

Murder Islamic Style

by Michael Curtis



Here's the smell of the blood still. All the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten the little hand of Muslim prevaricators, murderers and terrorists, and their fabricated and changing narratives of events and history. Irrespective of the odor, those responsible for crimes must be brought to justice and need to account for their deceptions.

First there is absurdity. On a broadcast on October 3, 2018 the official Palestine Authority TV informed all gourmets that Israel has stolen the falafel and the hummus. Moreover, this larceny is said to be part of the "brutal attack" against the entire Palestinian heritage by Israel which fabricated the falafel as it has other matters. Fortuitously or not, this latest addiction to the Palestinian Narrative of Victimhood

was proclaimed at a moment when a particularly brutal attack in Istanbul by citizens of Saudi Arabia and reminders of many terrorist attacks in London by Muslims occurred. Not surprisingly, PA Chairman Mahmoud Abbas, in the fourteenth year of his four year term, on October 14, 2018 expressed full, "absolute," confidence in Saudi Arabia, as well as praising its leaders for their support of the Palestinians.

Chairman Abbas expressed no similar praise for the surprising generosity by British authorities towards a convicted Islamist terrorist. In London the 51 year old Islamic hate preacher Anjem Choudary was released on October 19, 2018 from prison after having served half of his sentence. He had been sentenced in 2016 to five and a half years for inviting support for ISIS to which he had taken an oath of allegiance. Considered the most dangerous extremist in the UK and the center of a web of Islamist extremists operating in London, the security costs for guiding him cost \$2 million a year.

Choudary is allowed to spend the first part of his release in a probation hostel in north London where he will reside in a separate room with a single bed, refrigerator, and a mobile phone though no computer. There is a communal TV room and kitchen available. He can have meals either in a communal area or in his own room. The location of his wife and five children remains a tightly guarded secret.

What is not secret is that Israel, in addition to its other thefts, stole the compartment of "chutzpah." The jihadist Choudary reclaimed it to express his non-apologetic behavior and lack of appreciation for his freedom. Immediately on release, he declared he would launch a court action against the "strict" conditions of his release that he says breach his human rights.

Those conditions, 25 in number, include not speaking to the media, not preaching, electric tag on his right ankle, ban on travelling outside the London metropolitan area, no passport,

nighttime curfew, and ability to attend only one particular mosque in the London area, one approved by the minister of justice. In any case, other Islam leaders have said Choudary would not be welcomed at other mosques.

Yet, he remains a danger as is the Islamic web at which he was at the center. He continues to support jihadism, and ISIS. He declares it is the duty of all Muslims to give allegiance to the Caliph of the Islamic Caliphate State. He took an oath agreeing to the legitimacy of the Islamic Caliphate state. He wants to convert Buckingham Palace into a mosque.

Born in London of Pakistani immigrant parents, Choudary was a failed medical student, took up law and became a solicitor, and increasingly became an extreme Muslim and Sharia believer. His record of hatred and support for terrorist activity is intimidating. Choudary called the 9/11 hijackers "magnificent martyrs," and headed extreme groups, al- Muhajiroun and Islam 5UK.

Choudary has been linked, directly or indirectly through al- Muhajiroun, to a considerable number of terrorist activities. Probably the most well known is the murder of a young Fusilier Lee Rigby in Woolwich Barracks in 2013. Among other links to him are the following: the shoe bomber Richard Reid December 22, 2001, prepared to detonate explosives in his shoes on American Airlines flight from Paris to Miami; Siddhartha Dhar executioner for ISIS of five shackled men in January 2016; support for dirty bomb plot, 2004 to blow up finance institutions in the U.S.; support on 7/7, July 7, 2005 for Mohammed Sidique and suicide attacks on the underground and buses in London that killed 52 and injured 700; support for the Omar Kahn Sharif who attacked people in a bar in Tel Aviv, killing three and injuring 65; a truck attack in Oxford Street, and mail bombings to London stock exchange in December 2010; Khalid Masood who ploughed a car into pedestrians on Westminster Bridge killing five in March 2017.

Choudary is alive but the 59 year old Jamal Khashoggi, the well known journalist critical of policies of Saudi Arabia, is not, having disappeared, been killed or murdered on October 2, 2018 in the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul. Khashoggi, whose family was of Turkish origin, was born in and went to school in Saudi Arabia, then got an MBA at Indiana State University. He supported the fight of Saudi and CIA mujihadeen against the Soviet forces in Afghanistan in 1988, was a defender of the Saudi regime, and became a media advisor to Prince Turki al Faisal, head of Saudi general intelligence, and ambassador to the UK and the U.S., 2005-6. He was one of the most prominent journalists in the country, as well as a member of a respected family; his grandfather had been doctor to Ibn Saud, founder of Saudi Arabia.

Khashoggi took positions unacceptable to many. He expressed sympathy for some Islamist groups such as the Muslim Brotherhood that the government classified as a terrorist organization. He became critical of the rising star, 33 year old Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, MBS, and his ruling elite because of his authoritarian rule. Khashoggi regarded him as a brash young innovator, becoming increasingly despotic, calling him an old fashioned tribal leader, though MBS had proposed himself as an exponent of a moderate Islam, a reformer, a man who could minimize the religious establishment. Khashoggi was also critical of the Saudi intervention in Yemen.

He fled Saudi Arabia in September 2017, and lived in Virginia, though not a U.S. citizen, and wrote article for the *Washington Post*. In his last article he wrote, "Arab governments have given free rein to continue silencing the media at an increasing rate."

That outspokenness cost him his life. Khashoggi entered the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul for personal reasons, but has never been seen since then. Explanations have been contradictory and lacking in forthrightness. Possibly, a 15

man team of security agents sent by private jet tried to convince him to return to Saudi Arabia. He had the temerity to resist and fight the 15, and was killed or murdered, or hacked to pieces with a bone saw that happened to be lying around. Some questions can be raised. Could this event have been masterminded by the deputy chief of Saudi intelligence? Did Khashoggi die in a brawl, or because of a botched interrogation, or was he beaten, drugged, and murdered? Was an actor brought in to exit the Consulate wearing Khashoggi's clothes, a fake beard, and glasses.

Once again the cover up draws attention. Meanwhile, for the U.S. and Europeans the dilemma remains. On one hand are there any guarantees that similar appalling Islamic behavior cannot and will not be repeated? On the other hand, what are the strategic interests of the U.S. and the West in the relationship with the Saudis. Is there a divorce between U.S. political and strategic policy and business interests? This remains uncertain in spite of the fact that Steve Mnuchin and leaders of prominent American companies. J.P Morgan, Uber, BlackRock, are not attending the three day conference on investment insurance conference in Riyadh, Davos in the desert, due to open on October 23, 2018. It is time to rethink the Saudi relationship.