All praise is due to Allaah Subhanahu Wa Ta’ala, we praise Him and seek His aid and forgiveness. Furthermore, we seek refuge in Allaah from our souls’ and actions’ evils. Whomsoever Allaah guides there is none to misguide, and whomsoever Allaah misguides there is none to guide. I bear witness there is none worthy of worship except Allaah and that Muhammad salla Allaahu alayhi wa sallam is His slave and messenger. To proceed, I ask Allaah Subhanahu Wa Ta’ala that He accepts our fasting and yours. May Allaah assist us remain steadfast upon His religion beyond the month of Ramadan and for the remainder of the year.

This letter is concerning the Islamo-Fascism Awareness events to be held at various university campuses across the United States during the week of October 22nd. Although this might be upsetting to some members of our Muslim community, we must keep these events in perspective as they could translate into a great opportunity for da’wah (calling to the religion of Allaah.) Allaah Subhanahu Wa Ta’ala highlighted the virtues of da’wah when He said: “Who is better in speech than he who calls to Allaah, does righteous deeds and says indeed I am from the Muslims”[Fussilat(41):33] Further, it is an obligation upon us (individually and as a community – depending on the state of Islaam in our region) to call people to Islaam as Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta’ala commanded: “Let there arise out of you a group of people inviting to all that is good, enjoining al-Ma’roof (the good) and forbidding al-Munkar (the evil), and it is they who are the successful ones.” [Aal-Imraan (3):104] He Subhanahu Wa Ta’ala added: “And call to your Lord and be not of those who commit shirk (disbelievers).” [Al-Qasas (28):87] These verses show the importance of da’wah in our religion and how we must utilize these events to carry out correct da’wah.

Keep in mind, may Allaah have mercy on you, the arguments that will be presented at these ‘debates’ to demean Islaam are not novel by any means. Critics of Islaam have, without fail, resorted to the same old arguments throughout history. More importantly, remember that Islaam is a perfect, complete religion and its (authentic) teachings as Allaah Subhanahu Wa Ta’ala stated: “Today I (Allaah) have perfected your religion, and have completed my blessings upon you, and am pleased in (having chosen) Al-Islaam as your (complete) religion.” [Al-Maaidah (5):3] It is however, the actions performed by Muslims in the name of Islaam (while not having any authentic Islaamic basis) that cause much debate in both Muslim and non-Muslim communities alike. I would encourage Muslims across the United States to avoid the urge to protest against these Islamo-Fascist events. In order to adequately represent Islaam (and invite people to it,) we must proceed in the most intellectually sound way based on the Koraan and the Sunnah of our Prophet Muhammad salla Allaahu alayhi wa sallam.

Neither the Prophet salla Allaahu alayhi wa sallam nor the Companions radya Allaahu anhum, or their successors stormed the streets protesting oppression and creating disturbances and chaos in the community along the way (even though the oppression endured by the Prophet salla Allaahu alayhi wa sallam was far greater than anything we see today.) Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta’ala stated that Muhammad salla Allaahu alayhi wa sallam is the best example to mankind: “We set the best example in the Messenger of Allaah (salla Allaahu alayhi wa sallam) for one who hopes in (meeting with) Allaah and the Last Day and remembered Allaah much.” [Al-Ahzaab (33):21] If the best of humans, salla Allaahu alayhi wa sallam, never protested in the streets or initiated riots, and additionally, if the Companions and their successors (Al-Tabieen) and then their successors (Taabi-Tabieen) who are considered the best Muslims based on our Prophet’s salla Allaahu alayhi wa sallam Hadith: “The best of people are those of my generation, then those that come after them, then those that come after them (i.e. the first three generations of Muslims.),”[Recoded by Bukhaaree and Muslim] never protested either; why should we? Allah promised us, if we hold on to the correct Islaamic methodology, He would assist us during this great trial: “O you who believe! If you help Allah, He will help you and make you foothold firm.”[Muhammad (47):7] In addition to holding strong to our religion we must also be patient in these challenging times: “If you remain patient and become al-Muttaqoon (pious) not the least harm will their (the disbelievers) cunning do to you. Surely Allah surrounds all that they do.”[Aal-Imraan (3):120]

My dear brothers and sisters, based on the above evidence we must abstain from such a deviant approach (by being impatient and protesting, which results in chaos and disharmony in the community) and adhere to the Koraan and the Sunnah. Allaah Subhanahu Wa Ta’ala best described the characteristics of His pious servants.
when He said: “And the servants of Ar-Rahmaan (the Most Gracious) are those who walk on earth Hawna (with dignity and humility), and who when the foolish (ignorant) address them they say ‘Salaama’ (Peace or kind speech.)”[Al-Furqaan (25):63] Allaah Subhanahu Wa Ta’ala further added: “And when they (the pious servants of Allaah) hear Al-Laghw (evil or vein talk,) they withdraw from it.” [Al-Qasas (25):55] These verses of the Holy Koraan show that when these people act ignorantly or insult us we must respond in a controlled and kind manner. Does this mean that we should just sit and watch these individuals attack the religion of Allaah Subhanahu Wa Ta’ala? Of course not! However, we must rebut these criticisms with manners befitting Allaah’s Grace and Wisdom to avoid misrepresenting Him and His religion. Allaah Subhanahu Wa Ta’ala gave us the means to carry out effective da’wah when he said: “Invite mankind (O Muhammad) to the way of your Lord with wisdom and fair preaching, and argue with them in a way that is best.” [An-Nahl (16):125] This noble verse proves that we must use wisdom when calling people to Islaam. Allaah commands us not to argue (about Islaam) if we notice individuals arguing not in search for the truth, rather in an effort to stir up controversy. Another trap we must avoid is arguing or making da’wah with inaccurate knowledge of Islaam. Allaah Subhanahu Wa Ta’ala commands us to call people to Islaam upon sound knowledge: “Say this is my way (Islaam) and invite unto Allaah with sure knowledge (certainty.)” [Yoosuf (12):108] This shows that one must not rush into arguing and calling to Islaam without proper knowledge and preparation. This brings us to our next point; since one must not argue without sure knowledge (especially on important matters) we must leave the task of rebutting such individuals to our senior Scholars, who are the most knowledgeable people in matters of Islaam. The Prophet of Allaah salla Allahu alayhi wa sallam confirmed the importance of Scholars in our religion when he said: “Indeed, the scholars are the inheritors of the prophets.”[Recorded by Bukhaaree] This shows that we must expose this issue to our senior Scholars and let them produce a plan of action to rebut and guide these Isamo-Fascist movements towards (true) Islaam.

In the society we are living in today, and minding the scrutiny Muslims are under, the most effective way to carry out da’wah is by being the best Muslim and Muslima one can be according to the book of Allaah Subhanahu Wa Ta’ala and the Sunnah of His Messenger Muhammad salla Allahu alayhi wa sallam. Too often Muslims claim that Islaam preaches beautiful things; however, they do not implement these same teachings in their daily lives. Allaah Subhanahu Wa Ta’ala warned us about such trends when He said: “O you who believe! Why do you say which you do not do? Most hateful it is with Allaah that you say that which you do not do.” [As-Saff (61):2-3] Following these noble verses, I would advise myself and my dear brothers and sisters in Islaam to implement whatever Islaam preaches in our daily lives. If one makes a promise, try as best as you can to keep it. Allaah Subhanahu Wa Ta’ala will hold us accountable for every promise we make but don’t keep. Similarly, what image are we giving Islaam if we preach that cleanliness is half of our religion but our mosques’ bathrooms are filthy and/or our homes and clothes are dirty? Finally, if we claim that Islaam is a religion of justice and honesty but we steal and deceive others, then haven’t we said what we do not do? Refer again to the above verses to see what is most hateful to Allaah Subhanahu Wa Ta’ala.

Know, may Allaah Subhanahu Wa Ta’ala have mercy on us, that acting in a way which is contradictory with the Koraan and the Sunnah of the Prophet salla Allahu alayhi wa sallam is as (if not more) detrimental to our religion as these Islamo-fascist events. I ask Allaah Subhanahu Wa Ta’ala that He guides both Muslims and non-Muslims alike to His true religion (according to His Koraan and His Prophet’s salla Allahu alayhi wa sallam Sunnah.) Indeed it is Allaah Subhanahu Wa Ta’ala who ultimately guides His creation towards Islaam: “Not upon you (O Muhammad) is their guidance, but Allaah guides whom He wills.”[Al-Baqarah(2):272]

If there is any truth and benefit in this short letter then it is from Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta’ala, and if there are any mistakes then there are from myself and the Shaitaan. And our last supplication is al-hamdulil’ Allaahi Rabb al alameen (All thanks and praise are due to Allaah the Lord of the universe.)

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The University of Minnesota – Twin Cities, October 18th 2007