

HATED BY ALL NATIONS

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They will deliver you up to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations on account of my name (Matt. 24: 9).

Those of us living in cricket playing countries knew the name Imran Khan well, long before he retired and entered politics. Imran was of course, one of Pakistan's greatest ever cricket players, and particularly noted for his fiery bowling that intimidated the opposition. His justifiable aggression on the field was borne of fierce national pride, but off the field Imran was gentlemanly, well-spoken and always polite.

Well, it seems that now as the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Imran Khan is still bowling "bouncers" and intimidating all who oppose his Islamic agenda. It has been reported by MEMRI (Middle East Media Research Institute) that Imran has made the outrageous and ignorant statement that **Jesus never existed!**



Pakistan's Prime Minister Imran Khan (Photo: Daniel Berehulak/Getty Images)

Imran Khan said: "There were prophets of Allah other [than Mohammed], but there is no mention of them in human history. There is negligible mention of them. Moses is mentioned, but there is no mention of Jesus in history. But the entire life of Mohammed, who was Allah's last prophet, is part of history."

What makes this so outrageous is not only the fact that it's false, but the context in which it was made: Apparently, Khan believes freedom of speech to insult Christianity is fine. It's just when it's the other way around that the freedom is objectionable.

Witness the fact that in the same speech, Khan launched into a diatribe against those who insult Islam and its prophet Mohammed, saying freedom of speech could not be used “as a cover for hurting the religious sentiments of Muslims around the world.”

Continuing his breathtaking hypocrisy, Khan urged, “We want the countries of the world to sign a convention which will be called the International Convention on Preventing the Defamation of Religions.”

Of course Khan is referring to the defamation of Islam — not necessarily “religions,” as evidenced by his remarks about Jesus. As he explained about the convention, “[This] means that freedom of speech cannot be used as a pretext to hurt the world’s 1.25 billion Muslims.”

Khan is well on his way to seeing this convention enacted. The **European Court of Human Rights** recently set a precedent for this when it ruled that defaming the Islamic prophet Mohammed was prohibited and exceeds the permissible limits of free speech in Europe. **(This is in contrast to a ruling by the same court which allowed the insulting of Christianity in 2012.)**

Khan cited this ruling, which significantly bolsters his program. “The European Union’s Human Rights Court said for the first time that you cannot hurt somebody’s religion under the pretext of freedom of speech, and especially it said that you cannot blaspheme against Mohammed’s honor,” Khan noted.

So, it should not come as a surprise that Khan consistently upholds Pakistan’s blasphemy laws, which are predominantly used to persecute and carry out vendettas against Christians and other minorities in the country.

As reported by *Breitbart*, Pakistan was placed on a special watch list for “severe violations of religious freedom” less than a year ago. It made the list for “having engaged in or tolerated egregious violations of religious freedom.”

Khan recently made a deal with his country’s Islamist mobs. The mobs have been agitating for the death of **Asia Bibi**, a Pakistani Christian mother who spent almost a decade in jail (much of that time in solitary confinement) on blasphemy charges and was sentenced to die for her “crimes.”

When Pakistan’s Supreme Court acquitted her this past October, Khan prevented her from leaving the country (which was basically a death sentence for Bibi) and allowed a petition to be filed against the court’s decision (in exchange for ending the violent protests).

In the same speech as he denied the existence of Jesus, Khan even absolved responsibility for the violence of these mobs, especially in cases where Mohammed is perceived to have been insulted in the West, saying the insults themselves were a ploy to tarnish the name of Islam.

“Every few years, in some Western country, our dear Prophet is blasphemed against and dishonored,” Khan said. “What is the consequence of this? Muslims become angry. We take to the streets in protest...[protesters] break things in our country...It enables the enemies of Muslims to tell people in the West: ‘See, Islam is a big religion that spreads violence.’ They get an opportunity to spread

propaganda against Islam.”

It is ironic just last month Khan announced another one of his goals: to present a peaceful image of Islam to the world. ¹

Well may we ask, ‘Whatever happened to that fair-minded sportsman and spokesman who always championed a fair game?’ Does he not realise that peace is fostered in an environment of equal rights for all citizens, including the freedom of speech to say what you think (without violence ensuing from perceived “insults”).

But we who are followers of the Messianic Lord Jesus are not at all surprised or taken off our guard. Our Lord has already foretold and forewarned us, that a day is coming when all nations will abominate and persecute and eliminate his disciples. Anybody with his ‘ear to the ground’ sees the growing trend around the world to marginalise, silence, abominate the Christian voice.

Jesus said, **Remember the word that I said to you, ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you ... (John 15: 20).**

Let us pray every day for our brothers and sisters in Christ in countries around the world that are being persecuted for naming the name of Jesus Christ. And let us pray for ourselves that we remain faithful to our Lord until the very end. For Jesus himself has said, **You will be hated by all on account of my name, but it is the one who has endured to the end who will be saved ... i.e. shall enter His Kingdom of glory (Matt. 10:22).**

Indeed, it is **through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God (Acts 14: 22).**

Yes, Mr Khan, the irony is that you are only fulfilling the word of the greatest prophet of the One God. Jesus prophesied his followers would be delivered up, persecuted and killed by all nations on account of his name and Gospel-word. Another sign indicating we are definitely nearing the end of this present evil age!

¹ I acknowledge this as reported by [Meira Svirsky](#) in her report ‘[Jesus Never Existed](#)’ at [www.clarion](#)