCEPT OF HIJRAH TO JEMAAH ISLAMIYAH

They volunteer to leave their homes, properties, good jobs and families for the sake of God. They believe they should disregard the world, their parents, wives and children for their struggle. They believe they should migrate (hijrah) from worldly inclination to heavenly goals of beautiful virgins through suicide bombings.

### HIJRAH IN ISLAM

Concept of Migration (Hijrah) relates to the spirit of continuous lifelong progress, opportunity and change. Family, parents and children must be taken care of. Physical Migration (Hijrah) only in dire situation when one fears for one's religious freedom, personal rights, dignity & wealth. Muslims are to prosper their birthplace, as a sign of thankfulness to God. Even becomes compulsory for a Muslim to remain in their country when he will enhance the progress of the Muslim community in the country.

## Concept of ISTIMATA

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### **ISTIMATA TO JEMAAH ISLAMIYAH**

They advocate Istimata (suicide act) through bombings. Istimata (Suicide Act) is a tool for their Hijrah (Migration) to God. They will be rewarded with heaven and virgins. They dream of being a syahid (martyr).

### **ISTIMATA IN ISLAM**

Suicide Acts (Istimata) are greatly forbidden in Islam. No justification for Suicide Acts. Lives, human and others, are sacred, and must be honoured. Whoever commits suicide, he will be considered eternally to Hell-Fire, remaining there forever.

## Concept of BAI'AH

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### **BAI'AH TO JEMAAH ISLAMIYAH**

To them, Bai'ah (Pledge of Obedience) given to the JI Amir (leader) is the same as that given to the Prophet. Once a Bai'ah was given, it cannot be broken. One who breaks the bai'ah has committed grave sin, and he has betrayed the Jemaah and the Amir and he becomes a kafir (an infidel). Without Bai'ah, one is less pious and less Muslim.

### **BAI'AH IN ISLAM**

Status of permissibility of bai'ah (pledge of obedience) must be ascertained by the majority leaders of the society – the ulama (scholars), umara (rulers) and respected people. JI's Amir (leader) does not represent the majority Muslim community. Thus their understanding of bai'ah is wrong. Their bai'ah is unacceptable.

## Concept of DARUL ISLAM

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### **DARUL ISLAM TO JEMAAH ISLAMIYAH**

JI believes that to establish the Religion, they must establish the Darul Islam (Islamic State). Islamic State will then lead to an Islamic Caliphate (Khilafah Islamiyah). They believe it is obligatory to contribute financially & physically to their efforts to achieve an Islamic State.

### **DARUL ISLAM IN ISLAM**

The Conception of Darul Islam (Islamic State) is relative, not precise and exact. Islamic scholars have differed greatly and widely on the issue of Darul Islam. There are no defined, clear injunctions towards Darul Islam. Thus their justification to permit spilling of blood and taking people's wealth for creation of Darul Islam is an extremely unacceptable and dangerous one.