

Lecture at Ceremony.

The Islamic Human Rights Prize, Teheran 2018



**Dear excellencies, dear every one participating in this ceremony,
dear brothers and sisters.**

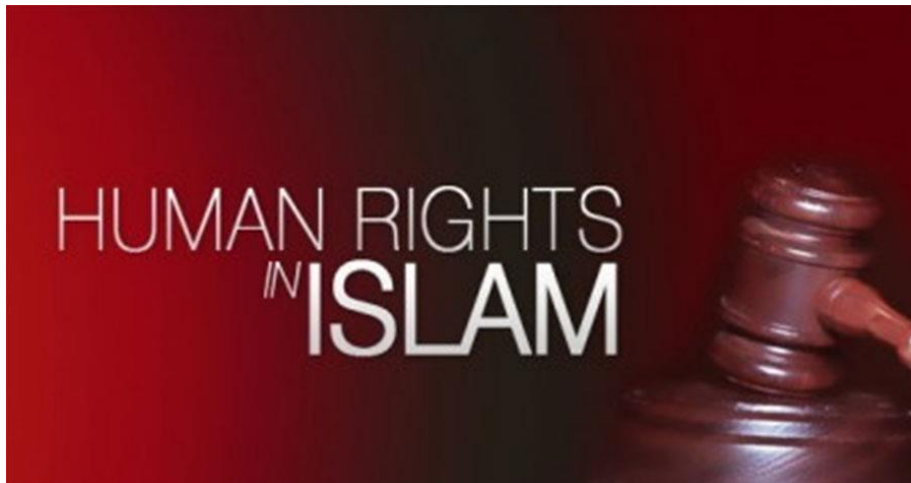
It is a great honour for me to be awarded the fourth Islamic Human Rights Prize. My sincere thanks to The Judiciary of Islamic Republic of Iran, High Council for Human Rights, His Excellency Mohammad Javad Larijani, Secretary of the Council.

I great you as a Norwegian; coming from Norway – a small country rather far from here, up north, a part of the Scandinavian countries.

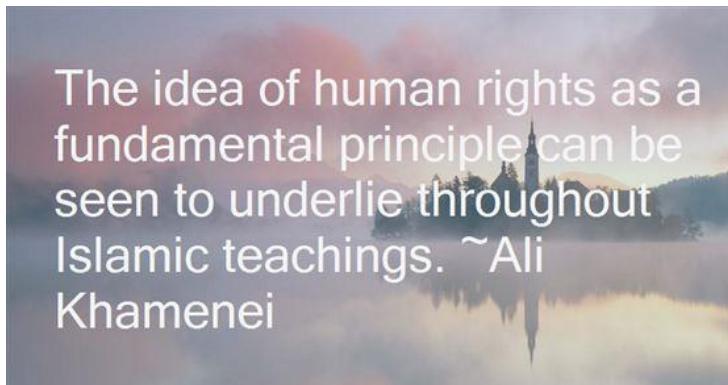
In *geographical* terms there is some distance between The Islamic Republic of Iran and Norway. When it comes to the *people* of this country and of my country – Muslims and non-Muslims – there is a common interest to work for victims of human rights abuses and defending or promote these rights. This is a most important task.



1. Human Rights in Islam



Rahbar Ali Khomeini has stated:



This really is true! A reference to the Holy Quran, in the description of how Humanity was created:

«O mankind! Be mindful of your Lord, Who created you from a single soul and from the same essence created its mate, and from the two spread countless men and women far and wide. » (4.1)

All Humanity was created from the same essence, and was spread in multitudes over the earth. We are basically, all of us of origin; brothers and sisters.

There is a saying from the Holy Prophet Muhammed:

«All Mankind is creation of Allah, and the one caring for Allah's creation, is nearer to Allah.»

A saying from Imam Ali:

«The other person is either your brother or sister in the faith, or your kind (brother or sister) in Humanity. »

In Islamic: Care shown to Mankind will give care in return.

Statement of Human Rights in Islam



- Islam teaches that all men are equal in terms of basic human dignity.
 - Islam forbids discrimination on the basis of race, colour, language, belief, sex, religion, political affiliation, social status or other considerations.
- Islam proclaims the sanctity of life.
 - Islam declares the preservation of human life to be a duty.
- Islam affords women equal human dignity
 - Islam affords women equal dignity, own rights to enjoy, duties to perform, own civil entity, financial independence.
- Islam prohibits any form of compulsion in order to convert a person to a religion or to atheism.
 - Islam respects individual reasoning and considerations to find the right way.
- Islam guards individual safety.
 - Islam protects each individual from arbitrary arrest, torture, maltreatment, or indignity.
- In Islam is emphasized the full right to freedom and self-determination.
 - Islam opposes enslavement, oppression, exploitation, and colonialism.
 - The same is for imperialism, great power interference and disrespect for national rights.
- Islam has established the rule of law.
 - Islam stresses that equality and justice be for all.
 - Islam guarantees all individuals the right to participate, directly or indirectly in the administration of his country's public affairs.
 - Islam gives everyone the right to express his opinion freely in such manner as would not be contrary to the principles of Islamic morals and regulations.
 - Islam will not permit propagating nationalistic hatred or racial discrimination.

1. National Sovereignty and Human Rights



Islam considers national sovereignty and independence for oppressed peoples part of their human rights.

- Islam supports the struggle for freedom and independence of peoples, occupied, exploited and threatened by aggressive and foreign powers.
- Islam is for justice and peace.

Palestine

Palestine is much in focus for international struggle when it comes to justice and peace.

- Israel is in fact an illegitimate state established with imitation and war on Palestinian land.
- Some 800 000 Palestinians were driven from their homes and their land by Zionist invaders and terrorists when the State of Israel was established (1948).
- The Palestinian refugees have the Right of Return.
- The Zionistic and illegitimate State of Israel is denying the Palestinians that right.
- Palestinian Human Rights are being crippled by the State of Israel in all aspects.
- The new Israeli Basic Law approved by the legislation of that state, confirm that Israel is a racist state.
- Israel is an aggressive element promoting war in Palestine, Lebanon and Syria. Israel now threatens openly to attack Iran, in cooperation with USA.

«We oppose any country that carries out oppression whether it be in the West or the East. Israel has usurped the rights of the Arab people and we will stand in opposition to it.» (Imam Khomeini.)

«Neither the Muslim people of Iran, nor indeed any Muslim, and in general no freedom seeker officially recognize Israel, and we will always support our Palestinian and Arab brothers.» (Imam Khomeini)



Question: «Among your demands is the annihilation of the state of Israel; if this leads to Israel's destruction and victory for the Palestinians, what will be the fate of the Jews?»

Answer: «The issue of the Jews is quite separate from that of the Zionists. If the Muslims are victorious over the Zionists (...) the Muslims will do nothing to the Jews, for they are a nation like other nations, they will carry on with their lives and they will not suffer dispossession.» (Imam Khomeini)

«Jews are under the protection of Islam and the Muslims; no one have the right to attack the Jews or the Christians who adhere to a religion revealed by one of God's prophets.» (Imam Khomeini)



«Palestinians are subject to oppression and cruelty on a daily basis. It is one, two, ten, twenty, seventy years now that this oppression has been continuing and the Americans have been behind it. In the present time, they are behind it as well.» (Ayatollah Khamenei)



Palestine – Norway

In Norway is a rather strong solidarity movement for Palestine, with opposing the Zionist state of Israel. Religious and non-religious, Muslims, Christians and secular citizens and organizations have started to understand the real character of the State Israel as a Zionist, occupying and illegitimate state, crippling Palestinian rights.

There are meetings, seminars, demonstrations. Medical teams and other assistance have been sent by friends of the Palestinians in Norway to Palestine and to Palestinian institutions.

The Al Quds Day in Oslo, Norway

«I call on all the Muslims of the world to select as Quds Day the last Friday in the holy month of Ramadan (...) and through a ceremony, demonstrating the solidarity (...) and announce the support for the legitimate right of the Palestinian people.» (Imam Khomeini)

The al Quds Day has for several years been arranged in Oslo, Norway with ceremonies, demonstrations and other expressions of solidarity with the Palestinian people.

International important personalities have been invited for open meetings and discussion promoting the Palestinian cause. Among them are the Archbishop Theodosios (Atallah Hanna) from Jerusalem (Al Quds.), other Palestinian representatives and also anti-Zionist Jews, like Ilan Pappé, Miko Peled and Gilad Atzmon, furthermore Rabbi Yisroel D. Weiss with other representatives of the Jewish anti-Zionist movement Neturei Karta.

Some photos of arrangements are presented here:





Together for Jerusalem (Al Quds).



Zionist injustice must be stopped.







In support of the Palestinian Right of Return.



Dr. Trond Ali Linstad being awarded Jewish Honour Prize from Neturei Karta. He previously has been awarded the Palestine Earned Medal from the Palestinian Red Crescent Society.

2. Children's Human Rights



Islam stresses the Human Rights of children.

- All children have Human Rights, no matter who they are, where they live, what their parents do, what language they speak, what their religion is, whether they are a boy or girl, what their culture is, whether they have a disability, whether they are rich or poor.
- No child should be treated unfair on any basis.

Islam considers children as a trust given to parents by Allah. A saying from the holy Prophet:

«The one who does not care for children, will not be cared for by Allah.»

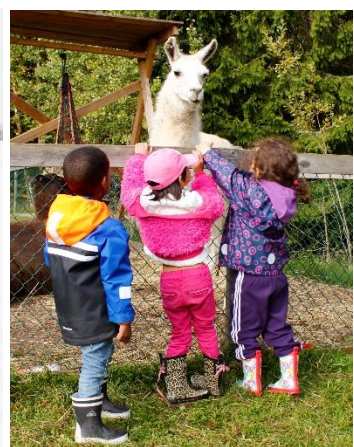
Urtehagen – Projects for Children in Oslo, Norway

Urtehagen Islamic Foundation has for many years been operating full time care services for many children, aged 1-6 years. There are kindergartens and pre-schools, now 6 institutions in all, for some 300 children daily. The children are also offered contact with some animals.

Most of the children are immigrants or have immigrant background. Quite many of them are from Muslim families. However, due to good quality of our work, many non-Muslim Norwegian families now also send their children to our institutions. Friendly cooperation is promoted, and Islamophobia be countered.

Some photos from the projects are presented here:





3. Women's Human Rights



Islam stresses the Human Rights of women.

- The women was created from the very same essence as her mate; the man.
- They have basically the same Human Rights.
- Islam prescribes the full participation of women in all scenes and fields and on their participation in social, political and economic activities.
- Islam invites for the full participation of women in all spheres of society and negates any sort of restriction.

«The believers, both men and women, support each other. They order what is right and forbid what is wrong.» (The Holy Quran 9,71)

«Peace be upon you, respected ladies. May the mercy of God be upon you, lion-hearted women (...) May God (...) be pleased with you.» (Imam Khomeini)

Women and Urtehagen Foundation

Urtehagen Islamic Foundation has for many years been operating a secondary school mainly for women with an immigrant background, to teach important subjects related to life in Norway, rules and regulations, Norwegian and Arabic language, religion and other topics.

Some photos from the projects are presented here:



Headmaster of the school: Rawafid Shahad.



Students at work.



4. Human Rights, Urtehagen at Horn of Africa




NEARLY 900,000
CHILDREN
REMAIN ACUTELY
MALNOURISHED
IN THE HORN OF AFRICA ALONE



Human Rights are for all – in your part of the world and in my part of the world, and in the same way for any 'neighbour' country.

Neighbours
The Prophet of Allah said:
"He is not a true Believer who eats his fill while his neighbour is hungry".



Urtehagen Islamic Foundation has some 'neighbours' at the Horn of Africa.

Urtehagen's Orphanage in Somalia/Somaliland

Urtehagen Islamic Foundation has established and for some years been operating an orphanage for 50 poor children in Somalia/Somaliland. There is a well qualified local staff working in the orphanage. The centre is being financed thanks to individual and private donations by persons in Norway intended to help poor children promote their human rights.

Some photos from the orphanage are presented here:



Neighbour area, Horn of Africa. Poor children coming to the orphanage.



Urtehagen's centre for orphans and poor children in Burao.



Urtehagen's Orphanage – Disabled Children



Disabled children have the same Human Rights as anyone else.

- Allah grants you the children He will. (The Holy Quran, 42,49-50)
- “Whatever good you store up for yourselves (by helping others) will be improved and increased for you with Allah.” (The Holy Quran, 73,20)

Some photos from the Day Care Centre for disabled children are presented here:



Human Rights – Yemen, a ‘Neighbour’

Across the sea from Africa's Horn is Yemen, another ‘neighbour’. The worst humanitarian crisis in the world to-day – according to international agencies – is unfolding in Yemen now.

A Saudi Arabia-led coalition is bombing Yemen to control the country. Civilian targets are bombed. The Saudi-war against Yemen is politically and military supported by USA, UK and other western countries.

The war has killed at least 10,000 Yemenis, and left more than 22 million people – three quarters of Yemen's population – in need of humanitarian aid. At least 8 million Yemenis are on the brink of famine, and 1 million are infected with cholera. Western powers are active in prolonging the war, supplying armament to the Saudi-led coalition.

«The flag of defending human rights is being carried by those who are the greatest enemies of human rights, and the government of the United States is taking the lead among them.» (Imam Khomeini)

Urtehagen in Solidarity with the Oppressed

Urtehagen Islamic Foundation stand with the oppressed, trying to promote Human Rights.

«Quds Day is an international day, it is not a day devoted to Quds alone. It is the day for the weak and oppressed to confront the arrogant powers.» (Imam Khomeini)



5. Conclusions



- *Human Rights is a fundamental principle through Islamic teachings.*
 - *All Humanity are basically brothers and sisters.*
 - *All creation is children of Allah, and the one caring for Allahs children, is nearer to Allah.*
- *The other person is either your brother or sister in the faith, or your kind (brother or sister) in Humanity.*

Supplement 1: Extracts from Medina’s Constitution (622 CE / 1 AH)

- *This is a constitutional document given by Muhammed, the Prophet of Allah.*
 - *Every citizen is to be granted an equal right to life.*
 - *This constitution shall not protect any oppressor.*
 - *Every citizen in Medina must help the oppressed.*
- *Every citizen in the society shall be safeguarded by justice and law.*
- *Prisoners shall be treated friendly and just, as is natural for a believer in Allah.*
 - *Freedom in belief shall be for everyone, Muslims and non-Muslims.*
 - *Allah’s Prophet Muhammed shall protect every citizen in Medina who is respecting the law.*

Supplement 2: Unity of Muslims

«Muslims are brothers and sisters and will not be segregated by the pseudo-propaganda sponsored by corrupt elements.» (Imam Khomeini)



Appendix

Dr. Trond Ali Linstad, CV presented at the Ceremony in Teheran

Dr. Trond Ali Linstad is a native Norwegian, living in the capital of Oslo. He qualified as a medical doctor from the University of Oslo, then obtaining a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene from the Liverpool School of Tropical medicine, University of Liverpool U.K.

He worked for several years as a Specialist in Family Medicine in his private Medical Clinic in Oslo, Norway. He is married and has three children.

Solidarity with the Palestinians

He previously also worked as a volunteer doctor in Palestinians refugee camps in Jordan and Lebanon. As chairman of the Norwegian Palestine Solidarity Committee he helped to organize medical clinics in cooperation with the Palestinians in several areas, including occupied Palestine. During this work he got familiar with Islam, and accepted Islam.

Working for Islam

Islam as existential system and *deen* was not well known in Oslo. He started establishing social and humanitarian institutions giving a positive face to Islam. He is founder and chairman of Urtehagen Islamic Foundation in Norway.

Social services, humanitarian work

The foundation has for many years been operating full time care services for many children, aged 1-6 years. There are kindergartens and pre-schools, now 6 institutions in all, for some 300 children daily. Most of them are immigrants or have immigrant background. Quite many of them are from Muslim families. However, due to good quality of our work, many non-Muslim Norwegian families now also send their children to our institutions. Friendly cooperation is promoted, and Islamophobia be countered.

The foundation operates an Intermediate school, for 80 immigrant women (most of them Muslims). The aim is to develop them as Muslims, and at the same time teach them about the Norwegian society, for a good integration.

The foundation operates a Muslim radio-station with daily broadcast, and write, print and distribute books on Islam and other matters, with weight laid on Muslims and on human rights. Recently the foundation opened a hostel for young people without a regular place of leaving, and looking for work and some education, most of them with Muslim background, but open for everyone.

International responsibilities

The foundation has opened and is running an Orphanage for 50 poor children in Somalia/Somaliland. Dr. Linstad is responsible person for it, after visiting the country. A local Day Care Centre for disabled children is attached to the orphanage. A mosque for the children has now been built, and premises for a school is being planned.

Dr. Linstad has been planner and promoter for several arrangements in support of the Palestinian people. Important personalities have been invited for open meetings and discussion, among them the Archbishop Theodosios (Atallah Hanna) from Jerusalem (Al

Quds.) and anti-Zionist Jews like Ilan Pappé, Miko Peled and Gilad Atzmon, furthermore Rabbi Yisroel D. Weiss with other representatives of the Jewish anti-Zionist movement Neturei Karta.

Every year there has been arranged the Al Quds Day in Oslo, in solidarity with the Palestinian people, including conferences, meetings and demonstrations. An ambulance was sent from Oslo to Gaza in support of the Palestinian people during one of Israeli savage bombings of Gaza. The ambulance was sent in a joint arrangement between Urtehagen Islamic Foundation and the Neturei Karta movement.

Focus has also been on Yemen, Libya and other areas seriously affected by imperialistic and destructive forces.

The King's Service Medal

The Royal Palace of Norway decided to award the King's Service Medal to dr. Trond Ali Linstad for years of efforts in rendering social services. After the award was announced, there was a strong pressure on the King' Court to have the award revoked, mainly from Zionist circles. Dr. Linstad consider it a must that the Palestinians regain their rights; and that oppression and expulsion must be stopped and the refugees return to their Palestinian land.

The Royal Palace announced that dr. Linstad's viewpoints and statements in support for Palestine could not be reconciled with the intentions behind the Service Medal after all, and the award was revoked.

Dr. Linstad has previously been awarded The Palestine Earned Medal from the Palestinian Red Crescent Society and Jewish Honour Prize from the Neturei Karta Movement.

Translating the Holy Quran

A new Norwegian Translation of the Holy Quran is in the making with dr. Trond Ali Linstad editor and active participant.



Dr. Trond Ali Linstad among friends.