

عنوان مقاله:

Comparing Gandhi's Concept of Satyagraha with that of Jihad in Islam

محل انتشار:

فصلنامه مطالعات اجتماعی سیاسی جهان, دوره 5, شماره 3 (سال: 1400)

تعداد صفحات اصل مقاله: 32

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خلاصه مقاله:

This paper compares Islamic teachings regarding Jihad with Gandhi's Satyagraha or non-violent resistance. Abdul Ghaffar Khan, one of Gandhi's Muslim followers, has argued that not only was Islam compatible with non-violent methods, but that Prophet Muhammad had taught his followers non-violent resistance hundreds of years earlier than Gandhi had. Scholars such as Eknath Easwaran have also reiterated this argument (Easwaran, ۱۹۹۹, ۳۴). This paper on the other hand argues that Islamic teachings regarding non-violence are more complicated than what Khan proclaimed. The verses of the Quran regarding Jihad or struggle can be divided between the revelations in Mecca, during the first thirteen years of the Prophet's campaign, and the final ten years of his life, after he and his followers immigrated to the city of Medina. In the first thirteen years, Prophet Muhammad preached non-violent resistance even though Muslims were under severe pressure and prosecution. During this period Islamic teaching are quite compatible with Gandhi's Satyagraha. However, after the new Muslim community immigrated to Medina and formed an Islamic government it came under the threat of annihilation by a foreign invading army, at which time Islam and its Prophet permitted defensive wars, unlike Gandhi's teachings and Khan's assertions. The paper concludes that Ahimsa may work only in the route towards power, whereas when the position of power achieved and an independent political community and its leadership formed, according to Islam, means of legitimate and justified violence could not be avoided altogether.

کلمات کلیدی:

Abdul Ghaffar Khan, Ahimsa, Gandhi, Islam, Nonviolent Resistance, Prophet Mohammad

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