

Cassandra Ball

Pamela Tutt

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Trump Executive Order: Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States

The importance and history of restricting individual countries and/or their citizens from entering the US are imperative as to why President Trump signed Executive Order (EO) 13780 on March 6, 2017: Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States (US). This EO seemed racist to politically liberal American and Muslim citizens and visitors in the US at the time of its signing. However, this is not a new tactic by the US federal government when striving to protect itself from foreign invaders, foreign terrorists, and homegrown terrorists. The history of isolationism began with US founding fathers. EO 13780 levies a delay on citizens and officials from entering the US in the countries of Iran, Libya, Syria, Yemen, Somalia, North Korea, and Venezuela (Member).

Isolationism as Protection from the Beginning

The first US political leaders felt that free trade, self-defense, and humanitarian issues should be the only reason to ally with foreign nations that do not parallel with American ideologies and interests (Isolationism). After the Revolutionary War, the US government and citizens saw Europe and especially Britain as a threat to American ideology (McMillan). Britain burned the original Whitehouse in 1814 after briefly capturing Washington D.C. during the War of 1812. The British military felt that the Whitehouse held a symbolic meaning to the new

Americans. That is one reason why Islamic factions destroyed the World Trade Center. The American approval of “to isolate or not to isolate” has swung back and forth throughout US history.

The US developed a relationship with Islamic nations because of the rich oil reserves in their countries. In 1919, a US geological survey estimated that the US would run out of oil in ten years. Thus began the American reach to scout for oil reserves around the world. Also, the US passed the Mineral Leasing Act (MLA) of 1920 (Timeline). The major feature of this act was:

“This act enabled the federal government to retain ownership of these lands (under the General Mining Law of 1872, individuals and corporations could purchase title to lands upon which they had staked mineral claims). Minerals subject to MLA include coal, oil, natural gas, and other hydrocarbons” (Mineral).

Schism: Western vs. Islamic Ideals

Americans as a collective today do not appear to understand the enormous religious and cultural ideological differences that exist between the cultures of Islam and Western countries. American high schools should require students to study the Moor invasion of Spain in 711 A.D. By learning about that period in world history, today’s Americans would see a clearer picture of why this schism developed between the Western and Islamic cultures and why the two do not mix well. In order for Americans to understand what led to 9/11 and President Trump’s EO 13780, we must examine the differences of the two cultures and how they led to terrorist attacks on the free societies of Western Europe and the North American continent.

In Islamic nations, Sharia law merges religion and government. Sharia literally means “the way” in Arabic (Kenton). Allah, the Islamic name for the Western Christian God, created the laws designed to control the lifestyle of its citizens. To Muslims, Muhammad is Allah’s prophet. Muslims believe their Prophet Muhammad wrote the Quran and its supplements called the Hadiths between 609 and 632 A.D. Islamic religion views all people who do not practice Islam as infidels. Merriam Webster defines an infidel as:

1. An unbeliever with respect to a particular religion.
2. One who acknowledges no religious belief.
3. A disbeliever in something specified or understood.

The text in the second book of the Quran, Al-Baqara, verse 185, represents itself as a guide for how man should conduct himself, “The month of Ramazan is that in which the Quran was revealed, guidance to men and clear proofs of the guidance and the distinction” (Shakir). Hadith is the Arabic word that means news or story. Many Muslims believe that the Hadiths are the sayings and traditions of their Prophet Muhammad. (Cragg). Both the Quran and the Hadiths contribute to the Islamic legal system of Sharia law.

Sharia law is at the center of incongruity between Western ideology and its laws. The National Center for Constitutional Studies cites Sharia law as anti-Constitutional, “Whether pursued through the violent form of jihad (holy war) or stealthier practices that shariah Islamists often refer to as "dawa" (the "call to Islam"), shariah rejects fundamental premises of American society and values:...” (US Constitution). Sharia law is ideologically opposite of the basic US Constitutional premise that the governed have a right to make their own laws.

John Quincy Adams, the sixth US president from 1825 to 1829, wrote a 136-page essay on Islam. Adams understood the Islamic threat to the US ideals of freedom in every respect. In that essay, Adams wrote, "...[Muhammad] declared undistinguishing and exterminating war, as a part of his religion, against all the rest of mankind...The precept of the Quran is, perpetual war against all who deny, that [Muhammad] is the prophet of God" (US Constitution).

Examples of the US Constitution Versus Sharia law

Constitutional Amendments

1. 1st Amendment: Congress shall make no law prohibiting the "free exercise" of religion.
2. 1st Amendment: Congress shall not abridge "the freedom of speech".
3. 1st Amendment: Congress cannot take away "the right of the people to peaceably assemble".
4. 1st Amendment: Congress cannot take away the right of the people "to petition the Government for a redress of grievances".
5. 2nd Amendment: "The right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed".
6. 3rd Amendment: "One cannot be forced to 'quarter' someone in their house" (Federer).

Sharia law

1. The Quran states in the book, Sura 4:89, "Those who reject Islam must be killed. If they turn back [from Islam], take hold of them and kill them wherever you find them."
2. Sharia law enforces dhimmi status on non-Muslims, prohibiting them from observing their religious practices publicly, raising their voices during prayer, ringing church bells, or say anything considered "insulting to Islam".

3. Sharia law states non-Muslims cannot repair places of worship or rebuild destroyed ones; they must allow Muslims to participate in their private meetings; they cannot bring their dead near the graveyards of Muslims or mourn their dead loudly.
4. Non-Muslims are not to harbor any hostility towards the Islamic state or give comfort to those who disagree with Islamic government.
5. Sharia states that non-Muslims cannot possess arms, swords, or weapons of any kind.
6. Sharia states non-Muslims must entertain and feed for three days any Muslim who wants to stay in their home, and for a longer period if the Muslim falls ill, and they cannot prevent Muslim travelers from staying in their places of worship (Muhammad).

One could cite every instance about each difference between Sharia law and US Constitutional law. However, one can deduct from the above premises that the two cultures are on opposite ends of the legal continuum of federal government paradigms. The difference is enormous. The major difference between the two paradigms is that Islamic law calls for the murder of non-Muslims.

US Muslims accuse President Trump of planning a ban of all Muslims from the US. Muslim Advocates cite these problems with EO 13780:

1. Abusing executive authority on immigration and refugee policy by hiding many barriers and their official justifications under shrouds of secrecy.
2. Implementing a complicated, intrusive, and opaque set of hurdles to visa approvals for Muslims seeking to enter the United States.
3. Widespread harassment and discrimination of travelers who are or are perceived to be Muslim.

4. Significant decline in both visa issuance and immigration and refugee admissions to persons from Muslim countries in the first year of the Trump presidency.
5. Creating such a toxic atmosphere that many Muslims—even those who do not come from one of the countries directly impacted by the Muslim Ban—are shut out or deterred from even trying to travel to the United States (Total).

The schism in the US among its citizens who believe Muslims should be free to worship and live their lives by Sharia law is situated in the very bedrock of US Constitutional ideals. But, these Americans do not understand that at the very bedrock of Sharia law lays the ingrained ideology that the murder of non-Muslims is religiously ordained. The Americans who protested at US airports when Trump signed EO 13780 did not understand that the Islamic threats to kill infidels are as generationally instilled in Islam as are their American ideals to worship freely.

Banning Terrorist Immigrants from US Soil

The US founding fathers were historically much closer to the Moor invasion of Spain in 711 A.D. and its horrors than twentieth-century American politicians and citizens. The world did not spin as fast before the inventions of the telegraph, telephone, radio, and television. Modern policymakers from the 20th century did not pay heed to John Q. Adams's essay about Islam. Much of modern Western political policy appears to create band-aid solutions for the moment.

The US has governed with reckless immigration laws in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Prior to Trump's presidency, The US federal government proved that it has not analyzed the historical actions of other countries that harbor direct opposite laws against freedom

based on ideology and religion or the history of the principles of US founding fathers with respect to Islam.

American troops were stationed in Iran during WWII. The US became economically involved with oil production in Islamic nations after WWII during Harry Truman's presidency (Tristam). The US has now cultivated approximately sixty-five years of economic relations over petroleum production with Islamic nations ruled by Sharia law. There have been several Islamic terrorist attacks and many more planned unrealized Islamic terrorist attacks on US soil in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.

The US federal government has consistently failed to inform its citizens of the dangers of doing business with countries who want to kill anyone who is not of the Islamic faith from the beginning of US relations with Islamic faith-based nations. The US has historically been extremely tolerant of allowing citizens of other countries to live and work on American soil without extensive background investigations in their native countries. Some countries are unwilling to share background information of its citizens with the US.

The Immigration Policy Center of the American Immigration Law Foundation cited in a lengthy 2003 report that US immigration reformation policies should include: "Training immigration officials to understand the tactics, techniques, and procedures used by terrorists, as well as in ways to obtain community cooperation in uncovering threats" (Stack, Johnson).

I believe the horrific catastrophe of September 11, 2001 (9/11), was caused by the US federal government ignoring the signs of a major terrorist attack about to take place on its homeland (Maranzani). I believe much stronger measures should have been taken since 9/11 to restrict foreign Islamic citizens from entering the US. I believe strident measures should have been

taken to investigate the backgrounds of foreign citizens entering the US pre-9/11. I believe EO 13780 should be upheld as a precedent of all foreign citizen entry into the US.

Since 9/11, it took the election of Donald Trump as US president to begin a much-needed complete overhaul of US immigration policies with regard to Islamic terrorists. If I believed it could happen, I would like to see a highly-conservative reformed immigration policy become an amendment to the US Constitution.

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