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The Quranic Sharia Laws

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Ibn Kammuna In this article I talk about some aspects of Sharia law as founded in the Quran. A Muslim, regardless of school of thought will have to accept such laws. After all, they are founded in the Quran, Allah's final word. After introducing the crime, I provide the Quranic evidence followed by some critical analysis that sheds light on possible alternatives. I end the article with a substantive conclusion. **The crimes, their Quranic basis and a critical analysis** 1. Crime: Rebellion, physical or verbal, against the Muslim leader Quranic Evidence 005.033 YUSUFALI: The punishment of those who wage war against Allah and His Messenger, and strive with might and main for mischief through the land is: execution, or crucifixion, or the cutting off of hands and feet from opposite sides, or exile from the land: that is their disgrace in this world, and a heavy punishment is theirs in the Hereafter

The punishment for this crime is Death, cutting of hands and feet or exile. Modern day society has different classification of such behavior against the state. Much of such behavior is considered no more than civil disobedience. The US first amendment guarantees free speech. In some instances there is some jail time involved. But in general such behavior is tolerated by a modern democratic state. An Islamic state, if applying Sharia law, will react in a mean-spirited way to control the civil liberties of its citizens. 2. Crime: Apostasy (a Muslim leaving Islam) Quranic Evidence 004.088 YUSUFALI: Why should ye be divided into two parties about the Hypocrites? Allah hath upset them for their (evil) deeds. Would ye guide those whom Allah hath thrown out of the Way? For those whom Allah hath thrown out of the Way, never shalt thou find the Way 004.089 YUSUFALI: They but wish that ye should reject Faith, as they do, and thus be on the same footing (as they): But take not friends from their ranks until they flee in the way of Allah (From what is forbidden). But if they turn renegades, seize them and slay them wherever ye find them; and (in any case) take no friends or helpers from their ranks;- The punishment for apostasy is death. There is a three days waiting period to allow the person to come back to the fold of Islam. My view is that this is not a crime at all. People should be free to adopt other religions or non-religions as they like. Yet, thanks to Allah, this is a crime in Islam. And, as a bonus, it is punishable by death! 3. Crime: Stealing (even if very small amount like 25 cents) Quranic Evidence 005.038 YUSUFALI: As to the thief, Male or female, cut off his or her hands: a punishment by way of example, from Allah, for their crime: and Allah is Exalted in power. The punishment for stealing is to cut off the hand at the wrist. This law shows the barbarity of Sharia law and the barbarity of some of the Quranic teachings. Bear in mind that all four Islamic schools of thought have to accept such teachings. They are in the Quran after all. It is clear that modern laws are superior to Sharia law. The punishments for stealing increase gradually as the amount stolen increases. This approach is more realistic than the barbarity of Sharia law. 4. Crime: Murder (killing someone not in War situations) Quranic Evidence 002.178 YUSUFALI: O ye who believe! the law of equality is prescribed to you in cases of murder: the free for the free, the slave for the slave, the woman for the woman. But if any remission is made by the brother of the slain, then grant any reasonable demand, and compensate him with handsome gratitude, this is a concession and a Mercy from your Lord. After this whoever exceeds the limits shall be in grave penalty. The punishment is a life for a life. However a Muslim cannot be killed for murdering a non Muslim, a woman, or a slave. Thank God for good Abe who said that all men are created equal. Well, not in Islam. Even in murder situations, Islam discriminates between people. A Muslim has a royal blood in him, while a non Muslims and women and slaves are the untouchables! How unjust can a religion be to teach such teachings? Oh, I forgot, we are talking about "Islam". **Conclusion** Sharia law interferes with basic human liberties. It is also evident that some of the Sharia laws based on the Quran are barbaric and unjust. A true Muslim any where has to accept such laws because they are Quranically based. Sharia laws are stagnant and came to us 1400 years ago from barbaric Arabia. It is time for Muslims to move on. Islamic law is not a suitable system of crime and punishment in civilized society. Islam considers apostasy a crime. Apostasy is not a crime, regardless of whether Islam likes it or not. It is a basic right that humans should enjoy in modern day society. Islamic Sharia wants to cut a person's hand if he/she steals regardless of the amount stolen. Stealing is clearly a case where a gradual system of punishment should be available to allow punishment for varying amounts of theft. Also, Sharia Law is unjust. It favors Muslims over other groups of people in society. The golden rule that promotes respecting others and treating them as equals is a thing of the past if Sharia law is in charge. No one in his right mind should allow that barbarity of Islamic law in today's social order.

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