

PROPOSALS FOR THE REFORM OF ISLAM

Is it possible? Can we imagine a sort of Vatican Council II (or a Protestant reform) for Islam, for Muslims, at least for the Islam of France?

It is true that I am involved, whereas I am not Muslim and rather agnostic.

For me, a reform of Islam in the modern world is important for two reasons:

- 1) the evolution of the world at the level of social, human rights (difficult to live ignoring the advances of the rest of the world). Helping to ensure that Muslim countries do not lose the trail of modernity and that they do not decline intellectually, particularly in the production of knowledge, particularly scientific knowledge.
- 2) to live together, already in Western countries (so that there will no longer be rejection or mistrust of Muslims).

Rather than the themes discussed by the UOIF at Le Bourget, here are some ideas, which come to mind, that would be examined by this conference or council:

- 1) the abolition of the death penalty and any punishment for the offense of blasphemy (it is better to put strong arguments against critics of Islam than threats of death and invective) (rather conversion by reason than by the fear).
- 2) the suppression of the discriminatory status of dhimmi (for all non-Muslims),
- 3) Freedom of religion and power to change it (if someone wants to leave Islam, it is because Islam did not do what it took to make one of its followers happy).
- 4) the possibility of accepting the fallibility of Muhammad (that one ceases to see him as a beautiful model). For example, accept that he may have weaknesses, for example, against the so-called "weak" sex. Avoid any blindness in the field.
- 5) Strict equality, at the level of rights, of women and men.
- 6) Avoid any animal suffering, it is better to stun an animal than to slaughter it,
- 7) be able to diversify protein sources, and accept pork consumption when appropriate in certain regions (This point 7 is less important).

I know that these proposals seem enormous, revolutionary, even "heretical" for a Muslim, But in fact, they come from common sense, if Muslims do not want a long decline of their civilization, Scientific and moral development of the rest of the world.

Do not forget that what could fit the context of the time may become inadequate in today's modern world. Always put verses and hadiths in context.

Thank you for reading and [for Muslims] to criticize my ideas and do not hesitate to blame me for my naïveté, if need be.