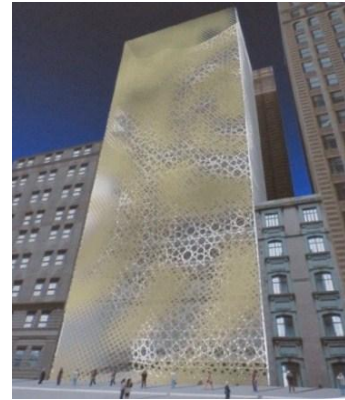


September 8, 2010

THE GROUND ZERO MOSQUE

FACTS ON THE GROUND ZERO MOSQUE – The fact is that there are no real facts available. The real owner of the property, Sharif el-Gamal, stated that he will at some time in the future form an organization that will own and operate the “Islamic Cultural Center,” first known as Cordoba House. Let me make that clear: the land was bought for \$4.8 million cash by a for-profit company owned by el-Gamal.



When Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who is one of the biggest promoters of the construction of the mega mosque, has claimed that both Christians and Jews currently serve on the board of directors, he is talking about the Cordoba Institute which does not own and will never own the property or the mosque. Both the front man, Iman Feisal Abdul Rauf and Sharif el-Gamal claim tax exemption for the property by the corporation, which they claim will be tax exempt under IRS rule 501c3, but which does not yet exist.

The mainstream media has portrayed Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf as the promoter and the operator of the property, which is totally erroneous. Rauf will be only one of 22 planned board members according to property owner Sharif el-Gamal, who purchased the land.

DETAILS ON THE REAL OWNER - Sharif el-Gamal is 37 years old and just a few years ago was waiting tables at a restaurant in New York City. He has a long arrest record that includes several assaults, drunk driving, disorderly conduct, petty larceny and soliciting the services of a prostitute. The funding on other properties he owns in New York City have mysterious origins which I will explore below, and he seems to have money coming from virtually nowhere but still has trouble paying bills. In fact, El-Gamal is delinquent on taxes for the property to be used for the Ground Zero mega mosque, owing \$227,000.

One of the main financial backers of Sharif el-Gamal is Hisham Elzanaty, who holds mortgages on other properties el-Gamal is developing. Elzanaty owns several medical clinics in New York. The NY Office of the Medicare Inspector General has sent a summons to Elzanaty claiming that his clinics billed for unsubstantiated charges of \$331,336. However, it is unknown if Elzanaty is the individual who has supplied the cash to buy the land at 51 Park. The money could have come from any individual or group anywhere in the world, because Sharif el-Gamal refuses to provide any transparency at all. The funds to purchase the land could have come from the family of Osama bin Laden, or perhaps the tooth fairy. There are news reports that the actual construction funds will be supplied by the Ford Foundation and Saudi royalty.

Imam Rauf, who proclaims the building will be a bridge for interfaith activity, belongs to a mosque in New York City founded by his father. In October, 2001 Sheik Muhammad Gemeaha, the imam at that mosque, declared that Jews had actually attacked the Trade Center's twin towers, and then he departed for the Middle East. Rauf has never condemned those statements and remains on the Board of Directors.

WHO IS IMAM RAUF? – It is becoming clear to many that Imam Rauf is a figurehead picked for the project because of his “moderate” image in the mainstream media who point to the fact that he attended the funeral of Danny Pearl, the Jewish reporter for the Wall Street Journal who was beheaded by Muslims. Unfortunately for the imam his other writings, including those in Arabic, are being scrutinized since he became the figurehead for the Ground Zero mosque.

About an Israeli - Arab peace treaty, Rauf wrote: *"For my fellow Arabs I have the following special message: Learn from the example of the Prophet Mohammed, your greatest historical personality. After a state of war with the Meccan unbelievers that lasted for many years, he acceded, in the Treaty of Hudaibiyah, to demands that his closest companions considered utterly humiliating. Yet peace turned out to be a most effective weapon against the unbelievers."* Rauf cites this passage because Mohammed used the time to build his forces, then broke the treaty and attacked Mecca. This message is actually a threat to the security of Israel. He later states, *"In a true peace it is impossible that a purely Jewish state of Palestine can endure. . . In a true peace, Israel will, in our lifetimes, become one more Arab country, with a Jewish minority."*

Imam Rauf has also blamed the United States for the 9-11 jihad attack and said that, “Osama bin Laden was made in the United States.” Despite this fact the State Department continues to have Rauf on the payroll of the United States government to explain “...the role of religion in American society,” to those in the Middle East.

BOTTOM LINE - Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf is the very typical Muslim who practices the Muslim tradition of “taqiyya” which allows a Muslim to outwardly feign loyalty and empathy to non-Muslims, as long as Allah knows that inwardly there is hatred and hostility in his heart toward them. But that does not stop the imam from being a capitalist. He owns a building in New York and the tenants say he is a near slumlord, and they constantly have to report him to the city to get such services as pest extermination.

THE CENTRAL ISSUE – Just like 70% of my fellow Americans, I have two central problems with the Ground Zero mosque: (1) its location, and (2) the total lack of transparency of those who plan its construction. This is not an issue of the Left versus the Right politically, although the radical left have emerged as the champions of building the mosque. The far left claims that even though the landing gear of one of the aircraft struck the building at 51 Park, and victims’ body parts were recovered from the building, it is not technically a part of Ground Zero. They claim that Islam is a peaceful religion hijacked by radicals, and that the proposed mosque will “build bridges,” and cite “freedom of religion” to allow the construction. These are the same liberals that do not want the Ten Commandments on public display, or crosses to mark the places along the highway where loved ones died. The far left seems to have a knee jerk, “If conservative Catholics and evangelical Christians are against it, then we must be for it,” reaction rather than any actual philosophical consideration for supporting the Ground Zero mosque.

While the entire far left from George Soros to MSNBC’s Keith Olberman are united behind construction of the Ground Zero mosque, conservatives are not united against it. CitiBank, AIG and many other large financial institutions support sharia finance, a part of Islamic sharia law. Economic conservatives, eager to make money from wealthy Islamic nations, back the mosque’s construction and see it as a way to win favor with rich Muslims.

The battle line for the most part has been drawn by social conservatives like you and me, and by the majority of family members of victims of the 9-11 attack.

NO 911 MOSQUE AND HERE IS WHY - Since the 9-11 attacks, nearly 1,000 churches have been attacked, burned and bombed in nations that are predominately Muslim. I have personally walked through the ashes of burned out churches and in the desecrated cemeteries where Islam has shown its true face to the world, a face ignored by the mainstream media.

Ramadan began this year on August 11th and ends today, September 8th. The entire victim count for Ramadan is not as yet in, but as of the date this letter was written there had been over 200 terror attacks against civilians by Muslims in China, Russia, Nigeria and more than a dozen other nations, with 1,000 plus killed and many more thousands wounded. This does not even include the oppression by Islamic governments against citizens whom they view has not living up to Islamic standards.

Muslim Americans who claim to be moderate should be spending their time and their money condemning Islamic jihad and helping those who are victims of Islamic oppression, rather than building huge mosques in the United States that are for the most part empty, with money from wealthy Islamic nations that oppress human rights and dignity.

Instead of spending \$100 million to \$150 million to build a mosque at Ground Zero where virtually no Muslims live, the money should be spent to help rebuild the churches burned or bombed in the last year or to compensate the families who have had loved ones murdered in the name of Islamic purity.

THE CHURCH AT GROUND ZERO –Only one church was destroyed at Ground Zero, St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, which was built decades ago by people who had fled Islamic domination. One of the reasons the church cannot rebuild is because the Port Authority of New York has dug a four story deep hole where their church once stood. The City has refused to trade land with the church so they can rebuild, and has told them they can build in the same location, when and if the city ever fills the hole which was dug for a parking lot.

THE PRESIDENCY

IS OBAMA A MUSLIM? – I do a lot of radio shows. In the first week of September alone, I will have been live on dozens of programs, some of which are national. Not all of those programs are conservative. The very liberal Pacifica Radio with more than 100 stations invited me to discuss the Ground Zero mosque issue, although they called it the “lower Manhattan mosque” issue. On every show I have been on in September, I have faced the question as to whether or not President Barack Hussein Obama is a Muslim.

When Barack Obama was sworn into office in January, 2009, between 9% and 11% of Americans believed he was actually a Muslim. After two years in office at least 20% or one in five, believe he is Muslim. A Newsweek Magazine poll found that 24% of Americans thought he was a Muslim. Why is there such a dramatic increase considering the intense publicity surrounding the fact that Barack Obama attended an anti-Semitic church that preached a gospel of black liberation theology?

Actions speak louder than words and those actions have tended to lead many to believe Barack Obama is at least secretly a Muslim. This began when as president his first interview was not with an American TV network, but with Al-Arabiya, an Arab network where he stated that his new job was to tell the Muslim world, “that America is not your enemy.”

Next, pictures of President Obama bowing to the Muslim king of Saudi Arabia were viewed by tens of millions of Americans who could not understand why a Christian would bow to a Muslim king. Then there was the fact that President Obama ordered NASA (The National Aeronautic and Space Administration) to begin a campaign of outreach to Muslim nations. He also condemned the construction of homes for Jews in Jerusalem, while siding clearly with Muslims who want to build a mega mosque at Ground Zero. The Obama Justice Department also dismissed charges against baseball bat wielding Muslim Black Panthers who tried to intimate white voters. When Col. Nidal Hasan murdered 14 of his comrades at Ft. Hood and wounded many more, Barack Obama refused to refer to him as a Muslim or to say the killings were an act of terror.

I could offer many more examples including his attempts to placate Muslim nations and his refusal to use the words “Islam” and “terror” in the same speech, but I think I have made my point. Many Americans have seen his actions and statements as a movement toward Islam, regardless of his claim to be a Christian. His actions have been so one sided toward Islam that depending on the survey as many as one in every four Americans believe he is a Muslim.

CULTURE AND RELIGION

OUR TV COMMERCIAL – The extremely long congressional summer recess that will continue until September 15th has allowed me to spend nearly all of my time on the Ground Zero mosque issue. A dedicated Internet site has been created at www.no911mosque.org and the TV commercial we have produced can be seen there. This is no amateur, done at home on the PC type video; it is a broadcast studio quality commercial that we can run on national TV, if we have the money. We don't have that kind of money and as a result we are doing the next best thing, buying time on FIOS and various TV cable companies. Our message is simple: With nearly 1,000 churches and other religious buildings bombed and burned by Muslims since 9-11, the construction of this mega mosque is offensive.

Our commercial accomplishes two goals. First, it reports on the continuing persecution of Christians in Muslim dominated nations. Secondly, it graphically shows that the Ground Zero mosque is offensive by its very nature considering the intolerance of Islam for other faiths.

The Ground Zero mosque issue is having an effect I am sure Muslims never intended when they announced it. As I mentioned above I am on radio shows across the nation virtually every day talking about the Ground Zero mosque and I am getting a message across about the churches that have been destroyed since 9-11 by Muslims and about the persecution of Christians in Iraq, Pakistan, Nigeria and elsewhere. I am talking about a subject that I have almost never been invited on radio or TV shows to talk about. The mosque issue has opened the door for me, and others, to talk about Islamic persecution and terror attacks all over the world.

We cannot let down our guard. The petition campaigns must continue, the radio shows must continue, and our TV commercial must be seen. We need to get the truth out about the Islamic “victory” mosque at Ground Zero, and tell about the persecution of Christians in the Islamic area of the world

William J. Murray,
Chairman, Religious Freedom Coalition
Religious Freedom Coalition, 601 Pennsylvania Ave, NW #900, Washington, DC 20004 * (202) 543-0300