

EXPLOITING EXTREMISM

The key to understanding the often confusing and contradictory behavior of nations in foreign affairs is to study their history; how they developed their nature and their motivations.

Islam, like Christianity, consists of a large number of followers, the vast majority of whom only want to live their lives in peace, feed and house their families, and enjoy living. For many Muslims in certain places, peaceful living has been made difficult or impossible, but even this does not fully explain the violence of Islamic extremists over the last 2 decades.

The following article describes the history of Saudi Arabia and why it has been the source of Islamic terrorism despite its seeming stability and prosperity, in contrast with other nations that have become war-torn victims of US aggression.

The Saudis (and the U.S.) have perilously exploited radical Islam in their pursuit of power

Knowing this history, as someone in each of several US Presidential administrations surely must have, we're left with even more difficult questions, including:

Does the US want Al Qaeda to take over Syria?

If so, why? If not, then why not adjust policies and actions accordingly?

Understanding the behavior and motivations of the US government turns out to be more of a mystery.

'A close look at the terror players in the world, Al Shabab, Boko Haram and ISIS, just to name a few of many, show the active hand of both colonial era and post-colonial era intelligence agencies, British, French, Turkish, Saudi and Israeli with Canada and Germany as well.

America is a different story. It isn't that America isn't involved but that much of the involvement is from the private sector, with Bush era military contractors tied to criminal consortiums like the massive world narcotics cartel, now functioning as nation states.

The terror organization, Al Nusra, is being trained and equipped to a large extent by drug cartels using CIA and US Department of State contracting firms to supply personnel and even weapons'

That's interesting: drug cartels. CIA involvement in drug trade is nothing new. Is the CIA, or a group of rogue ex-agents, getting favors returned, perhaps so they can plausibly deny involvement?

The events begun by covert meddling in Syria end up being merged with official policy, even when the obvious policy choice is entirely different.

Why someone thought we should overthrow Asaad is a bit of a mystery. No doubt the Saudis wanted that, but Syria's government is secular, and tolerant of both Sunnis and Christians (who were 10 to 12 percent). He was not intolerable, and kept Syria stable. Syria had harbored many refugees from Iraq, who were escaping the US-caused violence.

But covert operatives successfully turned what may have been legitimate protests into a full-scale civil war, which has now killed well over 100,000. The "gas attack" was done by the rebels, attempting to blame the Asaad government. In the middle of the accusations and threats, this was quietly discovered, and Putin helped negotiate Asaad's relinquishing chemicals.

Now that "our" rebels are ISIS and Al Qaeda and wreaking havoc, the rational strategy is to cooperate with Russia, Iran, and Asaad as they unite against ISIS, etc.

Our contribution should be to stop the flow of weapons and money from the US and allies, including Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and Israel. Once that is done, Iran and Syria, with Russian weapons, should be able to handle ISIS and other extremists.

--CosmicRat September 21, 2015