Guiding US Policy towards Muslim World RAND Corporation's Two Documents*

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A B S T R A C T

The Muslim World After 9/11 and *Building Moderate Muslim Networks*, two comprehensive monographs, guiding U.S. policy towards Muslim world after 9/11, were produced by, one of the largest Think Tanks of the US, the RAND Corporation in 2004 and 2007, respectively. The authors posing the pivotal question, "How can the United States respond to the challenges and opportunities in the Muslim world?" suggest "a number of social, political, and military options," wherein Education is avowed to be "one of the main battlefields." They suggest "to derive lessons from the experience of the Cold War, determine their applicability to the conditions of the Muslim world today, and develop a 'road map' for the construction of moderate and liberal Muslim networks," who are said to be "a majority in most Muslim countries and communities." However, the majority of Muslim masses do not seem to fit into "the criterion of moderate Muslims" given by the authors. Here, selections from the two monographs are being reproduced, with due credit and appreciation, for wider circulation of report's invitation for comments in the academic community for necessary analysis, debate and evaluation on the criterion of promotion of justice and peace for all: an objective shared by Islamic as well as the founding U.S. values and ideals and the necessary foundation for a truly pluralistic world. The selections are preceded by an introduction briefly describing the said objective in the Islamic teachings and the U.S. founding documents.

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* Full text of the two monographs is available online at: website at: <https://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/monographs/2004/RAND_ MG246.pdf >; <http://www.rand.org/pdfrd/pubs/monographs/MG574/>.